

The Plattsmouth Journal

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

Pleasure is a foundling and her benefactor is Labor. Without Toil to receive her, Pleasure would die on the threshold of despair.—Emilart.

Another snow to record. St. Patrick's day will soon be here. To talk is human—to listen, divine. The last day of February. Now March.

Beyond the Alps lies Italy, still, or almost still. Much of the New Thought is old foolishness revised. Something to worry about: "Men are 90 per cent water."

Most of us make the mistake of thinking our cold is as bad as the other fellow's. Possibly the egg market will soon take a drop that will compensate for the cost of gasoline. About nine times out of ten when a man asks you to be fair, he wants you to agree with him.

Domestic science is responsible for making a number of dishes look far better than they taste. The wheat and corn prospects are uncertain, but another large crop of German crisis is assured.

It looks as though John McCarty would have no opposition for the nomination for congress on the democratic ticket. The Bryan schemers are certainly pretty hard pressed for a candidate to oppose Senator Hitchcock when they center on I. G. Dunn of Omaha as the man.

Don't ask too much credit for doing your duty; generally speaking, it means a more pleasant career than riotous living or shiftlessness, besides paying better wages.

Charlie Chaplin is now willing to work for \$650,000 per year. Oh, well, if no one else has a place for the poor fellow, he can come here and dub around the office until something better turns up.

Simple little half-hour task, mere child play for almost any capable president: Senator Jones' resolution asks Mr. Wilson not to break off diplomatic relations with any country and not to place the country in a position where it could not without honor avoid war.

It is always wise for the voters to compare candidates for nomination, and examine into their records. Sometimes these opposing candidates are not out so much for themselves as they are to help an opposing candidate at the general election. Political plots are rife.

We think E. M. Pollard should have remained in the race for the republican nomination for governor. Unless Sutton's friends can prevail upon all the other candidates to withdraw, Sutton will stand a poor show, for Walt George is a very popular man in the state and will defeat Sutton single-handed. But we do not believe he could have defeated Ernest Pollard.

THE GAME OF POLITICS.

Ernest M. Pollard of Nehawka has withdrawn his candidacy for the republican nomination for governor. He has withdrawn, not because he no longer desires the office, not because anyone inside or outside his party has disputed his qualifications, but because the politicians of the Anti-Saloon league found him in the way of their plan to put some but prohibitive on guard.

Here is a specific instance that goes far toward answering one or two very interesting political questions; as, for example, why do not more men of character and ability take a prominent part in political affairs, and why is not government more ably administered?

Mr. Pollard is a man in some important respects peculiarly qualified for the office of governor. He is not a professional office holder, nor a hack politician, nor a "farmer of the farmers." He has other and visible means of support. He is extensively interested in farming and horticulture, the state's leading industries. A well educated man, an earnest student of scientific methods as applied to these industries, he is active in their advancement. He is a man of means and character. Among his loyal supporters were a good many of the most prominent and successful farmers in Nebraska, who were for him not only because he was a republican but because they believed he would make a good governor—a governor who would advance Nebraska's interests. Unquestionably he is better equipped for the office than is Judge Sutton of Omaha, in whose favor he withdraws.

But superior equipment to serve the state is found to be a consideration of minor importance. As to one particular "ism" Pollard is deemed, by the active politicians who manage these things, a less available candidate than Sutton. Though both are for prohibition, Sutton, it is concluded, would appeal more to the prohibition sentiment. Should both remain in the field it was feared that Mayor Miles of Hastings, or Walter George of Omaha, the one opposed to prohibition and the other seemingly half-and-half, might win the nomination. Again, with regard to these two, it would matter not at all with the political bosses if both of them were men of character and ability, fitted to make a good governor. Neither is "right" on this issue, so both must be defeated, so Pollard must be withdrawn, and Sutton pushed to the front.

Sutton is a clever practical politician. He knows, better than most how to play the game. Ambitious for office, and concluding some time ago that the prohibition hobby would be a good horse to ride into office on, he declared for the ism and went to it. Plainly, he is finding the going good, up to the present time at least. And so there you have it. A good man is crucified. An inferior man, in point of fitness for the office, is exalted. And thus the cause of the hobby is advanced.

But the cause of good government is not advanced. The interests of the state are not furthered. The need of getting our best men into public life is not only ignored but doused with cold water. No interest is served but that of the particular hobby or fad that happens, for the time being, to be uppermost, and perhaps, if the medicine mixers had known it, not even the cause is really served. That fact constitutes only one of many public questions that are important to the state and its people. It is a question that will be already settled, one way or another, when the next governor is installed in office. Yet on its altar the smoking sacrifices lie, thoughtful citizens grow sick at heart, and men who might give their state splendid service are encouraged—to stay at home and leave politics to the politicians.—World-Herald.

The national council of education says that only 108 out of every one thousand Americans save any money. Interesting, but useless. Why doesn't the council go ahead and name the 108?

The get-together spirit suffers a puncture every time it is "cranked" up.

If rag time must pervade the Sunday school song books, for heaven's sake let it be good, seasonable rag-time.

The democrats can carry Nebraska this year if they so desire. All they need is a thorough organization. Will they organize?

The Auburn Herald, in its last issue published thirty announcements for county offices. Evidently the candidates down there want the voters to know they are in the running.

That was a grand speech President Wilson delivered before the bridegroom club dinner Saturday night. We printed the speech of the president in yesterday's issue that every reader of the Journal might know how our noble president is working to keep American out of the war.

We have heard over and over again the story of Miss Edith Kitching, the New York working girl who spurned the \$40,000 legacy, because it was "her uncle's tainted money." But somehow, no one has been able to find out how many proposals of marriage she has received since the story first began. Maybe not any.

The gang that is working the prohibition question into the democratic party are a set of fellows who couldn't stand duce high in the way of popularity. But they think that if they can instill the prohibition question into the minds of a sufficient number of democrats to carry the primaries, they will be on top in their efforts to rule the destiny of the party. The general election is the place where those selfish rule or ruin fellows will get a center shot right square in the neck.

Our friend, L. F. Langhorst, is a candidate for delegate to the democratic national convention and should receive the support of all the Cass county democracy. Lou is a good man, and as a delegate will reflect credit upon, not only Cass county, but the entire First congressional district, also. His name will appear upon the primary ballot. Lou has done good work for the democrats of this county, in the capacity of chairman of the county committee, and is truly deserving of the honor.

USE THE NATIONAL HOLIDAYS.

Every national holiday, such as the Washington anniversary, directs attention to the neglect of patriotic observances in America. Few persons take any part in celebrations of these national days. We take patriotism for granted.

But it is essential that the teaching of patriotism and its responsibilities shall not be ignored. If Americans are to preserve the traditional spirit of America they must occasionally ask themselves what that spirit is.

The new "Americanization movement" is taking part of the problem in hand. It is devoting itself to the Americanization of the millions of immigrants who are in process of becoming citizens. They are learning what the Fourth of July means—sometimes some Americans have forgotten. They are being taught that citizenship has its responsibilities as well as its advantages. The new movement intends, too, to make those advantages more available for them—to teach them English, to instruct them industrially so that they will be able to earn a better living, and to bring the man and the job together.

But others besides immigrants need Americanization. All of us need it. There is a great opportunity for communities to make more of the great patriotic days. They should be more than mere holidays. They should be occasions when every citizen faces the meaning of citizenship, considers its obligations and pledges a renewed devotion to his nation.

The new America calls for a reconsecration of the days dedicated to the spirit of democracy and justice.—Kansas City Star.

There is only one irreparable loss—the loss of courage.

Every house should contain as many bathrooms as it does women.

Charley Bryan should withdraw, while the withdrawing is good.

Are the pacifists doing things for fun or do they expect to save money by it?

March is a good long month, and may it skip along pleasantly without blustery weather.

We shudder to contemplate the predicament of the girl who is called upon to flag a train with her petticoat this year.

Edgar Howard will run for lieutenant governor on the Bryan ticket. Well, Howard won't strengthen the ticket in the least.

The cornerstone of civilization is man's dependence for protection on the state which he has reared for his own safety and support.

Does your hair stand on end in your horror of becoming bald? asks a New York scientist. Oh, why go over all those boyhood experiences again?

You want to be on your guard in shooting migratory birds. The authorities are giving warning that the law will be strictly enforced.

When the returns are all in it will be found that the withdrawal of Hon. E. M. Pollard will help McKelvie a great deal more than at will Sutton.

There is really no use in writing down the terms of an election bet. If you lose the other fellow won't let you forget it, and if you win you will remember it yourself.

The republicans can't find anything else to fire at President Wilson, they bring forth "the one-term pledge," when there was no such pledge in the platform. These papers are evidently hard up for campaign dope. Ross Hammond is eternally talking about the one-term, and ask him to produce the proof that there was any such pledge.

No democrat should stand in the way of party harmony, and we believe it can be easily attained if Governor Morehead will consent to become a candidate for re-election. The party is getting in no better shape as time rolls on, and right today it is in a most deplorable condition, and Governor Morehead is the man of the hour. Will he prove the savior? He will if he will consent to act.

It doesn't seem to us that the rush for office is as great as in former years, except for governor. The rush for county officers is not so great. Formerly there were nearly as many candidates in Cass county as there were voters at the primaries, but this year, for some cause or other, the usual number have failed to show up, and it is only seventeen days to the expiration date for filing.

For every 100 million dollars added to the budget congress must get about \$4 from the average American family, a mutually painful operation. Taxation is the most difficult subject in the world. It is difficult economically and it is difficult politically. The best tax, politically, is one which is not felt as such by the taxed, but where publicity is so extensive as it is in the United States it is almost impossible to fool the people in this way.

It is not a question as to who was for Woodrow Wilson for president four years ago, but who are for President Wilson today? We know a lot of democrats who went to the Baltimore convention four years ago from Nebraska pledged to support Champ Clark, but when it looked favorable for the speaker's nomination they threw their instructions to the four winds and helped nominate Wilson. Nebraska democrats will not stand for any such actions again.

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