

The Plattsmouth Journal

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

Half the world is on the wrong scent in the pursuit of happiness. They think it consists in having and getting and in being served by others. It consists in giving and in saving others.—Henry Drummond.

A genuine gossip is one who thinks little and talks much.

President Wilson surely believes in the second term of marriage.

The whole world is a mystery, and outside of that no mysteries exist.

Paving activities in Plattsmouth make it look good for those who have the blues.

I am proud of my town. You are proud of your town. We are all proud of our town, or should be.

Remember that if you do not like him and he does not like you, there are two sides to the street.

The law may presume that you are innocent until proven guilty, but that is not the way with the public.

The modern person who uses a jaw bone of an ass to hurt somebody, might be called a modern gossip, male or female.

Speaking of mysterious disappearances, what has become of the son-in-laws of Champ Clark, Teddy Roosevelt and W. J. Bryan?

Officially speaking, we are the poor man's friend. No poor laboring man who owns an auto shall be given the worst of it if we can prevent it.

The international peace congress wants President Wilson to call a meeting of neutral nations to devise means to stop the European war. That would be a good move, no doubt.

It sounds something like a joke to see some of the republican papers talking of ex-Senator Burkett for president. It is possible they are simply doing it for a joke.

W. J. Bryan says national prohibition will not be an issue in the 1916 campaign, indicating that he still has something to say. And he will, you can let your bottom dollar on that.

There isn't much difference between a man and woman, after all. A woman will travel a hundred miles to attend a week-end party and a man will get out of bed at three in the morning to go duck hunting.

Ross Hammond of the Fremont Tribune is a pretty fine fellow, and a very good writer, but when he attempts to argue a question with Harvey Newbranch, the able editor of the World-Herald, he must acknowledge that he is "not in it" even a little bit.

A few years ago a good many Cass county people were going to Texas and Oklahoma. You don't see many going now, do you? A few years ago many of our people were crazy about California, and went out there to get rich raising fruit, but you don't see many going out there now for that purpose, do you? Remain in Cass county and let well enough alone.

Preachers and newspapers are not always popular. Preachers marry people and newspapers tell why they are demanding a divorce.

THE AMUSEMENT QUESTION.

It was possibly a bit maladroit on the part of Billy Sunday. Just at the time he was most sternly and sweepingly denouncing what other people look upon as their innocent pleasures—pinocle, high five, whist, dancing, theaters, moving pictures—he went squirrel hunting in the Missouri river bluffs north of Omaha.

Now the Rev. William Sunday can see nothing wicked in shooting squirrels for sport. To his way of thinking it is a perfectly harmless and Christian form of entertainment, else he would not indulge himself in it. He is very fond of shooting the timid wild things of the fields and woods, both feathered and furred, we are told, and hugs the pleasure of it to his breast whenever opportunity offers. He means nothing wrong, thinks nothing wrong, when he does so. It is his idea of fun, just as it is of many other good and respectable people. And realizing that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy he plunges himself into it, every now and then, with the same vigor and vim that he displays when he is hunting Satan and frightening sinners into repentance.

But, by the same token, other people have other ideas of fun. Some think that casino or rummy is harmless and innocent sport. Some know no more pleasurable amusement than is afforded them when Otis Skinner or Maud Adams or Forbes Robertson comes to town. Others find relaxation and diversion in dancing. There are good people, and clean and decent and pure-minded people among those devoted to all these various diversions, and they indulge in the quite as free from thoughts of evil as is Mr. Sunday himself when he draws a bead on the scurrying, bright-eyed Mr. Squirrel and drops him, plump, to the ground.

Mr. Sunday declares the diversions of these others to be the very essence of wickedness and demands, on pain of eternal punishment, that they be abandoned forthwith. But, as appears from letters in the "Public Pulse" to day, over the names of Robert F. Gilder and K. K. Tsujigaki, some of these others look on Mr. Sunday's favorite sport with profound aversion. They brand it is wanton killing. They want to know what harm the squirrel or the rabbit or the dove has done Mr. Sunday, or the people Mr. Sunday loves, or the God he worships, that he should take delight in slaying it. Plainly they think Mr. Sunday is quite as much in danger of hell fire when he kills one of God's creatures for the love of killing it as he would be if, for example, he went to a vaudeville show or melded three kings.

Here is a nice little how-de-do. Without question there is room for an argument. A great many people will agree with Tsujigaki and Gilder; a great many will agree with Sunday; still another large contingent will cry a pox on both their houses and declare that either side is making mountains out of mole hills. But the thought that will impress a good many is that Mr. Sunday, being so censorious of others, should be especially particular in his own pleasure. They will say he denounces sweepingly such amusements as does not appeal to him, but indulges freely in that which does, even though the indulgence pains and shocks others, and there he is therefore both unfair and inconsistent.

The controversy, however, is by no means a new one. Through the thousands of years of human life upon this planet it has never been settled, and the odds are entirely against its being settled while Mr. Sunday remains in Omaha. In the future as in the past men and women will con-

tinue to seek and enjoy such pleasure as they like, whether it be dancing or eating pie or drinking beer or reading novels or squirrel shooting or baseball or poker or the movies. They will continue to criticize and deride each other's notion of what fun is, the same as they will criticize and deride each other's notions of other things. And for the most part the people holding to the one view will be just about as good people, with just about as good a chance of going to heaven, as those holding to a contrary view.—World-Herald.

Base ball dying? Didn't look much like it the past week.

Revivals seem to be the order of the day. So why not quit your meanness and be good?

Old Hoary-Headed Winter is liable to be here before we know it. Be prepared for it.

If the Turks keep up their present lick long there will not be any Armenian question.

Villa says Mexico needs more education. That ought to have occurred to somebody in authority forty or fifty years ago.

When the packers took the oath of allegiance to the United States did they have the Sherman act particularly in mind?

To some dispositions there's enough to be comfortable about even if it isn't hot weather or cold weather. October itself, for them, has specks on it.

Perhaps the European war has inspired a greater degree of patriotism even in neutral countries. In Boston last Monday the Beaneaters gave the home team the largest attendance ever known at a base ball game.

While in conversation with Hon. R. B. Windham in our office the other day we found him very enthusiastic for a "Home Coming" celebration next summer. Mr. Windham is a pioneer resident of Plattsmouth and realizes the pleasure it would give those old residents who have moved away to visit with old friends they have not seen for many years. He thinks it would prove one of the grandest events ever held in Cass county—and so does the Journal.

It is rumored now that the anti-treating law of Nebraska is to be hauled out from its hiding place for thirty-five years and an attempt made to enforce it. Well, if it is a law, why not enforce it? But, as you go along, there are numerous other laws that need enforcing much more than the anti-treating law, and which would result in a great deal more benefit to the general public. There is no use in trying to try to resuscitate a law that has been dead so long.

Former Governor Aldrich doesn't appear to be getting very far in his campaign for the republican nomination for United States senator. Mr. Aldrich turned bull moose when he thought the short cut to the pie counter led that way, and promptly flopped back when he discovered his mistake. Aldrich will discover that while the republican party will welcome his vote, they will be more slow in offering him a reward in the shape of a United States senatorship.—Clay County Patriot.

It would seem that politicians are not very enthusiastic over the prospects next year. Of course the democrats are relying upon the popularity of President Wilson to carry them through to victory, while the republicans will depend a good deal upon their own exertions, which in many cases pulls a ticket through to victory. There is nothing that works so charmingly as a thorough organization and the placing in the field of a good, strong ticket. It is only about six months till the primaries, and it behooves those who expect to be considered next year to be getting in on the ground floor, as the saying goes.

WHAT TARIFF IS FOR.

Those who are looking for excuses for criticism of the administration are deriding the suggestion that the sugar tariff may not be abolished as proposed by the free sugar plan begun in the last session of congress.

They do not give the dominant party credit for the courage with which it defied the threatened hostility of the democratic south in determining to eventually put sugar on the free list. In fact they have kept up a running assault upon the action of congress in regard to sugar, omitting mention of the fact that beet sugar production in the north has gone ahead of the production of cane sugar in the south in volume.

The democratic idea all along has been that such tariff as is levied should be for revenue purposes. The difference between the republican and the democratic ideas of the tariff is that the protectionists want the tariff regulated to provide margins of profit for favored industries, without regard to the revenue needs of the government, while the democrats, satirically called "free traders," want just enough tariff taxes imposed to pay the expenses of the government when economically administered.

Having discovered that there is a shortage in public revenues, because the war abroad has interfered with American commerce, they now propose to retain a tax on sugar, not for so-called "protection," but to provide revenues for meeting the expenses of government.

It may be urged that the government administered, and with some men is not economically administered, and with some reason. But every time a retrenchment of any sort is proposed the protectionists set up a howl that is quite painful to hear about how it is throwing good men out of employment and crippling government industries.

However, if the government finds it necessary to retain the sugar tariff tax in order to provide sufficient revenues, these high protectionists are quite sure to be inconsolable.—Lincoln Star.

When money talks what does it say to the miser?

It is never too late to swat a fly, nor too early. But swat 'em before they're hatched.

Secretary Lansing withholds his views of woman suffrage because he cannot vote. Is that diplomatic or politician?

This is a free country that an American can say things right out loud every day that a diplomat for whispering may be sent home.

One thing in which we rejoice—the pumpkin pie crop is said to be fully up to the usual standard. There is no pie so good as a pumpkin pie.

Behold how easy it was to "pacificate" Haiti; and it is likely that the pacification of Mexico wouldn't be the monster task that has been predicted.

From 1900 to 1915 or 1920 will be known in history as the period of the outbreak of the automobile; and we're curious to know what history will say about it.

Senator J. Ham Lewis of Illinois, predicts a new Europe as a result of the war. The old one is being shot so full of holes that a new one will probably be necessary.

Owing to the well known war, cod liver oil is now listed among luxuries, according to one of our favorite journals, but it isn't, and those who have taken it will be glad if the price becomes prohibitive.

Eight Americans are serving as aviators in the French army and eleven others are in training. William Thaw, who is a second lieutenant, says the Yankees are endeavoring to form a special American squadron. The eight now serving are Norman Prince, Elliott Cowden, James Bach, Frazier Curtis, H. G. Guerin, Burt Hall, Didier Masson and Thaw.

CANDIDATES CAN SPEND MONEY TO THEIR CONTENT

Last Legislature Removed Embarrassing Features of the Old Corrupt Practices Act.

LIMIT DEPTH OF THE POCKET

Lincoln, Neb., Oct. 17.—The almost immediate opening of headquarters for John L. Kennedy in his contest for United States senator, with Victor Seymour in charge, headquarters that will be busy for the next year if Mr. Kennedy gets past the primary, brings up the fact that the last legislature let the bars down on the matter of expenditures of a legitimate nature. Candidates can spend almost any sum they desire, and need not falsify their statements as has been charged against some prominent candidates in the past.

Previous to this new form of the corrupt practices act a candidate might spend \$650 at the primary and \$650 at the general election, if he were running for a state-wide office. He did not have to count his personal traveling expenses and hotel bills in this list, but everything else went. If he was not left at the post at the primary he could spend not more than \$1,300 besides his car fare and hotel bills, unless he swore in his statement to falsehoods.

Neither Mr. Kennedy nor any other candidate for senator or governor, or state officer, will have any such burden to bear. No treats are permitted and no other forms of entertainment, but the candidate can spend \$1,150 for the primary campaign and as much more for his subsequent campaign if he gets past the primary. He can spend \$1,000 more than before, and show it in his statement.

But the real favor the legislature performed for all candidates with a long pocketbook was in defining what shall be reported and what may be forgotten. Under the old law nothing could be omitted but traveling expenses. Under the present law hardly anything except clerk and worker hire and space in newspapers need be reported in a sworn statement. All else can be forgotten. This is the law now:

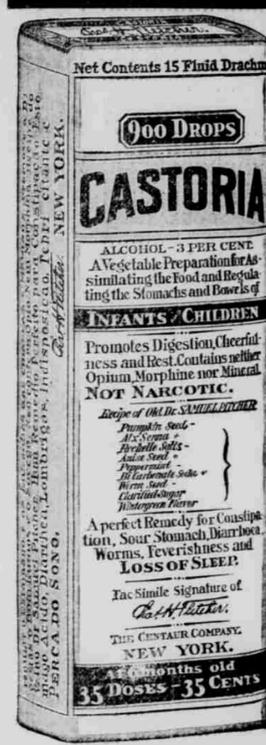
"Provided, that money expended by any candidate for his necessary personal traveling expenses incurred for himself alone, for travel and subsistence, for stationery and postage, for writing or printing and distributing letters, circulars and posters, and for telegraph and telephone service, shall not be regarded as an expenditure within the meaning of this section and shall not be considered any part of the sum herein fixed as the limit of expenses, and need not be shown in the statement herein required to be filed."

It has always been claimed by candidates that they could not circularize their territory under the old law and not be liable for violation. One man now holding high office in the state violated the provisions of the old law and declared that he was justified, that the restriction deprived him of the right of petition.

As the act passed the 1915 house without debate of any kind it provided that any candidate for state office might, under present voting totals, spend about \$2,500 and still be exempt from the items enumerated in the law at the present time. That is he might if his candidacy ran through primary and to general election, spend \$5,000 for help and office rent and newspaper advertising and such other incidentals not excepted. This was too much for the senate, which cut out about \$1,400 from the total by limiting the amount to the votes up to 100,000, where the house bill had placed no limit.

The new law carries the names of the Douglas county delegation, but it is not their pet. The bill that delegation introduced was prepared by Election Commissioner Harley G. Moorhead and was a copy of the Ohio law. It permitted the candidate for senator and governor to spend \$5,000 each at primary and general election, but did not make the exceptions carried in the Nebraska law. The house committee on elections concocted the present exceptions form, although that committee did not otherwise take the lid off. It proposed to limit the outside expense to \$400. The house itself raised that amount by \$2,100 and on passage only one member of the house voted in the negative, Chambers of Douglas. The senate cut down the figure by more than half.

L. G. Meisinger, Ed Tschirren and Fritz Siemonit departed yesterday afternoon for Florence, Neb., where they visited over Sunday with relatives and friends.



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