

The Plattsmouth Journal

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

Let us never forget that an act of goodness is of itself an act of happiness. No reward coming after the event can compare with the sweet reward that went with it.

—Maurice Maeterlinck.

There are several already talking of putting up new homes.

Spring should bring with it quite a building boom in Plattsmouth.

Washington's birthday comes next one week from today—Monday, February 22.

A bald head is like heaven—it's a bright and shining spot, "and there is no parting there."

If the present advance in the price of flour may also be the cause for the advance in cornmeal, also.

Many men who might be expected to do better this year are only hoping that they will not do worse.

Many people have decided to mortify the flesh during Lent by cutting out a lot of things they don't want to do.

The hoop-skirt is rolling back into vogue. Next to the hobble, the hoop is our idea of the limit in ancient and modern atrocities.

Some of the warring powers are determined to have American sympathy, even if they have to go out after it with a club.

In punishing persons engaged in trafficking in rotten eggs for use in food, the federal government cannot be too severe to please the people.

A short sermon goes farther than a long one to the average man. If too short the ladies don't get time to see how the rest of the women are dressed.

A professor says nearly everyone will be crazy 250 years from now. In that event, we may expect that the world will be flooded at that time with the same kind of predictions as this one.

The government of Greece has voted to get into the fray and will support Serbia in her fight against Austria-Hungary. Will Bulgaria now join Turkey in an effort to squelch Greece? It looks now as though the Balkan countries would eventually all be in the scrap.

The educational test is not to be applied to foreign immigration if the veto of President Wilson is to stand. Somehow one would have thought that with his strong views on educational matters he would have done otherwise. With only one month of congress left before final adjournment, the veto will probably stand.

We see by the advertisements of more or less dubious patent medicines that "Acid Stomachs are dangerous." Also it may be said that acid faces are dangerous. Folks who look sour are most likely to be sour, and being sour is the poorest policy anybody can pursue. It is a condition of the mind and it should be remedied by the power of the will. The way to do that is to drop a pinch of soda in your pessimism, think of pleasant things, speak kindly, cheerfully, hopefully and the thorns of life will all burst into bloom.

DON'T TALK WAR.

If you have any prejudices, either for or against any of the countries now at war, bottle it up and throw away the corkscrew. At any rate, don't speak of it to your neighbor, and don't talk about it in your sleep. It may not be very difficult for an American-born citizen to remain indifferent as to the outcome of the war and to retain an absolutely neutral attitude, but not so with many of our foreign-born citizens. And one can easily understand how an Englishman might wish England to win, and how a German might wish Germany to get the best of it. It would be unnatural if they felt otherwise. It is impossible to sever the old home ties, or to wipe out the memories of childhood. These are indeed the treasures that we value most and they grow more precious with the years. So we say it is entirely natural for foreign-born citizens to feel more deeply and more keenly the real meaning of the struggle in Europe, and to watch more closely the ebb and flow of battle. And American-born citizens ought to respect the sympathies and prejudices of those who crossed the seas to make America their home and to swear allegiance to the stars and stripes. And on the other hand the foreign-born American citizen owes a duty to America. He rests under the same obligation to maintain a neutral attitude toward the war as does the citizen born in the United States. Not that he must forget his fatherland or disregard the promptings of his heart, but he owes a solemn duty to the American flag, and that duty forbids him to say aught that is not in keeping with the strictest neutrality. And at this time when the fortunes of war are wavering in the balance and when the struggle seems fiercer than ever before, he should feel a still deeper obligation to refrain from word or act that might embarrass the United States in its efforts to keep clear of the war. A man can owe allegiance to but one flag at a time. And that allegiance includes every duty that devolves upon a citizen, no distinction being made between a native and a foreign-born. The foreign-born citizen who would have the United States favor one warring nation to the detriment of another, or express approval of one side or disapproval of another, has forgotten his citizenship and his oath of allegiance, and has at least cast suspicion upon his loyalty to the stars and stripes. It raises also a serious doubt as to which side he would take in the event of war between the United States and his mother country. At this time, the most critical period in the world's history, with both England and Germany threatening our commerce and seeking to involve us in their quarrel, every American citizen, native and foreign-born, English and German, should stand shoulder to shoulder under Old Glory and join, with voice and heart, in that sweetest of patriotic airs, "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

Moving time will soon be here—March 1—for renters on the farm.

Nebraska thus far has been immune against the foot and mouth disease among cattle, and it is devoutly hoped the germs will remain on the other side of the Missouri river.

Governor Morehead and the legislature will not be doing their duty if they fail to investigate the charges of nepotism and the unwarranted transfer and disposition of funds in the state house. The people of Nebraska demand the right to know.

HARD TO PLEASE.

It is very hard to please standpaters. They passed high tariff laws for nearly fifty years for the express purpose of keeping out foreign goods, to reduce importations and to increase exportations. Now that the exigencies of the times have brought that about, they are protesting with all the vigor they can arouse that that sort of thing will ruin the country. Now they read Bradstreet's report that the "export trade in December was one-fifth larger than in November, 6 per cent larger than in December a year ago and double the low price of cotton the month's export total is less than 12 per cent below the high record month of November, 1912," and that "imports fell heavily in December, to the lowest point in five years in fact, and the excess of exports for December, \$131,863,077, is the largest excess ever recorded." But instead of rejoicing and declaring that this is the grandest country on earth, they grow red in the face with their violent protests. They are certainly hard to please.

The fact is that this excess of exports over imports cannot continue for any great length of time. If continued long enough, we would have all the gold of the world and there would be none left with other peoples with which to purchase our goods. Then we would have to stop exporting. Many republicans have never been able to comprehend the simple economic truth that we cannot long continue to sell goods to foreign nations unless we buy from them. Their policy was to keep foreign goods out of the country by high tariffs and then sell enormous quantities of goods to foreigners. That is a game that cannot be played successfully for any great length of time.—World-Herald.

Was you the recipient of a "lovely" valentine?

The city should take control of the street carnival if we have one.

One does not see so many comic valentines these days as in former years.

The coming of Billy Sunday will prove a great trade-getter for Omaha merchants.

If Plattsmouth wants to get in early on the boom business, let's start off with a street fair.

Statistics show that there are more men with wooden heads than there are with wooden legs.

Why should a man try to hide his light under a bushel, when a peck would answer the purpose?

Cel. Tom Majors still "holds the fort" at Lincoln. He is a veteran of the civil war and knows how to fight.

Last year Cass county doubled its number of automobiles over the previous year. That is going some, don't you think?

Bran is said to be a healthful food, and the present trend of prices indicates that many ultimate consumers are drifting in that direction.

Efforts are being made to reform the spelling of college students. As their writing is often illegible, mistakes in spelling are often not discovered.

A grouch dropped in Saturday to suggest that there ought to be a law against surprise parties, and we may run for something or other on that platform.

Dr. Eliot thinks it is a mighty bad thing for a man to have a hundred million dollars. We think so, too, Doc. That's the reason we do not possess them.

In the war-afflicted nations the demand for boots and shoes is far greater than the supply. Americans should be thankful that they do not live in a barefooted country.

Well, the robin and jaybird are now heard in the land.

One sure thing, spring will be along after a while, if we only wait.

The slit skirt seems to be in the race with the high cost of living to see which can go the highest.

Threats to repeal the Mann act may have inspired the latest lured story of the wickedness of the gypsies.

Statistics show that automobiles injure fewer people than other vehicles, but that will not keep people from dodging.

Having got the political factions in Kansas together, it is not surprising that Governor Capper should be so confident about this being a world peace.

The bichloride of mercury tablets appears to have taken the place of the old-fashioned shotgun which stood behind the door for the children to play with.

President Wilson's veto of the immigration bill was perhaps due to his personal recollection of the difficulties encountered by the college boys in passing the literacy test.

If all the 38,000,000 nominal Christians in the United States should attend church some Sunday, thousands of the clergymen would be unable to preach because of their emotions.

The countries at war endeavor frequently by their rulers to condone the use of air craft in the present war. No amount of apology, however, will wipe out the barbaric crime of killing defenseless women and children by the bomb warfare. It is worse than any act of barbarism ever before attempted.

One farmer not far from Papillion has sold \$1,000 worth of alfalfa off of a 40-acre tract. And this, too, from a farm that would hardly raise beans before being given the alfalfa treatment. There ought to be more of it raised in the county, especially in the western part. It is the one best crop on the farm.—Papillion Times.

R. L. Metcalfe, in his Omaha Nebraskan, makes some startling proofs against the powers that be at Washington which fully demonstrates that the fight over the patronage in Nebraska is purely personal. Mr. Metcalfe knows what he is talking about, and furnishes the proof for these statements. Another thing, Met has been in the employ of both of these gentlemen, is a personal friend of both, and his only aim is to bring about peace and harmony in rewarding those who have been faithful in party service, who are entitled to these offices. Mr. Metcalfe does not do this for spite work or to wreck vengeance upon either, but in a very friendly manner that is intended for the best. And the Journal hopes his efforts will be rewarded with the harmony he seeks.

The two most famous surgeons in the world are the Mayo Brothers of Rochester, Minnesota. Although Rochester is a comparatively small place, the Mayo Brothers have made it famous the world over. Their skill in surgery is said to be so remarkable that people come from all over the world to enter their sanitarium and submit to their treatments, gladly paying any price they may charge. They are said to have accumulated an immense fortune, and are now willing to leave a million dollars to establish a "foundation" to be devoted to medical research. It is becoming a popular fad now for our immensely wealthy men to establish "foundations" and devote the wealth they have wrested from the public to this charity. The plan was followed by Russell Sage, John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie. However, there is this to be said for the Mayos, they have performed an immensely valuable service to mankind, are workers and render a real return for the wealth they demand.

Real estate is looking up. Let it soar.

One of the humors of the war is the ease with which both sides report progress.

Railroads represented at the hearing in Omaha seek to stop discrimination by raising rates.

Plattsmouth is getting through the winter about as well as any other city in this neck of the woods.

A court has ruled that poor house-keeping is no excuse for divorce. Still it is better than some excuses offered.

South Dakota's legislature is debating over the anti-bedbug law, and Iowa over an anti-rat measure. Rats!

Democrats of the senate have adopted the two-thirds rule. That's what beat Champ Clark for president.

A New York teacher says dancing is a sure cure for a grouch. Then "on with the dances, let joy be unconfined."

A learned judge has decided that it is all right for a man to lie to his wife, which may relieve your conscience a little bit.

Thousands will visit the automobile show in Omaha this week who never expect to have money enough to purchase one. But the excuse to go to Omaha was all that was necessary.

With the Panama celebration postponed to the hot days of July there will be less feeling in congress that the dignity of the nation requires a large delegation to go down at public expense.

Germany offers to abandon plan if she gets food. Will not attempt to destroy ships if restrictions on food-stuffs are lifted. Why not give Germany the same chance with England? Give them food.

The member of the senate or house of representatives who has no bills in the hopper is certainly a happy man, and can return home with this satisfaction that he had done no harm and very little good.

Some republican papers are kicking on genuine prosperity for the sole reason that it will assist in the reelection of President Wilson. Very thin proposition that, and shows the narrow mind of some republicans.

Barton was defeated for congress last fall because he did not make good. They will have Hon. A. C. Shallenberger, former governor, to take his place after the fourth of March, and you can bet your bottom dollar that "Shally" has the brains to make good.

Statisticians have figured out that the European war is costing two million dollars an hour in money. When we count the lives lost, the widows and orphans that will have to be supported by those who survive and the mental suffering, we ought to have little trouble in convincing ourselves that nations which engage in war are not half civilized.

The great trouble with the democrats of Nebraska is that they demand fairness in the appointing power. Take the state over and where postmasters have been appointed, nine times out of ten, they are men who never have been recognized as working democrats, and in many instances it is extremely doubtful if the appointee ever voted a straight democratic ticket. This is a fine way to help the republican party onward to success next year. And any democrat with good common sense can already "see the hand-writing on the wall!" Dick Metcalfe was right when he said: "Democrats can have harmony in Nebraska when the venomous spite-work at Washington between Bryan and Hitchcock ceases." And no one can blame Mr. Hitchcock for standing up for his rights.

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The senate turned down the bill aiming to keep clubs from serving liquor.

Cass county is one of the most productive counties in the state, and Plattsmouth one of the largest and greatest cities in southeast Nebraska. We want good citizens to locate among us and get the benefit of fine schools for your children.

The Spanish minister to Mexico has been handed his "walking papers" by that man Carranza, and the United States government has offered the latter the means of getting away by ordering the Delaware at Vera Cruz to receive him. What next?

Champ Clark thinks that in this country, with wealth enough to have \$1,800 for every man, woman and child, too many people haven't even 13 cents. At all events, the choice of Nebraska's democrats in 1912 for president seems to have a heart in him.

A prohibition amendment in the Iowa senate failed last week in the committee, a majority of the committee voting against bringing the measure before the senate. If the dries can muster the votes of course they can take it out of the hands of the committee, but that is seldom done.

At a recent address delivered in Chicago, Speaker Clark said: "I say blessed be the name of the man forever without regard to politics or religion who establishes abiding peace between labor and capital which should be friends and not enemies." Reverting to the growth of the country, he said: "In 1800 we were a fourth-rate power. Now we are in the front rank. The president of the United States has more real power than any ruler on earth. If I had one prayer for the American republic which I knew would be answered it would be that every American citizen should be sufficiently educated to read his ballot intelligently on election day and sufficiently courageous to cast it as becomes an American freeman."

Hides Taken.

My specialty is removing the hides from dead animals, horses and cattle, allowing a small fee for the hides removed.

Arthur Jacobi,
Mynard, Neb.

The newspapers may not indicate that many new factories are going up this spring, but plenty of money is being spent in the large cities in fitting up the ball grounds and buying ball players for next summer.

There is this difference between naval and matrimonial engagements—in the first they fight during the duration of the engagement; in the other they don't fight until the engagement is ended by marriage.

The veto of the immigration bill is to stand so far as this session of congress is concerned. The attempt in the house to pass it over the president's head failed to muster sufficient votes. Friends of the measure, however, say that the coming session of congress will pass it and will be able to maintain it regardless of the veto.

The state of Kansas is proposing to abolish all personal taxes. An amendment to the constitution has been reported favorably by the senate committee on assessment and taxation. The amendment provides for local option on the question. It provides that the people of the entire state shall have the right to decide whether or not they will remove the tax on personal property and the improvement on the lands, and it also gives the counties and townships the same right to determine whether they will collect all of the taxes from the land alone. The proposition to abolish personal taxes has had some able advocates, among them the late Mayor Gaynor of New York, but Kansas appears to be foremost among the states to move for a practical trial of it.

Doan's Regulets are recommended by many who say they operate easily, without griping and without bad after effects. 25c at all drug stores.

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