

**The Plattsmouth Journal**  
 Published Semi-Weekly at Plattsmouth, Nebr.  
 Entered at the Postoffice at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter.  
**R. A. BATES, Publisher**  
 Subscription Price: \$1.50 Per Year In Advance

**THOUGHT FOR TODAY.**

Treat your friends for what you know them to be. Regard no surfaces. Consider not what they did, but what they intend.—Kelly.

Talk less about people, and you will hate them less.

As a proclamer Governor Morehead is a success.

Assessors find increase of \$5,000,000 in bank stock in Nebraska.

In the aeroplane game the chap that raises last generally wins.

It is hard to say when we are to enjoy real old summer weather.

Much of that which is called dancing today was called leap-frog stunts in other days.

This weather is about as hard on the base ball fans as it is on the wheat and corn.

The weather man is no respecter of locality. They all get a share of the rains and storms.

A Plattsmouth man is an awful loafer because he attends strictly to his own business.

Remember that July 29 and 30 are good roads days, and that they should be observed.

It is said that at a recent party in this town the dresses were so low-necked that the babies began to cry.

One of the most unpleasant jobs in the world is handling chiggers. Still, running down a pig is a pretty mean task.

There are a few men in Plattsmouth who are willing to take the credit of doing things if they can do so without any expenses to themselves.

Babies in this town are plentiful since the carnival came. And they were so cheap that most any household could afford one. The baby man evidently done a land-office business.

A wireless outfit for automobiles has been tested in New York and found to be satisfactory. As soon as the garages and repair shops are equipped to receive S. O. S. signals the automobilist's joy will be complete.

In Hammond, Indiana, following vigorous protests from many citizens, the police department has announced that hereafter women who wear their skirts is shortened to over nine inches above their shoe tops will be chased off the streets. Nine inches, mind you!

Why not have a Cass County Pioneer Day at Plattsmouth some time in October? It would bring back any number of former residents who lived here years ago, who would rejoice in meeting their old friends. Let's talk it up and see what can be done in this direction.

Germany has suppressed certain newspapers for too liberal speech. This would perhaps be a good suggestion to Uncle Sam with some newspapers in the east, who are aiding and abetting the money powers by advocating extreme war measures, in the hope of getting the United States into trouble.

**GAIN FROM GOOD ROADS.**

The county of Wayne, Michigan, is first in the United States for the permanent improvement of roads within its boundaries. Detroit is in the county, and its prominence in the automobile industry led to this general betterment of the local highways. But Wayne county is not disposed to regard firm, smooth roads as the last word in this form of program. It is now promoting the planting and care of shade trees along these highways and not alone for their beauty. Engineers know that a roadway over-arched with trees at proper intervals lasts longer and is more easily kept in order than one that is unshaded. A certain amount of moisture assists in the preservation and usefulness of the surface, as well as the mass of materials underneath.

As for the beauty and general attractiveness of shaded roads no argument is needed. They are an inspiration and delight to those who travel over them and realize how much they contribute to personal comfort and enjoyment. That they enhance property values wherever established is undisputed. The best saplings for shade are cheap everywhere, but they cannot be stuck in the ground and left to care for themselves. They need protection, an intelligent system of fostering until surely established.

Judging from the growth of Detroit and its immediate region, its enterprise in roads is typical of its public spirit and foresight. Improvement begets improvement, and the dividend on them is never passed.

Cranks are also people who over-estimate their responsibility.

The public having lost considerable money on the stock exchange during the recent decline, conditions are reported as perfectly normal.

There will be more slates broken at the next primary election than will patch h—l a mile. And some of them are being forned right now.

It must be admitted that no factory has yet been able to create Zeppelins with the rapidity and reliability with which automobiles are produced in America.

If it did require the service of an international fleet to down the price of bread, the industrious hen, by her own efforts, succeeded in lowering the price of eggs.

Edison and his aides may cause an upheaval in the navy, but the chances are that the man who offers the great inventor will be an unknown. In history it has always been so.

One can readily agree with Dr. Favill of Rush Medical college, Chicago, that the dairy cow holds an important place in this country. Next to the industrious hen and the solubrious golf, she's just about it.

The man who talks most about the war starts his talk about this way: "I don't believe the European war should be discussed, on account of the cosmopolitan character of our people, but—" And then says something that makes a half dozen people mad.

A remarkable instance of filial devotion in the lower animals has just come to light at Smith, La. Lem Macey had an old Rhode Island hen named Sairy, which insisted upon setting all the time. Lem dug out a turtle's nest and found twenty eggs. He took the eggs home, made a nice nest and put Sairy on them. In due time Sairy hatched out eighteen nice, healthy snapping turtles.

**Anyone can be president of Mexico.**

Neutrality is a bully thing—for the other fellows.

Ex-Governor Aldrich for U. S. senator. Oh, Lord!

There is no danger of Mr. Bryan opening a campaign against President Wilson.

Lincoln is all worked up over the fact that they are to have a new factory.

The motorists keep their eyes on the road, and if that's good, the scenery is pronounced grand.

This war is comprehensible, if we regard it as the struggle of the world to be rid of militarism. Is that the solution?

The Pullman company can scarcely use the names of the new battles in the European war for its cars. It has to be neutral.

Teddy Roosevelt says: "From time to time I shall have something to say on matters of vital interest to the nation as a whole, but it will not be for sap-heads and molloycoddles." Don't be too long about it, Teddy. Don't let it get stale on your hands.

**A TRUE VIEW.**

"What's the matter with the United States?" writes Herbert N. Casson. "As I have been residing in London since the beginning of the war, I have never heard any satisfactory answer. No one seems to know. Why are the American factories not running night and day? Why are the railroads not opening up new territory and getting ready for the millions of immigrants who have already made up their minds to leave Europe just as soon as the war is over? Why are there not fifty American drummers in London right now, trying to sell \$200,000,000 worth of American goods in place of the goods that were bought last year from Germany and Austria? Why have advertisers become quitters just at the time when their advertisements were most needed and most effective in cheering on the business forces of the United States? From the European point of view the United States is a haven of peace and security and prosperity. It has no troubles that it dare mention to Belgian or Austria or France or Germany or Serbia and Great Britain or Russia. Every tenth Briton is enlisted. Every tenth Frenchman is at the front. Every tenth Belgian is dead. What does the United States know of trouble? If I could afford it I would charter the Mauterania and convey a party of five thousand American advertisers to Europe for a trip of inspection and education. I would give them a week in London, a week in Paris and a week in Antwerp. I would let them look at the United States from the scene of war. I would give them a look at real trouble. I would let them see trains at a time, five minutes apart, packed with the maimed and the dying. I would let them hear, from fragmentary survivors, the incredible story of battlefields one hundred and fifty miles wide and armies that are greater than the population of Texas. I would let them see graves one hundred miles long and full, and Belgium, the country that was, nothing now but twelve thousand square miles of wreckage. Then when they began to understand to some extent the magnitude and awfulness of this war, I would say to them: "Now go back and appreciate the United States. Realize your opportunities. Don't start digging trenches when nobody is firing at you. Don't fall when you have not been hit. And don't be blind to the most glorious chance you ever had in your life. Go back and advertise. Get ready for the most tremendous business boom that any nation ever had. Build your factories bigger. Train more salesmen. Borrow more money. Go ahead, and thank God that you are alive and that your family is alive, and that you are living in a land that is at peace at a time when nearly the whole world is at war."

**BOTH GUILTY, AND WHY.**

Excusing themselves to the United States and humanity in general, Great Britain and Germany hold each other guilty of violating international law, thus justifying the extreme measures to which both have resorted on the seas. What are the facts?

So far as Great Britain is concerned, the war began August 4, 1914. August 6 it proclaimed a list of articles which it would treat as contraband, absolute and conditional. Among the latter were foodstuffs, which would be regarded as free except as consigned to the armed forces of the enemy.

Germany at once announced that during hostilities it would abide by the declaration of London, if all other belligerents did so. By the terms of this agreement, never accepted by Great Britain in its entirety and not ratified by the United States, although it was an accurate epitome of international law, private property rights in non-contraband cargoes were recognized, the rules of blockade were defined and the freedom of neutral trade in non-contraband goods was asserted.

On various dates during August and September Great Britain revised its contraband list with increasing severity. Meantime its ships were seizing vessels of all kinds bound for Holland, the claim being that their cargoes, whether actually contraband or not, would reach Germany overland.

September 30 Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, British ambassador, notified the American state department officially that thereafter Great Britain would intercept even conditional contraband cargoes in neutral ships when there was a probability that they would reach the enemy through neutral ports.

October 31 the British rules as to contraband were again extended so as to cover practically all articles of commerce between the United States and Holland. Foodstuffs consigned to "the government of Holland" were permitted to pass. In practically all other cases they were seized.

November 4 the British government announced the establishment of a war zone, effective the next day, which would include the whole of the North sea. By this order the north of Scotland route to Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Holland and the Baltic was closed.

November 23 Germany protested to the United States that by the methods adopted under this order Great Britain was violating not only the declaration of London governing naval operations, but universally accepted international law as well.

January 26, 1915, the German government seized all supplies of wheat, corn, flour and preserved meats in the empire for war purposes. February 14 it expropriated all stocks of oats, created a war grain association to deal with the food problem, fixed prices and regulated consumption.

In the meantime, on February 4, Germany announced the establishment, effective February 18, of a submarine war zone covering the English channel and all the territorial and high-sea waters around the British Islands. By this order the English channel or southern route to Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and the Baltic was closed.

While these reprisals were in progress in Europe the German cruiser Prinz Eitel in the South Pacific sank the American ship Frye, loaded with wheat for England, January 28, and the German cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm sank the Norwegian ship Samantha, also wheat-laden, February 3. In these cases German commanders were warring upon the British food supply in remote seas at the precise time that the German government was commandeering the food of its own subjects at home.

March 15 the British orders in council, which have since then been under discussion in London and Washington, were issued. They did not in so many words proclaim a blockade of Germany, but they amounted to that. As to neutrals, they were very elastic. They disclaimed the purpose of confiscation except in cases of contraband, but they clearly aimed at the

**complete isolation of Germany, food-stuffs and all. In true blockades everything is contraband. For justification of its proceedings, reference was made to the fact that by the action of the German government itself all food in the empire had become war food.**

Since the issuance of these orders, Germany's submarine warfare had been carried on with increasing vigor, as is well known, and, as a result of the invasion of neutral rights by both belligerents, the United States has been under the necessity of entering its several protests.

The sum of the matter appears to be that international law is in ruins. Great Britain disregarded it first at sea by its failure to declare and maintain a true and effective blockade of Germany, while asserting all the rights and privileges of a blockading power. Germany has used its submarines as a mighty remonstrance against stoppage of its supplies. The so-called British blockade of Germany is unlawful, because it does not exclude Norway and Sweden. The use of German submarines is unlawful because they sink and kill without search and by their summary action expose passengers and crews to death.

In a single noteworthy fact, we may find a complete explanation of this intolerable situation. The great navies of Great Britain and Germany refuse to fight. They appear to be afraid of each other. If the British maintained a true blockade of Germany they would be compelled to support it with all of their dreadnaughts in the Baltic, as well as in the North sea and the channel. If the Germans maintained or even attempted a true blockade of Great Britain, their navy, now hidden in the Kiel canal, would have to take the risk of battle. Caution or cowardice is subjecting the whole world to savagery and injustice.

Declining thus far a real test of naval supremacy, both of these belligerents, by irregular methods, are inflicting almost as much injury upon neutrals as they are upon each other.—New York World.

**Look out for the "fall of Warsaw."** It's a sure thing.

The smallest countries can write the fiercest notes.

Beautiful weather, but a little cool night and mornings.

Modern dancing is mostly sitting around watching someone else do it.

It is predicted that women will wear shorter dresses this fall. Oh, my!

In politics keep your ear close to the ground, but don't let anybody step on it.

It looks now as though we might be favored with a few days of drying weather. We hope so.

We didn't expect the German note to be entirely satisfactory, so what are we fussing about?

It must be the hardest for the Russians to see what they are fighting for; and perhaps they don't.

A great advance was made in human comfort when the squeakless shoe was invented. Sure thing!

Mexico's silver lining is that none of the revolutionaries are piling up a national debt that anybody will be bound to pay.

When New York reflects on its wrecked state finances it cannot be blamed for begrudging that \$27,000,000 paid in federal income taxes.

Georgia's legislature is indignant of Atlanta. It permits her to have her 212 saloons and 16 locker clubs. Local option crushed to death will rise again.

No-withstanding Yankee Robinson has been dead for twenty-five years, his spirit still survives, and his show will be with us here in Plattsmouth on Tuesday, August 10.

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Take care of your character and your reputation will take care of itself.

Mr. Bryan told his neighbors at Lincoln that "Nebraska is so restful." There are some signs of it being restless in 1916.

The Kaiser says the war will end in October, but German military authorities are ordering sheepskin coats and motor sledges.

The stock market business is proceeding about as usual, and offering the people the needed facilities for losing their money.

Plenty of work continues in Plattsmouth. Contractors and builders are as busy as bees and new houses are going up in every direction.

Governors should always try to ascertain whether persons pressing applications for pardons are "practicing influence" for a consideration.

A Chicago doctor, in giving advice to bachelors, says: "Don't marry an heiress—one with more than \$15,000 to \$20,000." If she has more than that no doubt it would be wise to have her turn it over in advance.

Tommy Allen thinks he stands a good show for the district attorneyship. Perhaps he does, and in case he does get the appointment the office will be held down about as well as it has been. A little democrat sometimes possesses more brains than a 200-pound republican.

The Commercial club will meet Thursday evening at their club room in the Riley block, and one of the leading matters for discussion will be the electrolites, which has been agitated for some time. We hope the business men will unite in favor of these lights, as they will add very materially to the appearance of our streets after night. Don't let us be behind other towns in this respect. Let us be up-to-date with our progressive spirit.

"Summer Suits One-Half Off." Again? Well, that's the way we want 'em—again.

The hardest worked people seem to be those who are either just going on a vacation or have recently returned.

Philosophy foolishly says so many things that will have no weight, such as "any kind of work is better than loafing." Loafing, discretely and temporarily indulged in, is one of earth's blessings.

Evidently Brother Charley is not having everything his own way as mayor of the capital city. The city council has just started in to clog his wheel of measures that are calculated to advance his political interests in his effort to become governor of Nebraska.

Combinations of candidates for nominations in any party is liable to create discord in that party. It always did and always will. There is a combination in the course of construction for state offices in the democratic party at Lincoln right now. Go slow, gentlemen, the democratic party is not in very good shape to put up with any tomfoolery.

Walt Mason has a new theory: Taxation should be reduced to a system of rewards and penalties, in order to be fair. For instance, the man whose premises are a credit to his community should receive official recognition. The assessor should let him down as light as possible. The citizen whose premises are a nursery for weeds should be taxed to the limit. The owner of a vacant lot which is overgrown with weeds and cluttered up with junk and dead animals should pay more taxes than his neighbor who builds a nice cottage and maintains a handsome lawn. The man who beautifies his property contributes substantially to the welfare of the town and the public, while the one who lets his property go to ruin gives his town a black eye. Such things should be considered in imposing taxes.

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