

The Plattsmouth Journal

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

You may not be able to leave your children a great inheritance, but day by day you may be weaving coats for them which they will wear through all eternity.

A Texan claims that his Mexican captors used the leaves of his bible for cigarette paper. Holy smoke!

Perhaps the Panama Exposition will be a domesticated affair, but so was the job of paying for the canal.

Progress was not noted at any of the "progressive" bull moose birthday parties. In fact, it was not a subject to be considered.

Many are looking for the worst in Mexico—a war between that country and the United States. The question is—are we prepared for it?

The chautauqua managers doubtless greatly appreciate the free advertising which Mr. Bryan is securing for his own engagement.

In a New Hampshire town of 1,000 inhabitants 200 have undergone operations for appendicitis. There's a chance to study local color.

Secretary Bryan will fill his date at the Weeping Water chautauqua. This will be pleasing news to Mr. Bryan's many friends in Cass county who will sure be there.

If a man in a buggy is in front of an automobile and the latter wants to pass, the man ahead must turn to the right, giving the auto enough room to pass—the latter turning to the left. This is the state law and all interested had better take heed.

A man down east is said to have gone and hanged himself every time he learned that people were time he learned people were finding fault with him. If we newspaper men would undertake such a thing as that we would mighty soon run out of rope.

Postmaster General Barleson paid quite a compliment to Hon. A. W. Dockery, third assistant postmaster general, the other day. In a statement the chief said he was well pleased with the manner in which Mr. Dockery was conducting the business of his department. While that is true, it simply demonstrates what we have always contended, Hon. A. M. Dockery makes good in any position he is placed—congressman, governor and third assistant postmaster general.

Governor Morehead addressed the old soldiers at Greenwood Friday afternoon. The writer was present, and we were surprised. This is the first opportunity we ever had of hearing our governor. He has always insisted that he was no orator. We know a great many who profess to be orators that do not begin to come up to Governor Morehead. And we don't want to hear any more excuses from him on this score. The old veterans were delighted with his address and they were not slow in telling him so.

Yes, we will have fall amusement of some kind.

The farmers of Cass county are feeling better, thank you.

If you believe more than half of what you hear you are pretty easy.

The corn crop in some sections of the state is out of danger of frost.

All political band-wagons ought to be supplied with emergency brakes.

Yes, the long looked-for rain has come at last, and we should feel rejoiced.

Marriage may be a failure, but nearly all the women seem to be from Missouri.

Keep a stiff upper lip. The rainmaker is pretty near ready to let loose good and plenty.

There seems to be no way to quarantine the knockers, no matter how much they need to be.

President Huerta and ex-Governor Lind for it now. May they give us peace in Mexico, if possible.

The women of Salem, Illinois, have organized to study the value of the ballot. One of the most important rules is: "Swat the demagogue."

There is some consolation in the knowledge that it might be worse. It has been handed down from the ages that there's a place where it's hotter than this.

Every business house should get ready to decorate early Friday morning in honor of the Boemian tournament, commencing on that date and to continue over Sunday.

After the T. J. Sokol tournament then comes German Day and Labor Day. After all comes the Fall Festival. Oh, I guess we will have plenty of amusements before snow flies.

A money lending shark in New Jersey was sentenced to remain out of the business three years, and bang went 300 or 400 per cent in his financial prospects. A warning to loan sharks.

If we desire to have friends we must be friendly. Friendship is an exchange of kindly offices and kindly smiles. He who is unresponsive and reticent can have but few friends. To make friends we must be willing to give as well as receive.

State Fire Commissioner Ridgell reports that during the month of July fifty-four fires occurred in Nebraska exclusive of Douglas county, and that 75 per cent of them were due to carelessness and should have been prevented.

A body of promoters, traveling through Pennsylvania in a highly furnished private car selling town lots in Oklahoma, raised over a million dollars from the Pennsylvania farmers. They sold lots for from \$350 to \$500 each. The purchasers paid \$50 down and \$10 a month. Investigation showed that the lots were practically worthless and the promoters are now in jail.

The knocker who constantly knocks should not knock when he gets knocked.

A Chicago pastor says wealth will not down temptation. It will down temptation to work.

No matter how high the thermometer or how hot the winds, the weed crop never fails.

Get onto the new water wagon. It's a daisy and holds 600 gallons. That ought to do the work.

Life in the busy Balkans seems to be just one danged war after another to those who live long enough.

President Wilson is cool-headed in his maneuvers—more so than most presidents in the past few years.

It seems ridiculous to be talking about the possibilities of an early frost, but some people are actually doing it.

There is some trouble in securing recruits for the army, and people are becoming more sensible in other particulars.

Most persons believe in the principle of giving the devil his dues, but it is a far better rule of life not to owe him anything.

The 6 o'clock closing in Omaha of the big department stores on Saturday evenings, as well as other evenings, is working all right. And why not?

The corn crop prospects may be a little less rosy, but there is still enough of the golden in sight to insure a continuance of the heavy demand for gasoline.

The expulsion of Governor Lind from Mexico is now declared possible. If such a thing should happen it would be an insult to the United States, and then "look out for squalls."

European countries are not cordial toward the Panama Fair. Not one of them would be willing to put \$375,000,000 into the Isthmian canal for the benefit of the world's commerce, and it is doubtful if any could afford it. Some traces of jealousy might be found in their position.

Automobile drivers should be careful and not exceed the speed limit in passing through Plattsmouth. The city authorities have ordered the arrest under the state law of everyone who in the future disobeys the law. Some of the high-rollers are going to get "pinched" if the police do their duty.

Whether one, two, three or four battleships a year will be one of the big issues that will come before congress at the regular session. The general board of the navy, it is understood, has decided upon a program calling for four new battleships of the largest type, sixteen torpedo boats and destroyers and a large number of smaller craft.

Some newspapers that "keep pounding away" at Governor Morehead are not hurting him in the least. They do not seem to be fair in their comments upon his administration, and give him credit for nothing. There is one thing that they should be fair enough to give him praise for. And that is that in all his appointments he has not selected a relative for any position. He is opposed to nepotism.

The easiest thing on earth is to cuss a newspaper over the phone.

Speaking of bribery, as the lobby witnesses do, it occurs to us that the price is frequently too high.

NEPOTISM IN STATE OFFICES.

Governor Morehead, democrat, has made the following public statement, following the announcement that Henry Beckman, republican commissioner of public lands and buildings, had appointed his daughter as his deputy at a salary of \$1,500 per annum:

"There can be no doubt as to where conscientious officials would stand in this matter. Those who want to do their full duty by the state would not think for a moment of placing their sons or daughters in office. Some day there will be a law prohibiting that very thing. The last legislature took one forward step when it enacted the board of control bill and provided against relatives of the board members from holding positions in any of the state institutions under the control of the board.

"Nepotism is fading less and less reason for existence as the years go along. It is a relic of the olden days in politics and must be abolished entirely before that ideal time will come when the people will have full confidence in the state officials.

"I have heard some state officials complain about the meager amount of confidence which many citizens entertain, but this very thing is, among others, responsible for the condition. When the state officials begin to select their under-officials from outside their families they will have taken a long step toward making themselves better thought of, both by the people who elected them and by the people whom they were elected to serve.

"No small amount of complaint as to the prevailing condition at the state house comes from republicans who feel that friends of the officials' supporters during the campaign should be given positions rather than the officers' relatives elevated to the places within their gift."

The view expressed by Governor Morehead with reference to the prospect that "some day there will be a law prohibiting that very thing," will meet with the hearty approval of thousands of Nebraskans, regardless of their party affiliations.

Strange enough, some people are proud of hay fever. And, again, some men with three initials seem to think it is an honor. It's up to you to fill your cistern with coca cola.

There is a postoffice ruling which imposes a fine of \$500 or a year's imprisonment on anyone who through carelessness or otherwise takes mail from the postoffice not belonging to him and fails to return it immediately. This applies to newspapers as well as letters. To say it's the postmaster's fault cuts no figure under the ruling. Better look over your mail before leaving the office.

Lieutenant Governor McKelvie is said to be setting his sails for the next governorship. Which causes the Grand Island Independent, a republican paper, to remark that "before another campaign is well under way, however, there will have to be a realignment of republicans if they expect even a lookin, and the big timber at such a realignment is more likely to be selected than an early worm of the season previous."

Senator John M. Tanner is laboring hard and earnestly for the restoration of the postoffice at South Omaha, which was merged with the Omaha office under the Taft administration over a year ago. South Omaha is separate from Omaha, with a population of 35,000, and it was an outrage upon the people of the Magic City. It was a political scheme in the first place and one concocted by republicans in Omaha for a purpose. We hope to see this wrong righted by a democratic administration, and if the people of South Omaha are as enthusiastic for its restoration as John M. Tanner and his Democrat they will be successful in their efforts.

The State Journal is out for Church Howe of Auburn for governor, but it does not state whether on the stand-pat or bull moose ticket. Wonder if Church has ever made his peace with Tom Majors? He should think about that before he gets too far in the race.

The developments in Mexico seem to have played havoc with Secretary Bryan's chautauqua dates. At all events he is sticking to the job at Washington and the dates have been cancelled for the present. Moreover, if any serious harm has been done it is not noticeable.

Underwood says that "Mulhall is a blackmailer and a liar." That comes from a pretty high source. But if there was the least cause for Congressman Underwood's sarcastic remarks it is a wonder that congressional committee would have given so much time as they have in this investigation business.

What looks more desolate than to pass a cemetery where the weeds and bramble bushes run riot over the graves of the departed? It would take only a few hours' work by those who are interested to keep the city of the dead in a more presentable appearance. Can it be possible that departed friends are so soon forgotten?

Recognition is fast becoming more and more general that the currency and banking bill now before congress is a measure which deserves full support, not alone by the democracy, the dominant party, but also by the republicans and progressives, if they have a desire to serve the country and not to merely play partisan politics.

A great fight in the senate is over the peanut oil. Senator Lodge and Senator Sherman both declare that peanut oil is a valuable substitute for butter and the poor man's butter should not be taxed. "The honest nine worker," says Sherman with tears in his eyes, "buys peanut butter for 6 cents a pound when dairy butter costs him 10 cents, and therefore to tax the goober pea or any portion thereof is a direct burden laid upon the shoulders of the poor miner."

The enthusiasm for good roads is sweeping the state like wildfire. Whenever the people become interested it is sure that something will be accomplished. If you cannot get the people interested, no legislation can do anything toward the betterment of the roads. One of the reasons for good roads sentiment is, the advent of the automobile. If they never do anything else only to create a sentiment for the improvement of the roads they have served a good purpose. Everybody should favor the good roads proposition.

People find a great deal of fault with children because they are always willing to tackle the task that is too large for them, but dodge the divers chores they might do to advantage. And yet there are a lot of grown-ups who cling fondly to that childish tendency, and don't do much of anything because they need their spare time to prepare for the Great Opportunity which never arrives. Children are fortunate in many ways, and frequently outgrow this tendency, and become bulwarks in the community, but the man who hesitates to do and do well the little labors at hand isn't likely to be the one selected when bigger business needs a booster. Anyhow, the little work has to be done, and those who do it are entitled to considerable credit, even if destined to bloom unseen and waste their sweetness on the arid atmosphere.

PRACTICAL EDUCATION.

An investigation of the reasons why girls employed in factories at Worcester, Mass., left school has recently been conducted by the United States bureau of education with many interesting results. The investigation also seems to point out some weaknesses in the present system of education in this country, not only in the factory districts, but applicable to the whole country generally.

Instead of learning that the girls were forced to quit school to go to work it was found that a large percentage of them had quit, because they "did not like school," "could not get along with the teacher," "wanted to go to work." They dropped out of the educational life and took their places in the vast army of nearly hopeless day workers, going from factory to factory with no chance of raising to a much greater height.

This condition we find among the young folks in every community. A few, with prospects of a college education before them, go on eagerly, or at least willingly. But many others seem to feel that they are wasting time in which they might be "getting a practical education" in the line of work they like by going to work at it at once. So they stop getting "book learning" and start in "getting a practical education."

There are some schools in the United States with some of their departments well enough recognized that every student sent forth as a graduate can be sure of employment at once. But the vast army of even college graduates must go out and make their way in the world really from the bottom up. Their education helps them somewhat, of course, but a vast majority of them find that a great deal of what they studied in school never comes into actual practice in the line of business they take up. This is almost as true of the eighth grade or high school graduate.

So we are led to believe that the reform we need in our system of education is a reform in the direction of making it practical. Find out when the boy or girl enters the school what they want to do in after life and what they are eager to acquire knowledge about, and then, so far as possible, give them a chance to learn in that direction. If this can be done the desire to "quit school and get to work" will be combated, we believe, in the best and only sensible way. Let us hope such an idea may soon be given a trial in the educational world.

In Iowa they are considering the matter of cutting out their county poor farms and concentrating the inmates in one or two institutes. In Germany they have no poor houses. Instead of that they have state pensions. The indigent poor are wards of the nation and instead of their poverty being a disgrace, it is a badge of nobility. The family are proud of their old people, who thus draw a pension as a reward for having lived an active, laborious and honest life. There are a good many things we would learn from Germany if we were not too stupid and too vain to learn from people who have had a thousand years experience along these lines and who have arrived at the results that produce benefit to the community at large. We have simply stupidly copied the old English idea without endeavoring to improve it.

Mulhall has had to tell his story so often he finally begins to believe it, even if he didn't when selling it to the highest bidder.

Some people think it necessary to stoop to dirty, mean, underhanded schemes in order to succeed, when honesty and truth is always the shortest cut.

President Wilson has been fortunate indeed in the matter of meeting his critics thus far. The recent appointment of John Lind of Minnesota to go to Mexico as a special agent of the administration, is a case in point. Immediately there followed reports and charges that the president had exercised more authority than he should have done, had created a new office, etc., without consulting anybody. But it is at once shown that the president advised with all of the members of the foreign relations committee of the senate, republican and democratic members alike, and acted upon their approval. There is sometimes every reason why there should be political division; there are often times when such division is merely nominal. There is a time when the head of the nation ought to have the confidence, sympathy and support of all parties, and that time is when war or its possibilities threaten. President Wilson not only has a large share of this on the purely patriotic basis, but he is also winning a large share of it by his coolheadedness.

Some people are always agitating lower freight rates. A few years ago it was lower passenger rates, which they succeeded in getting through the political demagogues in the legislature, who feathered their own political nests by so doing. These fellows are now yelling for lower freight rates, and will excite the people to such an extent that they hope to land the offices next year on this issue. It is the issue, not the people, they are working for. The clamor for lower freight rates will do the producer no good, but it will work an injury to the railroads. When the demagogue wants an office and he can work an injury to the ones that made Nebraska, in order to succeed, what does he care? The railroads have done no harm to the producers of Nebraska, but instead, have doubled the value of their farms, and now are laboring night and day to carry off the immense wheat crops raised on these farms to the markets that the farmer may get returns from them as soon as possible. The facts are, the railroads are friends to the farmer, and while the demagogue is howling for lower freight rates, it is he who will reap the benefits at the expense of the farmers. The farmers and the railroads are getting along nicely, and they should be willing to "let well enough alone."

An anti-cartoon law is proposed by a Colorado congressman. It is possible that the cartoonists have been holding too many mirrors up to nature.

Corn suffered an estimated loss of 300,000 bushels in July. The long-range weather prophets predict a dry August and September, which would mean a still further reduction. The Kansas Board of Agriculture is distributing 25,000 pamphlets telling farmers how to build temporary pit silos and save all the forage possible for winter feeding. The dry summer will probably give a great impulse to permanent silo building.

When a girl lands her man and sets her wedding day, nothing on earth can side track her. Recently Miss Edith Madsen of Ocean-side, L. L. started for her own wedding. She started in the street car. The car was wrecked. The bride-plot was hurt and put in an ambulance. Was she hauled to a hospital? No. She was carried to the church. Met the bridegroom. Married him, and then hunted up a doctor and had her wounds dressed.

Corn prices were hiked again yesterday.

Is the 13 in 1913 responsible for the drought?