

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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There'll be no room for knockers in Plattsmouth this year.

The newly-elected officials will assume their duties next Thursday.

We scorn ordinary puzzles, but the average war map gives us the headache.

"Be sure you're right and then go ahead," is a good motto to adopt for 1915.

Plattsmouth can do much better in 1915 than it did in 1914, if we all pull together.

If only fear keeps you on the straight and narrow, don't brag about it; the world hates a coward.

The United States is pressing home one of England's own precedents for her to ponder over in leisure hours.

Every time a married man digs up a new excuse for being out late he infringes on some other fellow's patent.

You may have noticed that the citizen who talks about the blessedness of poverty is always the fellow who owns a third of the real estate in town.

The war still rages in Mexico, and the United States should let them fight it out to their own satisfaction, so they don't murder any more Americans.

The people of Murray will attach themselves to the Farmers' Telephone company of Union. Other towns and communities will in all probability follow suit.

At the dawn of the New Year our old folks begin to look forward to spring. We don't like winter weather, although this one so far as fine weather could not be excelled.

Plattsmouth bids fair to out-do any city of the same size in Nebraska in the way of improvements in 1915. It done this in 1913, it done this in 1914, and it will do it in 1915. Watch us loom!

Three hundred and fifty-seven thousand and five hundred and ninety-eight people in this country paid as income taxes the sum of \$28,253,535. Of this number 23,551 were women and single at that. The number of old bachelors ought to grow visibly less at this information in this country, but possibly the ladies are all waiting for some fool duke to come across and tie up with them.

Congressman-elect Reavis, of the First Nebraska district, mourneth and will not be comforted. If there is no extra session, he laments, it will be thirteen months from the time of his election until he can take a hand in the formation of legislation at Washington and show the people what he can do to merit a re-nomination. Still, there have been instances, no doubt, in which such a combination of circumstances might be characterized as sheer luck.—Grand, Island Independent.

## THE NEW YEAR.

Much ado is made over the coming of a new year. The New Year is made the occasion for kindly greetings and good wishes, and for the taking and making of all kinds of admirable pledges and resolutions. Some very beautiful customs have grown up in connection with the celebrations of the New Year, and the world takes on a new smile and a lighter heart, as Father Time rings out the old and rings in the new. And it is a dull soul indeed that cannot gather inspiration and new courage from the midnight bells and midnight voices that welcome the coming and speed the parting year. According to the calendar, we are given a new chance at life, another try at making our dreams come true, another opportunity to write success above our efforts. And it is a friction that we can well afford to preserve. It inspires us with new hope, and revives ambitions that have grown tired in the struggle with fate. We hope for something better from the new year, and this hope gives us strength to toil on. And we live on and toil on, because we hope on. It is in the fact that we make a fresh start with the New Year that we find the deepest meaning of the New Year celebration. We are glad to get away from much of the past. In the past are all of our mistakes, our disappointments, and our sorrows. We look to the future, to the new year to bring what our hearts have longed for and what our ambitions have striven for. We are cheered on by the hope that the future, possibly the new year, holds in store for us the blessings that we feel are ours. And this sweet hope comes to us with the New Year like a bird song in springtime, singing to flowers and balmy days. This hope, the music of youth, the strength of age, the lifeline of the sick and dying, keeps the world agoing and drives away the gloom and darkness of despair. This hope, like the bugle call to battle, thrills us with new energy and new determination, and our fancy fills the new year with the fulfillment of our choicest wishes. While we expect much of the new year, we shall realize nothing more and nothing better than the things we strive for. Merely hoping for something, never gets us anywhere, and never brings us anything. The church spire points the way, but it never gets to heaven. Most of the failures of the past may be charged up to lack of effort. The past has been replete with opportunity as will the future, and the new year will make the same demands of all of us as have the years gone by. Our resolutions will test our wills and try our courage as severely as did our resolutions of a year ago. Our temptations will be as great and our weaknesses will be as sorely tried. In truth, the years are but circles and we go 'round and 'round, passing the same landmarks year after year, and over and over again. Today is the future that we have been looking forward to through all the years, and we are disappointed with it. And the future that we are now looking forward to will be as great a disappointment when we reach it, unless we strive to make it better.

The fewer the bills passed by the legislature the better the members will please their constituents. We have a sufficiency of laws on the statute books now. Half of these are not enforced.

A citizen remarked the other day that he believed so strongly that everyone should remain neutral, that he didn't care which of the allied powers licked Germany. How's that for neutrality?

There is trouble brewing in the suffrage camp in Lincoln. Mrs. F. M. Hall, president, Mrs. J. H. Johnson, vice president, and Mrs. Chester H. Arthur, auditor of the Lincoln Equal Suffrage league, have resigned.

The border patrol of this country it seems have been compelled to build bomb proof trenches to keep from being killed by the firing across the line by Mexicans. While the government has sent at various times emphatic notes that this must cease, it seems that but little attention is paid to them.

Will Maupin will decline any position tendered him by the state administration. In the campaign he was a candidate for railway commissioner, but was defeated. There was much ado about his moral record during the campaign, which had much to do with his defeat. Will Maupin is one of the best business men, newspaper editors, and has done more for the up-building of the state than any one, and as a recognition of his services should have been elected. There are those who stand high in the councils of the party that are worse than Lill Maupin.

There are renewed rumors that Secretary Bryan shortly will resign from the cabinet. The New York World gives four reasons why he probably will get out: He is not getting the glory out of his position he would not like; he has accomplished what he set out to do when he entered the cabinet—that is, got his peace treaties ratified; the work that he is required to do in the state department is irksome and not attractive; by remaining in the cabinet he is losing a rich harvest on the chautauqua platform, for running out and in is not as remunerative as lecturing all the time.

The smartest men are those who claim to know the least, while the average ignorant man frequently protrudes his chest and assumes to know about everything. Thomas A. Edison, who knows a whole lot, insists he doesn't know much. Recently he said: "There is much ahead of us. We don't know what gravity is; neither do we know the nature of heat, light and electricity, though we handle them a little. We are only animals. We are coming out of the dog stage and getting a glimpse of our environment. We don't know, we just suspect a few things. It will take an enormous evolution of our brains to bring us anywhere. Our practice of shooting one another in war is proof that we are still animals. The makeup of our society is hideous."

Ex-President Taft in a recent address declared that this country is prepared in the way of defense. He said our coast defenses are superior to anything of their type in the world though there is need of more men to operate them in time of war. He said further that no investigation is needed as all the information such as an investigation could bring out might be found in reports to congress on file. We need a better trained militia and a better supply of ammunition, but Mr. Taft deprecates the idea that we are defenseless or that we are to go into a military camp. The navy was all right two or three years ago, he says, and all we need to do is to keep it up to the same comparative standard, some changes being necessary every year. We may need more men to man the guns of the coast defense and an increase of 25 per cent in the standing army, but this is being looked after and the ex-president thinks we have nothing to lie awake nights over. He calls attention to the fact that when this country issued a defi to England in Cleveland's administration over the Venezuela affair it had only one modern gun and that was at Sandy Hook. Mr. Taft's moderate and assuring words are in striking contrast with the cry of the jingoists and alarmists who would rush into a military camp just when the probability of war is so remote as to be negligible. There never was less excuse for such a hubbub.

## GIVE THE REGENTS A CHANCE.

Isn't it about time that the bushwhacker should quit bombarding the university and the board of regents? By their votes the people proclaimed in the recent election their wish as to what should be done in regard to location. That was the question upon which the regents seemed to be unable to agree. It is not understood that there is any disagreement among the regents regarding any other question of administration.

If there is harmony in the deliberations and conclusions of the board, it would seem it is nobody's else put in. The law is rather comprehensive and detailed in directing how the university shall be conducted. The men who have been elected regents are law-abiding men who have the best interests of the institution at heart. They draw no salaries for their services. It is a labor of benevolence and state pride with them.

Doesn't it seem as if contentious outsiders should subside and refrain from further effort to involve the university in acrimonious discussion of what should be done or what should not be done in one respect or another? Evidently there are some who would like to arouse some contention among legislators over university affairs—that is some unnecessary and harmful agitation. It seems evident that former Regent Coupland has some hope of starting something to keep the university location row going. Surely it seems as if he ought not to be allowed to do it.

Anyone who is in position to intelligently observe the progress of the university knows that the wrangle over location that has been in progress for six or eight years has retarded the growth of the institution just that much. Any other wrangle which anyone might now be able to institute would continue the work of repression for just the period that it might continue.

Surely the regents who have been chosen are capable of discerning just what is best for the university. As to at least two of them, the people have but recently emphatically declared that their ideas are good, and that those of their critics are bad. Why not give the board a free hand for a while to allow it to begin the work of university development according to plans it has mapped out or may map out? Of course there are a few in Lincoln who will get excited and noisy over questions such as whether a building should face north or south, whether it should be of yellow or drab material, whether it should be plain or gingerbread and kindred ponderous issues. They cannot help it. They are built that way. They are inoculated with the essence of all the arts and if they did not make a noise about such things the public might conclude that they knew little about them.

But let those who concern themselves over small things quibble and rave about them if they wish. That will hurt no one. But as to the policies that may be determined upon by the board, if they comprise no outrage upon the law, it is time for trouble-makers to observe a decorous and helpful silence.—Lincoln Star.

It would be too bad if the efforts of the United States to provide the foreigners with breadstuffs should be blocked by technicalities in international law.

Years ago, when a boy attended an agricultural college, they poked fun at him and said he would not amount to anything, trying to be a "book farmer." But now it is different. Science applied to the occupation of farming makes farming more profitable as well as more pleasant.

The minimum upon which working girls can live in Missouri ranges between \$8 in St. Joseph and \$8.50 a week in St. Louis. In spite of this thousands of girls are existing throughout the state on \$4.50 a week. This, in substance, is the report of the special commission appointed by the state senate a year ago to investigate conditions among working women.

Richmond "got it in the neck" for speaker, just as we expected.

Using the law of averages, one may safely predict that 1915 will be better than 1914.

When there is comparatively little going on some men may possibly resort to talking.

Some men stay away from home so much their children are bashful when they meet them.

It won't do to bank too heavily on Secretary Bryan resigning. You may lose your money.

There are 178 religious denominations in this country and each one is "the only true brand."

The success of a new year is measured by the number of resolutions kept, instead of the number made.

The immigration bill is hardly an emergency measure. There were 601,410 fewer immigrants last year than in 1913.

Most of the "financial experts" write for the magazines and are as poor as mice. Very few of them are in business.

Young women who marry rich but doting old men should take the precaution to get an abstract of matrimonial title.

The foes of the hookworm, pellagra, hyphard, tuberculosis and cancer, feel that Mr. Hobson is trying to monopolize the mortuary statistics.

The legislature will be asked to revise the school laws of Nebraska this winter. There are many changes to be made, and it is hoped for the better.

The usual number of office-seekers are hanging around the state house, in the hope that they may be favored with a \$3.00 per day position. It was ever thus.

This country, without much in the way of an army and navy, has some reason for feeling secure; the powers which are prepared are fairly busy in proving it to each other.

A terrible fight is anticipated in the legislature against the primary election system. This is where the political class, like Frank Reavis, will endeavor to get in their work.

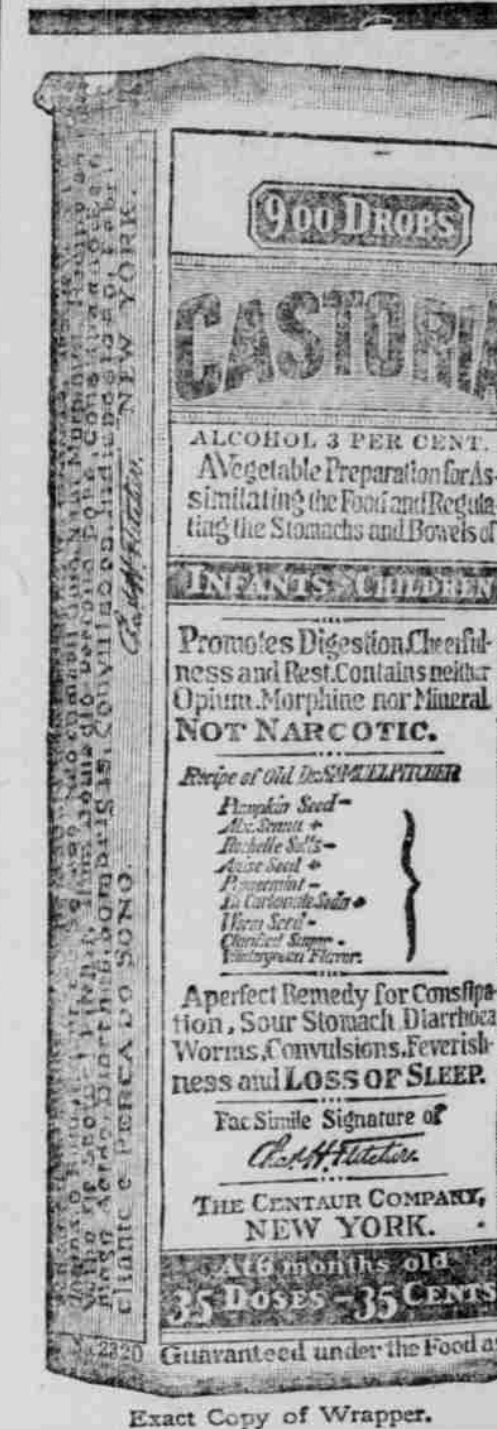
The legislature will hardly get down to business before next week. They hardly ever do. They will probably elect officials in both houses and adjourn over to next Monday afternoon.

There has always been too many wall flowers sitting around the senate and house drawing three dollars a day. Cut them down. Don't waste the people's money because you have the power.

The bank guarantee law of Nebraska is a great success. The secretary of the banking board reports nearly a million dollars to start the new year with. That looks good for the guarantee law.

Thursday is inauguration day, when Governor Morehead enters upon his second term. He is the only demagogue who ever served as governor of Nebraska for the second term. Quite a compliment to our noble governor.

Senator George W. Norris, also of Nebraska, has agreed to support a similar bill to that of Senator Hitchcock's against the shipment of arms and munitions of war from this country to Europe. Of course Senator Hitchcock's bill is what strikes the right spot, but Norris does not like to support the bill because it would boost the senior senator a peg higher than himself, who is so many pegs higher than Norris that it is impossible for him to reach hailing distance in the United States senate.



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While men are cowardly in many ways, most of them will run a great risk in the matter of writing love letters.

No man in a small town has time to devote to being a Social Lion. Besides, most of the society men are rabbits.

The senate and house want to begin business right by cutting down the employes to at least two-thirds of the usual number.

Our revised notion of the apex of affluence would only include a fund sufficient to dig up every time an opportunity in that line offered.

The old-fashioned Utah style of polygamy had fewer harsh features than the kind which is becoming alarmingly prevalent elsewhere.

The man who meets you today and fails to recognize you tomorrow is also among the provocations which induce people to go out and throw bombs at everything.

We are too old to overestimate the importance of Young Blood, but it does seem that too much of it is being used in painting the map of Europe red.

Having given for the Belgians, you are very apt to be asked to dig up for the Severians and the Poles, who have also been hard hit by the horrors of war.

John M. Tanner was sat down on pretty hard when his appointment for chief clerk of the engrossing room of the senate, when that body refused his confirmation.

The pure stock feed and agricultural seed act passed by the legislature of 1911, is held as unconstitutional and void by Judge Cornish of the district court of Lancaster county, because of the fact that it covers more than one subject.

When former Regent Coupland's farewell letter to members of the legislature shall have been analyzed, which it will be in due season, it will be found to comprise the old line of bunk with which he failed to blind the voters of the state in the recent election. The coroner has sat on former Regent Coupland, and a decent sense of the proprieties would admonish that imperturbable creature that as regent of the university he is nicely dead and buried.—Lincoln Star.

## AFTER EFFECT OF DOLLARS.

Money is power. It not merely brings the comforts and pleasures of life, but it is influence and patronage. It builds up, and it tears down, according as its support is given or withheld. It is the short-sighted person who considers only the immediate results of his purchase on himself. He should consider also whether the after effect of his purchase are going to help him, or going to hurt him. When a man buys an article in some store, he gets two results. One is immediate and very tangible. He gets the satisfaction of the food he buys, and the comfort of the clothing he purchases. But is that all? The purchase being made at home, a direct stimulus is given to his home interests. He is thereby helped to make a business friendship with the man of whom he bought the goods. If such purchases are continued, a dealer looks at him as a friend worth cultivating, will take special pains to meet his needs, and guarantee him satisfaction. The home dealer is made more prosperous by the home purchase. He can in turn help out some other home dealer. The dollar circulating at home increases home business, means more taxable property, more money in one's own town available for all public causes, more funds to employ labor here, general prosperity, and advance in the value of all property. On the contrary, the dollar spent in some other town never comes back. It goes to build up some great faraway city. There are no after effects favorable to the buyer. It would seem as if a-spirit of self-interest, if not of local patriotism, and community spirit, should learn any intelligent person to spend money in such way as to receive the additional benefit that comes from keeping money at home.

All this fopdoodle about a supreme court commission should not be treated seriously, unless it is with a thought of abandoning the proposition of such a thing. When we had only three supreme judges it was all right, but now that we have seven it is all wrong. Supreme court judges should earn their salaries or get off the dump for those who are able to do the work.

It is said that applicants for positions around the state house are as thick as hops on the pole. We thought they would be if Cass county is any criterion. We have more than the usual number, and if our single representative is able to get them all in he will be a daisy in full bloom.

1915 Calendar Pads at the Journal office.