

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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### THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

Immortality will come to such as are fit for it; and he who would be a great soul in the future must be a great soul now.—Emerson.

The orator who proclaims that the people can be trusted always demands his money in advance.

Kansas City has more than a million eggs. But as they are in cold storage she is not proud of them.

A man who uses religion as a cloak in this world will need a cast iron smoking jacket in the next.

Liars are not a whit more original now than they were when Adam lied about that apple transaction.

When Lincoln gets through with its trouble, we will all know more about the commission form of government.

The reports are coming in that the turkeys are scarce. That's always the case when Thanksgiving day is so near.

A scientist predicts that "in the year 2017 this will be a babyless world." We would like to know from whom he gets his information.

Some of the local merchants, it is stated, have found out how to meet the competition of the mail order houses in Chicago by sending out orders by parcel post.

So many Omaha people are now drinking out of finger bowls after eight o'clock that the hotels there are talking about abolishing the finger bowl from their tables.

The coming of snow from the West should leave nothing to be desired by those who, during the recent summer, were pinning for a change. The world is made up of extremes, but not more in matters of weather than of temperament.

The proposal to observe Thanksgiving on the anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg speech should appeal to President Wilson as an excellent suggestion. It will give to the day historical significance and will detract from it nothing of its reverential character. Changing the date from the third Thursday in November to November 19 will violate no custom that is hallowed. Thanksgiving belongs to a season and not to any particular event. It was first observed in this country in Massachusetts colony, to evidence the colonists' gratitude for a bountiful harvest and freedom from attacks by Indians. The example set by Governor Bradford was followed in other colonies and, later, a day for thanksgiving observance was proclaimed after each harvest. It thus took on the character of the European "Harvest Home." There can be no reasonable objection to having the day commemorate an historical occasion each year if the president so desires. A Thanksgiving day proclaimed in observance of some great event in the nation's history would doubtless meet with general favor.

Democrats at Kearney and York will elect their postmaster by ballot. At each place there are several candidates in the race. In fine, "the longest pole will knock the postmaster."

George A. Joslyn is reported as having declared that the dandelions are all dead this year because of the dry weather. It will be remembered that W. J. Bryan has been reported as dead a good many times, but he has somehow always turned up to insist that the report was exaggerated. He's a perennial dandy lion, sure enough.

President Elliott of the New Haven railroad is obsessed with the idea that "a short route to the restoration of public confidence in the railroads of the country will be furnished by a positive declaration by federal and state commissions that railroad rates may be advanced." Mr. Elliott better awake right now to the fact that his own line has a long route to travel before it will have the public confidence—and that route has nothing to do with advanced rates, either.

### BRAINS ON THE FARM.

A lot of advice is being handed out to the farmers these days. Some of it is good, and some of it would not know the difference between a haystack and a hot air balloon. It is easy enough for a banker, or a lawyer, or a merchant, to sit in his easy chair and tell his office boy how a farm ought to be run, and at what seasons of the year a farmer ought to have his hair cut, but the real problems of the farm must be worked out and fought out by the man who does the farming. Farming by proxy has never been much of a success and never will be. Farming is a separate and distinct business of itself, and no man can learn to farm successfully except by getting down to the furrow and the ditch, and by meeting and solving the actual problems that arise. And contrary to the opinion that prevails in some quarters, it requires as much brains, and good judgment, and business ability to successfully run a farm as it does to run a bank, or a board of trade. The farmer must work out his own salvation, and it will be to his interest and to the interest of his sons, to keep all of the brains of the family on the farm. And those brains should be worked to their full capacity. There is a right way and a wrong way of doing things, and brains will find out the right way. The brains of the neighborhood will get together and talk over the various methods of doing things and then adopt the best way. Brains will investigate the soil and the seed and the proper season for the sowing and the planting. Brains will select the varieties of grains and fruits and vegetables best adapted to the climate and the soil. Brains will adopt the best methods of cultivating the crops, and the most economical and profitable method of harvesting and marketing them. Brains will select the most profitable breed of live stock and poultry, and will learn how to feed and care for it to the best advantage. Brains will build sheds for farm machinery instead of letting it rust in the fields during the winter. Brains will lighten the drudgery of the housewife, will provide conveniences for the home and wholesome entertainment for the family. Brains will build good roads to

the market, and will make of the country church and school building something more than a mere necessity. The farm needs brains, and the farmer must supply them. It is only in the city that men can get along without them.

D. O. Dwyer, of this city, and R. W. Livingston and Judge Wilson, of Nebraska City, are applicants for the district judgeship made vacant by the death of the late Judge H. D. Travis. And one of these three will be appointed, as they are all democrats. They are all well fitted for the position.

Governor Morehead is right in his determination not to be in a hurry in the appointment of a successor to the late Judge Travis, deceased. The governor is wise in weighing the matter carefully. There are several applicants for the vacancy, and we believe the people of Cass county should, to some extent, be consulted.

J. J. Leary, of Indianapolis, Ind., has informed the state auditor that he has a bank note of the Bank of Tekamah, issued in the year 1859. He asks redemption of the paper. The state official has replied in a letter to Mr. Leary that it is worth no more than its value as a curio and that the paper represents early days in Nebraska's wildcat banking experiences. Collection might be made if the men interested in the bank saw fit to make good the paper.

The Lincoln highway has been located and was the chief topic before the meeting of the Third American Road banquet at Detroit last week. Anyone who wants to know the route may take down a map and follow the line of the Pennsylvania road from New York through Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne to Chicago, the Chicago and Northwestern to Omaha and the Union and Central Pacific to San Francisco. This is convenient for those who break down on the way and want to finish by train or tie.

As each day advances President Woodrow Wilson demonstrates more thoroughly to the people of these United States that they made no mistake in electing him to the highest position in their gift. He shows himself in every important act that he is a man of wonderful brains—a president that is careful in his every move—and every movement is in the interest of the common people. Another thing, President Wilson is surrounded by a cabinet of men of the greatest ability that it was possible to obtain, and the greatest of these is the Hon. W. J. Bryan, of Nebraska, the ablest secretary of state that has occupied this honorable and most responsible position in many years, and President Wilson is not the only public man that recognizes this fact.

The Lincoln Trade Review of last Saturday, in speaking of the work of the Plattsmouth Commercial club, says: "The Plattsmouth Commercial club is meeting regularly, and it has a number of live questions that are up for action. One question that the club is giving attention to is the proposition of inaugurating a series of sales days each Saturday. This plan has been put in effect in a number of towns and it works very successfully. It requires the co-operation of the business interests of the place, and the Plattsmouth Commercial club is endeavoring to interest all the business men in that city in getting behind it. One feature that was discussed in connection with the sales was the securing of the Burlington band for an afternoon concert during the day of the sale."

Auditor Howard and that man, Brian, are still at war—the auditor refusing to issue a warrant for his services in the insurance department of the auditor's office. Brian is obnoxious to the auditor, and the appointive power should have at least considered Mr. Howard's voice in the selection of a man who could have worked with him in peace and harmony. We don't blame Auditor Howard in his actions. Brian is a very assuming fellow, to say the least, and in the wind-up of the difficulty we hope to see Auditor Howard come out on top.

### THE HIGH COST OF LIVING.

Once more we read the report of the bureau of labor in regard to the high cost of living, which says: "Investigations of retail prices in forty cities conducted by experts of the bureau of labor show prices practically at the same level as last November, when the high records of the last quarter century were reached.

"The cost of living on June 15, was approximately 60 per cent higher than the average between 1890 and 1900, more than 2 per cent higher than it was a year ago and nearly 15 per cent higher than it was two years ago.

"Fourteen articles of food were investigated; every one except sugar showed a marked advance; bacon, which led in the soaring, went up 128.5 per cent.

If it were not for the construction likely to be put on this report by many unthinking people, we might let the report go without comment.

There is nothing in the report that would indicate what causes are responsible for the higher cost of commodities other than they are being sold at retail.

One year ago onions grown in this section could be bought on the track at 35 cents per bushel; today shippers are paying 75 and 80 cents.

Potatoes one year ago sold to shippers for 50 and 60 cents per bushel; today they are paying to farmers 80 and 90 cents.

We might mention many other items, but here are two staple commodities that speak in terms easily understood. The high price of meat is no doubt attributable to the same cause. After a season of misrepresentation and abuse heaped on the retailer, which brought out a thorough investigation as to his net profits, and the service rendered to the public by him, he has been given recognition as an important underpaid factor by nearly all the leading magazines and newspapers of the country.

The fact that the price is advanced at the retail store and reported by the bureau of labor, without any reference to any other factor, is apt to leave an impression that the retailer arbitrarily fixes a price to suit himself, regardless of cost conditions.

In justice to the retailers of this country, can we not have a report of the cost to the retailer and the causes leading up to the change in food prices in general.

For one week during March, 1913, a special sale of canned goods was advertised extensively all over the United States, at which time canned foods were offered to the public at a lower price (quality considered) than at any time in the history of canned foods.

What the public want to know is facts as to the cause and remedy, if there be any.

Wages in many instances have risen in the time quoted by the bureau of labor from 20 to 80 per cent.

The percentage of profits of the retailer has continuously decreased and are less on staple commodities than for many years.

In fact, the ratio of profit is less than for any time in the writer's experience.—John A. Green, secretary, National Association of Retail Grocers.

### CHEAPER MONEY FOR FARMER.

Congress is now laboring with the currency bill, but whether any bill will really be passed is more than doubtful, owing to the opposition of the bankers to some of its features. There is not the slightest hope that the currency bill will enable the farmer as a farmer to obtain money at any lower rate of interest than he does at present. We are in grave doubt whether, even if cheaper money were obtained, it would be of any benefit to agriculture. Three per cent money, or even four per cent money, to the farmers would simply inaugurate a period of land speculation that would be a serious damage to the agriculture of the future; for it could not be obtained on any plan so far proposed except by those who own the land. The man who really needs help is the tenant, who cannot offer land as security.

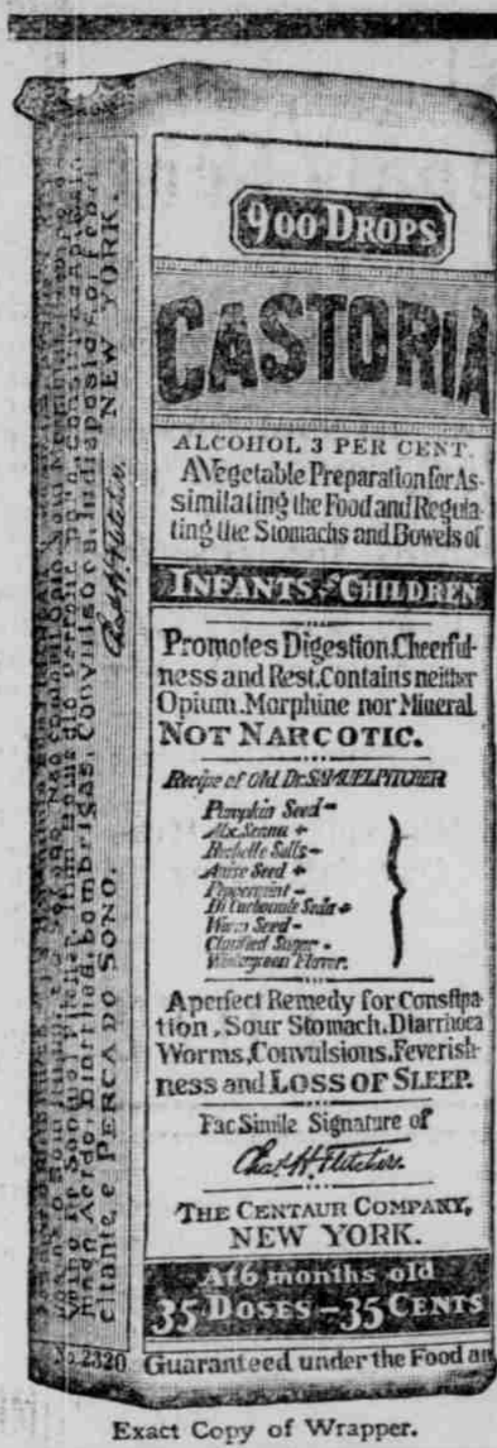
We do not know what the American Commission will propose that will be of practical benefit. They will no doubt tell us what they have learned in foreign countries; that farmers there secure money at lower rates than here, as compared with the rates paid by merchants and manufacturers. But the question will at once arise whether the methods in vogue there are practicable in the United States.

There are two methods. One is borrowing on mortgage on long time. This is done by these foreign farmers loaning their credit through an association of their own formation, but more or less under government supervision. This involves in many cases unlimited liability, and in others limited. Will the land owners of the west consent to make themselves liable for the obligation of their fellow members, even for the sake of securing money at from one to two per cent lower rate of interest than they can secure it from the big loan companies, mainly the insurance companies. This is the principle underlying the land banks of Europe. Will the American farmer submit to this until he has to?

The second condition of cheap money for purely agricultural purposes is supervision. The poorest of the poor in Ireland have organized many credit associations or co-operative banks. They obtain money in small sums at a lower rate of interest than the merchants in the towns can obtain it. Why? Because this money can be obtained only for productive purposes, not for paying off mortgages or old debts. The borrower must give his note with two sureties, and every member of the association to which he belongs is individually liable for the payment of this debt. Then there is a committee to see that he buys wisely; if he wants to buy a cow, to see that he buys the right kind of a cow, and that he feeds her properly. He is closely watched by the other members of the association because each of them is liable for the debt.

Would the farmers of the west submit to anything like this? Will they go to a co-operative bank and try to convince the management that they ought to buy a carload of hogs? Will they stand to have a committee snooping around to see whether they feed these hogs intelligently? This is a splendid system for the very poor. These banks are quite as sound as any of the stock banks. They pay their debts and obligations quite as promptly. Will the American farmer, particularly the corn belt farmer, pay the price for cheaper money that is paid by the farmer of Europe?

While saying this, we hope the American Committee, when it presents its report in November, will be able to present a system that will meet the approval of congress, and win the co-operation of the government and of the farmers.—Wallace's Farmer.



# CASTORIA

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If prices had gone down, the republican spellbinders would have charged the slump to the democratic administration. But since that so many things have gone up in price they claim it is the law of "supply and demand" that govern. A year ago they were saying that "supply and demand" had nothing to do with the ruling of prices.

A total of 9,228 oil inspections have been made by the consolidated food, drug, oil and weights and measures department under the supervision of Clarence E. Harman. This record has been made in seven months and nearly equals the record made by previous departments in a biennial period. Commissioner Harman thinks the consolidation of the various departments was a good step and that it was one move toward more effective state administration.

The Muskel Ridge correspondent of the Dalton (Georgia) Gazette writes: "Muskrat Ridge voted on saloons. A prominent citizen expressed himself to me this way: 'If we are going to stand for our women folks to wear shadow and slit skirts, and tight, form-fitting dresses and vulgar hobble skirts, and our younger women learning to dance the boll weevil wobble, Texas Tommy, Tango, bunny hug, the bear dance, the calf canter, the kangaroo kick, the buzzard lope, and so on down the line, the men folks had just as well have their saloons, and the whole push go to hell together.'"

Mr. Bryan doesn't feel that the public has a right to a detailed statement of his expense account. And without further investigation we firmly believe the secretary is right about it.

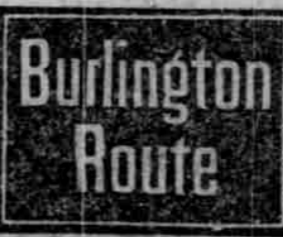
There are certain sources where they find fault with the special session of congress. It must be borne in mind that the democrats promised to before the election, an early revision of the tariff, and they never let up until this promise was fulfilled.

An exchange speaks of the game of "gossip" which is having quite a run in some localities in the east. It is played with photographs. They are shuffled out like cards, everyone in the party receiving a photo. It is then the play to tell every mean thing about the party photographed. We know of localities in Plattsmouth where the game has been played without photographs.

Colonel Roosevelt has made the announcement, upon the eve of his departure for South America, that upon his return home he will take up the work of reorganizing the progressive party. "We shall enter undaunted as a national party on another national campaign," he explained and added that he would never be satisfied until every single principle enunciated by the progressive party is put into practical operation by the nation. Teddy will still be found "in the ring," and the republicans must all come his way or he will know the reason why—and they all know what that means.

## NEBRASKA FOREST RESERVE OPENINGS

531 Free Homesteads of 640 Acres Each. REGISTRATION—Register at Broken Bow, Nebr. Oct. 13th to 25th, inclusive. DRAWING—The drawing will take place October 28th. FILING—Filings will begin Nov. 17th at Broken Bow, Neb. for all of that part of the Reserve north of the center line of McPherson county. CHARACTER OF LANDS—Valuable chiefly for grazing, though many sections have from 40 to 160 acres of valley suitable for crop raising. MAPS AND PARTICULARS—Write me for maps and particulars about land, filing, proof etc.



D. GLEM DEEVER, 1004 Farnam St., Omaha, Neb. Immigration Agent