

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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**THOUGHT FOR TODAY.**

And in like manner the Spirit also helpeth our infirmity; for we know not how to pay as we ought; but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.—Rom. 8:26.

Folly is a fly that should be swatted.

Look out for frost, if warm weather don't come soon.

Look up your overcoat and see that it is in good shape.

Many a man stubs his toe on the doorstep of success.

Envy, egotism and anger has torpedoed many a friendship.

Disagreeable habits can and do go out of fashion. Hair oil has.

A true loafer's favorite amusement is bothering busy people.

A political trail-hitter means wavers as long as there is an office in sight.

Somehow few of the newspaper men who are writing warlike editorials have yet enrolled for military training.

Fifteen millions worth of property wiped out at Galveston, Texas, by a recent storm, and one hundred lose their lives.

Omaha reports a couple in that city that recently celebrated their seventy-fifth wedding anniversary. They must have been married young.

The fact that many business men are taking military training and can command a regiment, does not prove that they can enforce discipline at home.

There are not many men who are as popular as Dr. Hall. Men who can get the democratic nomination without the asking are about as scarce as hen's teeth.

Collectors for the churches should reflect that it is not tactful to ask a man to contribute fifty cents to preaching at a time when he has just returned from a vacation costing one hundred dollars.

The Lincoln brass foundry has accepted a contract to manufacture \$2,500,000 worth of brass sharpnel shells for one of the warring nations. As Lincoln is Mr. Bryan's home, he being the Prince of Peace, it is a wonder he would allow such a thing right in his home town.

Newcomers are in Plattsmouth every day on the lookout for new homes, and several have selected sites for building new residences. They seem to prefer building rather than buying a residence. Plattsmouth still booms right along and property has almost doubled in valuation in the past five years.

It is all right for President Wilson to tell Germany what it must not do, but John Bull draws the line when the president tells him what Great Britain must do. England is as deep in the mud as Germany is in the mire, and both should be treated alike by this country. Not the least partiality should be displayed.

## "BEIN' A GENTLEMAN."

There are people who bring up their children, and those who allow them just to grow, like Topsy. There are those who give their boys and girls the benefit of home training, of a direct and constant and tender personal influence, and those who, depending precariously on laws and policemen and bureaus and commissions to safeguard them, wonder at the waywardness of youth and bewail the tendencies of the times.

In a New York paper, the other day, was told a little story in which there is food for reflection. An 8-year-old girl, playing in the park, was forced to remove her worn shoe because a nail was hurting her. With the shoe in her hand she started to limp homeward. She stepped on a jagged piece of glass and fell fainting to the curb, where she lay until an unknown little gentleman, about 10 years old, came along. The boy laboriously lifted the girl to his back and started for the hospital, occasionally putting her down for the moment while he rested. At the hospital an astonished door tender took the burden from the youth and called a physician. The latter found the girl weak from loss of blood and said that a few minutes more might have proved fatal to her. The lad persistently refused to give his name. "I'm bein' a gentleman, like my father says," he explained, and trudged away.

There is a boy blessed with a real father. Thanks to that father, there is a boy growing up to be straight and clean and brave and manly. The lures and temptations of the metropolis, we can feel sure without any further information, endanger and will endanger him but slightly. Evil associations, bar rooms, dance halls, pool rooms, the glare of the great white way, can weigh but lightly in the balance in their influence on that boy because the home influence, the father's influence, have gained so much the start of them.

It is a wonderful shield and buckler that father is giving his son. The lessons we learn when we are young are those we never forget. They stay with us through life, and become habit or second nature. The pity of it is that in that tender, formative period, when mind and heart are like wax to receive an impression and like granite to retain it, there are so many lessons to be learned that are never imparted. Father is too busy reforming his neighbors, reforming the world, trying to impress his own habits and customs upon strangers, who don't like them and don't want them, to pay very much attention to his own boy. He figures hazily that if he can get the laws and ordinances framed about to his liking his boy can go through life sequestered and sheltered by society and all will be well with him.

It is a sorry mistake. It was a part of the divine scheme that placed sin and temptation in this world. Soon or late they come with their siren whispers to everyone, and we be unto the man or woman who must depend upon protection to escape them rather than upon character and ideals. It is in the home that character is formed and ideals are planted and watered. Home influence cannot remove sin from the world whose thorny paths must soon be trodden by tender feet. But home influence can give the strength to resist and overcome. It can implant an instinctive love of good and abhorrence of evil. It can make it natural for a lad to "be a gentleman, like my father says." And so, and so only, is the world to be reformed.—World-Herald.

A little cool, thank you, for this time of the year.

Many people are still wondering when summer sets in.

It is easier to talk back than it is to come back, sometimes.

People forget so readily that there is an advantage in the closing argument.

Knowledge may be power, but it takes a heap of gasoline to make the car go.

The volcanoes in Southern Italy had to get into the fray, but the Balkans are still sitting tight.

The poor, misguided chigre gets none of the credit for industry so lavishly bestowed upon the busy bee.

An exchange announces that "tomatoes are going to waist," which is admittedly not the proper place for them.

It is confidently believed that congress will soon relieve the threatened deficit by appropriating some more money.

The official who can get what he wants without violating the letter of the civil service always stands high in certain circles.

The Typographical Union is not opposed to abstinence, but it does not consider it a proper subject of organized coercion.

We all made merry over Villa's moving picture battles, but now England has adopted the idea, although not as a revenue measure.

Discovery by scientists that the early days of the world may not have been exactly as they are described in Genesis hasn't made anybody happier.

Now, here comes a judge who solemnly decrees that fish is meat. Why is it that nobody can be found who is inclined to tell the truth about fish?

The State Journal is so fearful that the democrats will nominate Dr. P. L. Hall for governor that it has already been trying to start a feud between factions of the democratic party.

Some people want the world, but they are sure of only what they work for or fall heir to, and that for only a brief space of time. Finally it will take only a very small spot of earth to be the last resting place for each body.

A New York newspaper says eastern business men figure the United States will be in the war in November or December and are trimming their sails accordingly. Still, one guess may be as good as another, or better. And then it might be "the wish is father to the thought" with some of those New York fellows.

News of the sinking of the Arabic caused fresh weakness in the wheat world. The Arabic was an English vessel carrying a few American passengers, who were very foolish to attempt passage under present circumstances. Calm judgment must now await the official unfolding of the facts connected with its sinking.

Mayors, bank presidents and other men of prominence in the commercial and political world are taking a course of military training at Plattsmouth, N. Y., and are serving as privates in the ranks. It is one of the new methods adopted by the government for the national defense in the event of a foreign invasion, and should appeal to every man who has the slightest degree of reverence for his flag and his country. A like movement on the part of the business and professional men of this community would not be amiss, for while other places may make a more spectacular showing, there is no section of the country in which true patriotism is more pregnant in emergency than right here among our own people.

## NOT CHINAFIED.

One may join Col. Roosevelt in damning the mollicoddies without sharing the fear that this nation is to be Chinafied. The world knows this nation isn't prepared for war, although much better situated in that respect than the celestial republic of the Far East. Our navy is a third-rater, at best, where it should be at least second, and possibly first, in view of our widespread coast line, and the importance of isolation as a defensive measure. Our army is an efficient force for its size, but is a joke in size, being considerably smaller than the fighting force of Switzerland or Holland, and it ought to be increased four-fold, and probably will be. But the fact that this nation will not be Chinafied is based more on the people than on organization, which we lack to such a shameful degree. China, the oldest continuously civilized nation, for centuries isolated from the moving world, is decadent with age and behind the times, while this country has at least been a leader in other fields of progress, if a laggard in war. And we aren't without our military traditions, although these are based on little wars as wars are reckoned nowadays. But we fought for our independence, and for the preservation of the union, and our rights on the high seas, and we should fight again if the occasion demanded.

One cannot by the wildest stretch of fancy, imagine the United States submitting meekly as China did to the dictates of another nation regarding our internal policies. Of course we might be overpowered, as Belgium was, and become an enslaved people, as the Belgians are, but it would only be after the land was bathed in blood. However, we don't want to be like Belgium is, any more than we choose to follow China's course. Belgium's lot is hell, although somewhat glorious, while China's position is most humiliating of the nations of the world, although safe and comfortable. Between the two, every red-blooded American would choose the fate of Belgium. But for a country of our potential possibilities, neither course is necessary. We have the men and the money. Remains only then to secure the training and equipment, and America is blind to neglect them. Men may fight fiercely without training, but training is necessary to get results which are important in warfare.

The unearthed secret correspondence shows that the Belgian ministers were suspicious chaps.

During courtship an ounce of flattery is equal to a pound of caramel. Take your choice, boys.

Did you ever notice that if you did not bet on the home team you were disloyal to the community?

Carranza lost all chance of being recognized when he fulminated against the landing of marines at Vera Cruz.

Whatever their responsibility for the decline, it is certain that the allies do not care how low the price of wheat drops.

The census shows that there are 8,924,056 unmarried women in the United States. You can't blame this on the European war.

The chautauquas are not so successful as they formerly were. People get tired of the same amusements and speakers over and over, and here is where the line is drawn.

Nebraska ranks well with other states from the standpoint of her rural schools, according to a 125-page report of the U. S. department of the interior compiled by J. L. McBrien, former state superintendent of Nebraska, now extension agent for the United States bureau of education. He showed that the state was thoroughly up to the standard in teacher training, rural school extension, county unit plans, rural High schools and the study of agriculture and domestic science.

Former Lieutenant Governor McKelvie has not yet announced his candidacy for governor next year, but we presume he will be in the race to the extent that he was last year, and that was simply his announcement.

The kaiser advises the pope that he is ready to talk peace if the allies say the word. The allies say they are going to whip the kaiser, if it takes several years to do it. But somehow they are slow in getting started.

All that is needed to make Plattsmouth a city of 10,000 population in the next few years is for the citizens—we mean those who have the best interests of the city at heart—to forge right ahead the way they have been doing in the past five years, and we'll have the satisfaction of seeing the old town to this extent, if not larger. "Pulling together" will make any town prosperous.

Every time a democratic officeholder dies, or resigns, or a prominent office is to be filled a half dozen papers over the state begin to howl "Billy Thompson," the "Little Giant," and asking the place for him until it has become a frazzled joke. Give "Billy" a needed rest and others a deserved chance.—Kearney Democrat. Now you're shouting, Mr. Democrat. Give Billy what he needs—a good, long rest.

## M. P. RECEIVERSHIP.

Popular regret at the appointment of a receiver for the Missouri Pacific and Iron Mountain may be measured by the fact that President Bush and his board would be able to avert such proceedings. The efforts of the management have been prodigious and have won the admiration of the business world. The properties under the present management have been conducted with great efficiency and in a way to increase their future value. The receivership, which appears to be friendly, was not unexpected, after the reluctance of the stockholders to bear an assessment of \$50 a share under the reorganization plan became obvious. The market value of stock dropped \$3 a share. While the holders of matured notes generally deposited them under the renewal agreement, there were still enough outstanding to permit the filing of vexatious suits in many states. The federal receivership simplifies matters, insures the preservation of the unity of the system and offers hope of a reorganization which could not be voluntarily effected. Every aspect of the situation has been so thoroughly considered, the president, who has been named receiver, enjoys such universal confidence, and the properties have been so well conserved by the recent management as to inspire hope that the owners will soon be again in charge.

So far as the large territory served by the system is concerned, its interests will be guarded. The federal courts have adopted the wise policy of insisting on the physician condition of the railways under their control being maintained at the highest standard. This conserves the value of the properties and also guards the welfare of the communities dependent upon them. Sympathy is due stockholders and security owners who may lose large sums through the reorganization, but this is unavoidable. Some of the conditions grow out of old mismanagement, some out of inadequacy of rates and some out of facts beyond anybody's control. The public seems ready to correct whatever injustice it has done, although its representatives have not responded with the alacrity it expected.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The wife of John E. Barnes died at midnight, Monday, July 15th, of consumption. The funeral took place at 5 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, the Rev. Mr. Burgess officiating. Mr. Barnes is left with two small children and has the sympathy of his friends in his trouble.

Our county clerk is now recording a huge document, being no more nor less than the bonding of the B. & M. road and appurtenances for fourteen million (\$14,000,000) of dollars. This means new roads on the Republican; maybe a bridge at this point, and general improvements in the South Platte country.

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