

The Plattsmouth Journal

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

Among the pitfalls in our way
The best of us walk blindly,
O man, be warned, watch and pray,
And judge your brother kindly;
Help back his feet if they have slid,
Nor count him still your debtor;
Perhaps the very wrong he did
Has made yourself the better.

—Alice Carey.

There is something peculiarly appropriate about the national organization for a sane Fourth of July, having its headquarters in Milk street, Boston. Nevertheless, we are for it.

Every stranger that comes to Plattsmouth goes away with praise upon their lips for the enterprise of our citizens in keeping up with the procession in improvements and cleanly condition of the town in general.

Some writer is worried about a possible invasion of this country by an army of 150,000. Where would they get the transports and what would they do when 20,000,000 men of fighting age rushed to give them a spank and good ducking?

China is the fourteenth nation to indorse the peace plan proposed by the United States, which is to think it over a long time before resorting to hostilities. It will at least put the hotspots into the background—a long step toward safety and sanity.

From the army that started out yesterday morning with scythes on their shoulders we suppose the weeds were "slayed" right and left in some sections of the city. It is a great move on the part of the city, and we hope it will be kept up until every weed in town falls by the wayside.

The reason, probably, there has been no decision by the United States supreme court in reference to the two-cent fare in Nebraska is because the rate in this state has not been attacked in the courts. The roads here have probably held the matter in abeyance to see how the wind blew elsewhere.

There is no use talking about a panic under the present administration. President Wilson and his cabinet are not going to have it that way, and Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo gave Wall street so to understand in a very few words the other day. Good for Mac.

The fact that there is just now a tremendous flood of old potatoes on the northwestern markets is one well worth investigation by that branch of the government which is looking into storage houses, where much of the secret of the high cost of living is in hiding.

A Plattsmouth young man who owns an automobile, and who has been "going" with a young lady a long time, has decided that he can't support a wife and an automobile. Which one do you suppose he will give up? At the hour of going to press he hadn't given up the automobile.

Tomorrow (Sunday) June 22, Old Sol will have ended his excursion north and starts south again to give us another winter. Some people no doubt wish it was a little cooler right now. But don't get in too big a hurry; the cold, chilly blasts will be here soon enough to suit the pocket-books of most of us.

Judge Travis has decided in favor of the petitioners who want to oust Mayor J. D. Houston of Nebraska City, charging him with extravagance, and naming Paul S. Topping as the candidate to make the race for mayor in his stead. An election will be held. Nebraska City has experienced more or less trouble ever since they adopted the commission form of government.

The Tekamah Herald is another paper that is opposed to having any association say that publishers shall incur the expense of getting out a boom edition to advertise the resources of the state, without consulting over one-half of the newspapers of the state. The Herald says: "The Nebraska Press association, at its recent session, resolved to issue or have all the papers issue special editions to boom the state. Why should that special expense fall on the newspapers? Would it not benefit the whole state? If so let the whole state pay for it, what is not worth paying for is not worth having, is an old rule and a good one. Most of the papers use pages of space during each year for free boosting purposes, that should be enough."

News from Washington says a man declares he has a scheme to "take the crow out of the rooster." It is not likely, however, that the present administration will look with favor on such a proposition at the present time, at least.

About the first few real warm days we have there are a whole lot of people who have it that the crops are ruined, no matter if a good share of it is already made and ready to harvest. There has been plenty of rain this spring and would it not prove more profitable to take advantage of some of the few dry days to get rid of the weeds instead of worrying about the crops, which are doing remarkably well and call for no calamitous howling whatever?

Senator Martine of New Jersey one of the three senators investigating the dastardly outrages perpetrated upon the miners of West Virginia by the mine owners themselves, is a man of the hour. He has shown no disposition whatever to shirk the responsibility placed upon his shoulders. He talks straight from the shoulder to the mine bosses, and tells them they are not fit to do business in free America. Senator Martine has demonstrated that he is the proper person on such committees, and proposes that the dastardly mine owners shall be punished for their cowardly treatment of the men and their families in their employ—shooting them down like wild beasts of the forest.

Wonder what has come over the spirit of his dreams? Friend Bates of the Plattsmouth Journal is now defending our "business governor" from "kicks that won't hurt him." Then why waste time and space in defending against that which will not hurt. Bear in mind, it is the truth that causes the hurting. Anyhow, Col. when the Plattsmouth postmastership is given out, the Herald sincerely hopes you will not have cause to change your tune on any of the "great" men in your party.—Lincoln Herald. With all due respect to our friend, Huckins, we beg leave to inform him that our disappointments have been so many in the past fifty years that we have become hardened to fate. We have worked and voted for those whom we imagined were our friends, only to be hooted at when asked a favor from them, and yet we feel ready to rally to the democratic standard when duty calls. We do not feel that it is our duty to resort to abuse in order to get even with those who turn against us. If one is a democrat from principle he must demonstrate the fact by his acts. And no matter how much we may desire the postoffice, if we fail in our aspirations, we are still a democrat, and will always be found in the front rank when duty calls. That's the sort of people that brings success to the democratic party.

Another reason the farmer is independent is that he doesn't need to take a vacation to get plenty of exercise in the open air.

Eagle, the fourth town in size in Cass county, now boasts of an electric light plant. If that isn't enterprise we don't know what you'd call it.

There is an ordinance prohibiting the firing of combustibles inside the corporation on any other day than the Fourth of July. Still it is being done in various parts of the city with impunity. There is not much use in having ordinances unless they are enforced. There is enough risk in firing them on the Fourth without doing so when there is no occasion for it.

KEEPING IN THE SWIM.

The fear of being called a "tight wad" colors the whole life and dictates most of the actions of the average American, says Colonel Henry Watterson. The truth of his assertion no one can dispute. Few of us can deny a share of the general weakness. We are afraid of being suspected of stinginess. Consequently we buy things we don't need and do many things we don't really want to do just because our neighbors do. What "they will say" is the bugaboo in many a home. Yet what do "they" do for one? When the strain of "keeping up appearances" finally causes bankruptcy, where are the friends of days of plenty? Somewhere else. It would be good for all of us if we thought less of "they" and more of plain "us." This is not selfishness. It is common sense. We are put in this world to live our own lives in our own way, provided that in doing so we disturb no one else in the same right.

By bowing down before this false idol of "they" we shackle ourselves in the most galling of chains. Because what "they will say" is so much an unwritten law in this country we see pleasant little people who would be perfectly happy and comfortable if they lived within their means, anything but happy. Families on \$25 or \$30 a week aspire to own automobiles. Men who ought to be buying homes belong to the fashionable clubs. Women well able to do their own work keep maids. The well-to-do try to emulate the very rich in entertainment and display. Many who would be healthier and stronger for walking a mile or so to the place of employment take street cars. Families that would be stranded if wages stopped for a week fritter away countless nickels and dimes in theaters, motion pictures and excursions. We want to stand well with our friends and neighbors and we foolishly think the way to do it is to "keep in the swim." But incomes are not like rubber bands. They won't stretch. And in trying to please everybody we please nobody. The right kind of friends do not call one stingy for trying to live within one's means.

Plattsmouth has not done much bragging about her natural scenery, but it affords many beautiful spots in her shady groves on high knolls overlooking the Missouri river that are beautiful enough to make summer resorts. Nice place in which to spend a week's outing.

Leo Matthews has resigned the position of secretary of the democratic state central committee to accept the secretaryship of the state board of control. Of course there is more money in the latter position and it would not appear just exactly right to attempt to hold both positions.

MEXICANS OR AMERICANS.

Persistent attempts on the part of the Huerta government in Mexico to gain the recognition of President Wilson and the United States raises a suspicion in the minds of many that there must be some hidden force back of the government to urge this persistence. The suspicion is, however, not entirely new, and to us seems likely to be not entirely groundless.

That American capital has been much interested in Mexico, as well as the Central American states, is well known. The suspicion that these interests have been instrumental in many of the uprisings in those countries is probably not entirely incorrect.

It has been claimed frequently that American interests have taken the plan of finding some promising candidate for leader of a revolution, financing the project and putting him in power, taking for their pay abundant rich concessions in the way of lands or privileges. That this same plan has been tried out on a larger scale than ever before in Mexico recently seems quite probable. The hypothesis that two rival American factions, each backed by almost unlimited capital, may be promoting the revolution which has kept our sister republic to the south in such a turmoil for so long seems not entirely devoid of foundation.

It seems that some ideas of this have appealed to President Wilson, as he has considered the advisability of giving official recognition to the new government. Not as easily hoodwinked as Ambassador Wilson, who has been in the midst of the turmoil, he hesitates to take such a step.

In view of the very strong suspicions, if they can be called nothing more, we believe President Wilson does well to withhold the recognition sought. The American nation cannot well afford to make itself party to promoting the selfish interests and ends of even her most prominent citizens, and the sooner they find it out emphatically the better off will the rest of the country be. Here's hoping that this country will never be dragged into any sort of difficulty whose chief aim and purpose is to put more money into the pockets of her already over rich financial adventurers.

What a pitiful tale of woe Joseph McBrien is attempting to put up. The money has been spent, and what good has it done anyone? He isn't any better than a lot of other fellows that have gone wrong, and he should suffer the consequences the same as others have.

The suffragettes in Illinois already want to "rule the roost." They demand that Governor Dunne sign the woman's suffrage bill without awaiting the opinion of the attorney general as to its validity. What does a constitution amount to between the right to vote and the suffragettes, anyhow?

"The wish is father to the thought," evidently, when the republican papers intimate that there is a friction between President Wilson and Secretary Bryan. How the opposition papers would like for something of this kind to happen. But don't hold your breath, gentlemen, till such a thing happens, for you may never recover from the effects.

While generally speaking, postmasters are as prompt and courteous in the handling of mail matter as circumstances will permit, there are enough of the other kind to make it desirable to have the receiving of mail stamped on the back of envelopes. The department cutting out that back-stamping was not necessary and ill-advised, to say the least. Important letters can be held back longer than necessary if so desired, from parties who perhaps are not on friendly terms with the postmaster. For instance, during political campaigns, Postmaster General Burleson has made a grave mistake in this ruling, we candidly believe.

Ross Hammond of the Fremont Tribune hits the nail pretty squarely on the head as follows: "The Nebraska Press association has appointed a committee to report a 'sane and common sense' tax plan at its next meeting. This will be a sweet boon for the legislature, at no session of which has there ever been such a measure introduced or passed. The secret of the committee's appointment is that a single-tax crank caused such a resolution to be introduced and it went through by default. The editorial association exists for the purpose of advancing the cause of publishing and printing. When it gets this business learned reasonably well, so the financial credit of editors and publishers will be respectable it may broaden its scope of inquiry and field of usefulness to include other lines. For our part, we are of the opinion a committee on tuberculosis should come before a committee on tax reform. For publishers are more likely to have tuberculosis than they are to have property to tax. Property is not infectious. The shoemakers of the Nebraska Press association would do well to keep their lasts close at hand."

MR. HENRY PECK AND HIS FAMILY AFFAIRS

By Gross

