

The Plattsmouth Journal

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

Who is the happiest of men?
He who values the merits of others,
And in their pleasure takes joy,
Even as to 'twere his own.

—Goethe.

The legislature will quit business April 6. Good!

Get ready to drag the roads as soon as possible.

A wise man talks of others. The fool babbles of himself.

The anarchists who have acquired a farm in New Jersey have no intention to work it.

In the matter of presidential candidates, Illinois is now ready to show samples for 1916.

Germany and Great Britain seem to be determined to exhaust the American supply of protests.

The religious organizations that are praying for peace are at least having as much success as the diplomats.

Even if there is not a great deal going on, there is enough so you needn't tell your dreams in order to maintain a conversation.

There are 1,500,000 automobiles in use in this country, and one-half of them are owned by farmers. What do you think of that?

The name of the new comet—Melish—ought to roll glibly off the tongue of the convivial person offering an excuse for staying up late.

The rural delivery service now embraces about 43,000 routes, covering 1,000,000 miles of roads, and serving approximately 20,000,000 persons.

Republican senators in the Nebraska legislature, in caucus assembled, agreed not to support the house bill for the election of supreme judges by districts.

A number of English writers say they have no time for fiction now that the war is on, but a lot of them keep right on writing fiction about the war, just the same.

The next big sporting event is the Johnson-Willard fight, Sunday, April 4th. But even many of the admirers of the sport regret that the event has been fixed on Easter Sunday.

The Schoolmasters' club of the state has just voted again to keep out State Superintendent A. O. Thomas. We should think by this time that Thomas had learned that the schoolmasters had no use for him. Thomas possesses too much mouth.

The present session of the legislature is rapidly nearing the closing hour. One winter intervenes between this and the next session. There are no doubt a few who do not want to be returned, while there are quite a number who could not get back if they wanted to.

Another pioneer who once refused to swap a yoke of oxen for the site of the St. Louis court house is gone. But Napoleon's record for bad judgment as to the possibilities of a growing community is still unbroken. He sold the whole Louisiana territory for \$15,000,000.

MIGHTY ROME ONCE MORE.

Prince von Buelow has been widely described as Germany's ablest diplomatist, and to him has been entrusted the difficult task of keeping Italy out of the war as an enemy of her partner in the Triple Alliance.

Even if German diplomacy were as astute and resourceful as the English or Russian the undertaking would be one of formidable magnitude. When all her neighbors have gone mad and engaged in a battle royal, the outcome of which, she is assured, will be rich territorial spoils for the victors, it is asking a great deal to expect Italy to maintain her sanity, her moderation, and a strict respect for the doctrine of *meum and teum*.

It is impossible to estimate to just what extent the dispatches from Rome and elsewhere bearing on the Italian situation are inspired or colored. Discourt them very liberally, however, and still it is clear that the Allies stand like Mephisto at Italy's ear, urging her to fight that she may later participate in the looting. Italy, in turn, with a knife pressed ominously close to the Austrian vitals, is demanding rich territorial gifts as the price of keeping the peace. Austria, apparently is ready to yield something, but by no means all that Italy demands. And it is von Buelow's task to reconcile the Italian demands with the Austrian offers, so that Italy may have her pound of flesh without fighting for it.

The picture is not an inspiring one. The Allies, of course, want Italy seduced into war because they want Italian soldiers to help them do the fighting. They are willing to pay the price. That is to say, they are willing that choice morsels of Austrian territory shall go to Italy, rather than to themselves, when the war is over, if Italy will furnish a million badly needed units of cannon fodder. As for Italy, it is cupidity that furnishes the motive for war. She has no present grievance against either of her late allies that would prompt her to entertain the thought of war for a moment were Europe at peace. But Europe is at war. The prospects, Italy is led to believe, are that Germany and Austria will be defeated, and lie defenseless before their enemies. Should Italy become one of those enemies, she may hope to grab from Austria rich territorial possessions north and east, including choice ports and harbors in the Adriatic. Otherwise Cervia will have them—under a Russian protectorate. And Austria may even be allowed to retain an Adriatic port or two, without which she would be as landlocked as Switzerland.

It is a great temptation, however frankly sordid. Flesh and blood are cheap. The Allies stand prepared to furnish not merely the prize, but funds to defray the expense of war. Dense population and widespread poverty go hand in hand in Italy. What would 100,000 lives be worth, or even twice or thrice or five times that number, if the Italian territory could be increased nearly 20 per cent by taking in one of the richest tracts of country in the world? And—the old familiar excuse—if Italy doesn't get it someone else will.

"It is a momentous crisis for Italy," says the Boston Globe. "To fight—or not to fight. Urged by powerful nations, the country is striving to sail past dangers from all side. If Italy fights, the nation may gain in territory, but the Italians—they will merely be killed."

It is a momentous crisis not only for Italy, but for the whole of Europe. If there were no war crisis there would be no Italian crisis. That is to say, if the Allies were not sorely in need of the million trained troops

Italy can put into the field there would be little likelihood of Italy going to war. The motive for dragging Italy in is stronger than that even. For Italy in all probability means Greece and Rumania, and very possibly Bulgaria, all of them helping the Allies to crush first, and dismember afterward, the two great empires of Central Europe that stand back to back, surrounded by enemies already more powerful than they. With these fresh and powerful aids brought to the side of the Allies there will be little danger from that favorite bugaboo of war—the possibility of Germany and Austria effecting a separate peace with Russia.

Not since the days of the imperial Caesars, long centuries ago, when from Rome the world was ruled, has the making of history and the fate of nations depended so directly upon the word that Rome shall speak. Perhaps no action was ever taken by ancient Rome so weighted with human destiny as the action that modern Rome may take—or refuse to take—tomorrow.

World-Herald.

One of the beauties of Nebraska is one day we have California weather and the next day a close second to Alaska.

The patience and good nature of the American people is well illustrated by the fact that there has not been a single complaint because the Congressional Record has suspended publication until next December.

"I rather think now is the time for the entire United States to be peaceable," said Vice President Marshall the other day in a public address at San Francisco. We stand right with the vice president.

Democrats are taking charge of the postoffices in Nebraska now pretty lively, since the compromise, but the other federal offices, such as revenue collector and district attorney, still remain in the possession of the republicans.

A foreigner visiting in New York thinks every state should have a state theater. They have—with bi-ennial performances, and farce comedy predominating. Nebraska has one located at Lincoln, but the season will soon close for two years.

A NEW FLAG.

The position of vice president of the United States is going to be something worth seeking one of these days. For a long time he was simply an heir apparent, a waiter at the gate, to which he was seldom admitted, and doomed at intervals to sit in solemn silence and listen to an eternity of words from an unclotured senate. But this is a world of progress, and changes come to everything, although at times the process of evolution is as imperceptible as the movement of the hour hand upon the clock. It is only when the clock strikes that we realize the motion, and it is so in the matter of the vice president's office. That clock has just struck and we pause for our labors to observe the sign of advancement.

A new distinction, a new honor and a new prerogative have come to the vice president. We discern a vessel in the offing. It seems to be a warship of some character, and it carries at its peak a strange flag, a coat of arms upon a white field. We reach for our flag book, but it discloses nothing. We signal for information and are told that it is the flag of the vice president of the United States, unfurled for the first time to the gaze of a wondering and admiring nation. And now, whenever he sails the seas, which we hope may be often, that flag will wave above him, and observers upon passing ships will note the milky standard and will cry in tones in which awe mingles with exultation "It is the vice president. Hats off!"

When the next national conventions are held there will be no hanging back nor any No, thank you ma'am when the nominations for vice president are in order. Indeed, somebody is likely to be hurt in the rush.

Clean up your premises and prepare for spring.

Hessian fly danger causes advance in wheat prices.

A good remedy for that tired feeling is "more work."

A grouch always imagine he is a great disciplinarian.

A man with a snore is something of a bore—to his wife.

Now, just why does a conceited man invariably walk alone?

Good morn, Greasers! Who is the president of Mexico today?

Remember that your opinion is not likely to settle the controversy.

Laziness and indifference have much to do with the high cost of living.

Railroad men are making a hard fight for higher livestock rates.

Let us hope there will be no war zone established around the advent of spring.

"Everybody Work for Plattsmouth!" How would that be for a slogan?

After the wedding bells have stopped ringing it don't take long before the time comes to wring the dishrag.

Notwithstanding the Wisconsin objections to it, Vermont has gone ahead and enacted an eugenic law. Maybe the old maids got behind it in Vermont.

PERVERSION OF SENTIMENT.

There is always a great deal of sentiment in play in connection with a legislative session. It is not always healthy sentiment, for men play upon it for evil ends and too often accomplish them.

There is an almost universal sentiment in this state in favor of the exaltation of the farmer and his calling, for the state owes so much to them that nobody fails for a moment to recognize it. But designing and cunning men utilize that commendable sentiment for mighty disreputable purposes.

A clamor is raised ostensibly in the farmer's behalf, and out of it emerges a movement to create some new office and install therein some new officer, usually the one who has promoted the clamor. Men are terrified into support of that sort of schemes because to oppose them would seem to be defying popular sentiment and inviting the wrath of the agricultural classes.

Other movements are for placing upon the shoulders of those engaged in other industries burdens of taxes that are advocated upon the pretense that they will reduce the taxes of the farming classes. Of course they never do it, but the farmer is supposed to believe that they do, and be grateful therefore, upon the presumption that the farmer is always trying to get an unfair advantage of somebody.

Some things that happen in legislative halls indicate that few men are willing to proceed in legislation upon the theory that farmers are fair and honorable, and content to get equal treatment with other citizens whose services are more or less essential to the progress and prosperity of the state. Seldom is a legislator found who does not stand in terror of a suspicion that he wants to treat the farmer as he does everybody else.

It is in this that the universal sentiment friendly to the farmer is perverted and corrupted. Of course the man who tills the soil is not the gourmand he is too often painted to be. When he is consulted in his proper person it is found that he wants nothing unfair, nothing unjust, nothing to the prejudice of his fellow citizens. Anyone who intimates otherwise slanders an industrial class that is particularly zealous for the general good. But there are plenty of them who do it and get on somehow in politics by doing it.—Lincoln Star.

PRACTICAL PREACHING.

The religious press of the country, and the secular newspapers, too, are full of discussion for and against the methods of Rev. Billy Sunday. Ministers are flocking to Philadelphia by the hundreds to study his methods. Not many of them will care to adopt the more eccentric features of the Sunday ministry. But there are phases of the Sunday method that every clergyman will find worthy of study. Some ministers shut themselves up in their study and read books on religion and philosophy. The books are helpful, mentally stimulating. The parson's mind is uplifted by their broad outlook. He preaches the next Sunday from what the philosophers and theologians have said to him. Now, such sermons are occasionally needed for the broadening of the intellectual life. But they deal with problems that bother the philosophers and the theologians, but may never have troubled the ordinary man and woman. The people celebrate abroad the eloquence and intellectual powers of their pastor. But little has been said that has helped or inspired them much. Other ministers spend more time among their people. They learn the doubts, troubles, difficulties and problems with which their parishioners are suffering. They observe human nature closely. Their minds are full of specific cases of people who have found rest and peace and help through various experiences. They try to communicate this help to the members of their congregation. Their sermons may not be very scholarly. But they inspire their hearers to renewed courage and strength to fight life's battles. Probably right here is one of several reasons for Billy Sunday's marvelous success. He deals with practical life, with the problems that meet the average man and woman. The average preacher, without imitating Billy Sunday's slang, can give his sermons the quality of human interest that the Sunday sermons always have.

Waste is the poor relation of haste.

Neutrality is a good thing—as long as it floats.

Fear of being found out is among the greatest influences for good.

Life insurance is big business to some men and a last resort to others.

Psychology seems to have played smash with the steel industry last year.

The university bill seems to have met with smooth sailing through the legislature.

Spring is rather tardy in getting in her work. But it may be for the best in the long run.

If a woman is popular among most of her acquaintances, most of her acquaintances are men.

It is also our political observation that the receptive candidate doesn't get much of a reception.

Old hoary-headed Winter has lingered in the lap of spring, and we don't care how soon summer comes.

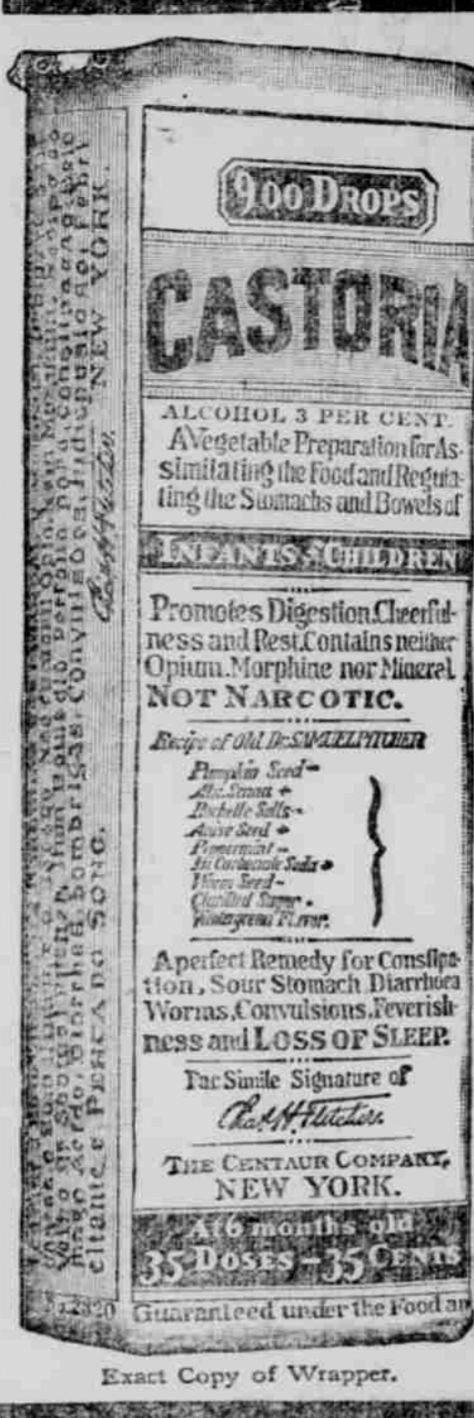
Some of the girls should neglect their piano practice long enough to take a course of domestic science.

It is some relief to know that President Wilson does not even think of calling an extra session of congress.

A four-legged hen at Philadelphia has just died from melancholia. It seems that all kinds of chickens have trouble.

A girl needn't bet that her steady can bring home the bacon just because he furnishes plenty of candy during the engagement era.

It is a great inconvenience to pedestrians to flush the streets in daytime. It should be done after business hours, the same as it is done in all up-to-date cities.



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For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher
In Use For Over Thirty Years
CASTORIA

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

All things come to the other fellow if you sit down and wait.

Cheap seed corn is the highest-priced when you come to crib the crop.

The merchant who never advertises has been likened unto the farmer who looks for a crop where no seed has been sown.

When a very eminent and respectable magazine begins to advertise, "Nothing About the War," one almost suspects that other people are getting tired of it, too.

It is estimated that 1 per cent of the contents of the oceans would cover the land of the world to a depth of 190 feet. Wouldn't it be awful if they all should break loose at the same time?

A New York supreme justice has ruled that in that state "the husband is always entitled to the earnings of his wife, as well as her services during marriage." Poor old behind-the-times New York! And if the men of the state fail to change that sort of a law, they are heathens and usurpers, that's all.

The hardest pair to beat is push and pull.

Your business might be worse off. Supposing you were engaged just now in the manufacture of morphine and cocaine?

Billy Sunday has turned down a "call" from Paris, and it is just as well, as America desires to be well thought of in France.

A lot of good people who sincerely desire to do good spend so much good time organizing to do good that they don't get time to do any good.

Jam is one of the most important articles in the diet of the British soldier, notwithstanding the ridicule to which it is subjected. It has three and a half times the energy value of butter. Its value lies in its richness in sugar—of which one-half its weight consists—in the minerals present in the skins of fruit, in its laxative character and its mechanical aid to digestion. Besides it is toothsome and gives relish to army diet that by its mental effect goes far in the maintenance of health. No better variant could be found for a diet limited to simple food.

-10% DISCOUNT!

Desiring to clean up our stock of Dry Goods and Queensware, we are offering for the next two weeks a special discount for cash on every article in the dry goods and queensware departments.

CALICOS, GINGHAMS; AND OUTING FLANNELS IN THE LATE PATTERNS GO IN THIS SALE.

A rare opportunity to secure the best muslins on the market at a low figure. We will close out our line of underwear for men, women and children at a sacrifice price.

A FINE LINE OF CHINA AND GLASSWARE OFFERED AT A DISCOUNT OF 10 PER CENT.

We are here to make our home and want you to come in and see these rare bargains and get acquainted.

THE BEST OF GROCERIES CAN BE FOUND HERE AT ALL TIMES.

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