

The Plattsmouth Journal

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R. A. BATES, Publisher

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY

The sooner a man convinces himself that gold and glitter have no connection with happiness, the earlier he is liable to arrive.—Emilart.

The overcoat feels good yet.

Everything white goes this summer.

Life's mysteries: A toast for women and a roast for men.

Being a bandit has a tendency to keep a person out in the open air.

Summer weather seems a long time coming, but when it does come, look out for squalls.

Nothing ventured, nothing gained, yet you stand a chance of keeping what you have.

What do you think—Plattsmouth has a woman who looks younger than she says she is.

It is not until after the stars come out that a man regrets that he did not make hay while the sun was shining.

No man is always wrong and no woman is always right. Please remember this, you married rag-chewers.

Some people believe that before freeing the Filipinos some American cities should be freed. And they are about right.

Six months is a good, long time for candidates to keep plodding over the country for "promises to vote"—and then maybe not do it.

John Wunderlich is gaining strength right along, and by the time the election rolls along he will gain sufficient followers to land him in the sheriff's office where he properly belongs and where he will prove a competent, faithful and sociable official.

Never before in the history of Nebraska were so many municipal and school improvements made and others under way. And never before in the state have such reports been made of the improvements in charitable institutions. Stand up for Nebraska.

We are with the "sob squad" regarding the hanging of a woman down in North Carolina. It is a serious proposition to hang ladies. It is really ungentlemanly to do so, and especially in this particular instance where the lady's sole offense is confined to killing her husband.

One thing to do to make Plattsmouth more cityfied is free mail delivery. We have been promised this when we made our sidewalks good. That time has arrived, and you can't find a city of five thousand population in Nebraska with better sidewalks than Plattsmouth. Let's now stand up for our rights and push the matter. Push will do a whole lot in that direction.

Billy Sunday said in one of his Kansas City tirades, that "he will bring hell up so close to his audiences that they'll think they can smell it." Now suppose one of our church preachers would make such a remark in the pulpit, do you suppose the congregation would stand for it? Probably some few in the congregation might. If there is any religion in a man that will make remarks like that, we can't see where religion comes in.

This will be a busy world when peace returns. After such vast ravages the repair will be on a like scale. No prophet can tell when the war will end, but every one of the combatants is more or less disappointed. The nations piling up debt at the rate of five or six billions a year cannot stand the strain indefinitely. Ruthless militarism is at a discount because it sees that it cannot do what it expected. Armies of colossal size are in the deadlock of trenches, and superdreadnaughts are chiefly concerned in avoiding exposure to submarines.

THE ALLIES NEXT.

With hopes once more high for a final and satisfactory adjustment of the differences between Germany and the United States growing out of the use of the submarine in warfare, intimations are again advanced that the wrongs committed against us by other belligerents will be given the attention they require. A Washington dispatch dated April 29 says:

"With plenty of intimations at hand that Germany has about decided to accept the United States view on the submarine question, it was learned today that the next move by this government on the international checker board will be against violations of international law by the Anglo-French governments.

"As soon as the German controversy is out of the way it is the intention of the state department to assail vigorously their hold-ups of neutral mail and commerce. It is contended that the replies to former protests, now on file in the department, show conclusively that American rights have been constantly violated and that admission is made that these violations are illegal."

A vigorous stand by the American government against wrongs done this country by the allies, the same as against the wrongs committed by Germany and Austria, is devoutly to be wished. It would be salutary in more respects than one. It would do much to solidify and unite our people on the sound basis of Americanism, healing the divisions and dissensions that are based on conflicting European interests, and that are working serious damage to the body politic.

There can be no question, in the opinion of this newspaper, that President Wilson has long had such a course in mind, and has been hoping for an opportunity to pursue it. Unfortunately circumstances have conspired against him. He has felt that German wrongs against American neutrality were more serious than the wrongs committed by the allies, for the reason that they caused the loss of American lives. He has not deemed it dignified or proper to mix the issues, and to barter or dicker with one belligerent on the basis that it would respect our right if we could persuade the enemy to do likewise. He has therefore kept pushing constantly for an independent settlement of the German differences, with the intention, immediately they were adjusted, to take up with equal firmness the differences with Great Britain and France. While many have criticized the wisdom of this policy, none has been able to say that it was not logically and consistently pursued. Unfortunately, however, by its very nature the president's policy has made it impossible to avoid the appearance of bias favorable to one belligerent and hostile to another. That appearance will be dissipated just as soon as, with the German controversy out of the way, the president is left free to show equal firmness in his defense of the rights of American commerce on the high seas.

Seldom in our history has an American president been obliged to deal with problems of such magnitude and difficulty as constantly have confronted Mr. Wilson. His most earnest critics should bear in mind that it is impossible to judge him fairly except on the basis of his program as a whole. Thus far one part of it has been unduly but unavoidably emphasized in the public notice while another very important part has escaped attention.—World-Herald.

The low-neck dress is yet in style.

Patch up a quarrel and the patch soon comes off.

Any self-respecting woman will deny her own footprints by saying they are too big to be hers.

We have always believed that these graduation orations are not half as painful to the audience that is compelled to hear them as they are to the young men and women who are compelled to deliver them.

You may begin swatting flies now.

The farmers are very busy these days.

Brace up, old man, greens and cornbread are ripe.

If you are a Fordite, now is the time to crank up.

"War on the dandelion" should be the Plattsmouth slogan.

The new moon may have a tendency to give us more pleasant weather for awhile.

Once again, it is almost time for the peach crop to go into the hands of a receiver.

Many of the events which we now believe will be historical will prove merely hysterical.

"What will Bryan do now?" is asked. Do as he pleases, the same as any other American citizen.

Why not give Ireland and the Philippines home rule both at the same time, and then try to pick the winner?

One old lady in Plattsmouth has discovered that parties in this town are given with a double purpose—to entertain some and snub others.

A cynical writer says women are taking up the views men have discarded. If they don't take up any except those which men have discarded, they won't accumulate very many.

Given a lawn mower, a rank growth of grass and an "I'll-do-it-in-a-minute-gear" husband, a wife can frame an ultimatum that makes President Wilson's last note look like a beatitude.

More than three months have elapsed since the president sent the Brandeis nomination to the senate. Government by and with the advice and consent of the senate is being well illustrated.

Every once in a while some fellow gets sore over an item that appears in the Journal. There is no call for such a thing as it is no desire on our part to humiliate or injure the feelings of any one. In fact, if we thought they were going to displease them, their names would never appear in print in this paper.

Will Sutton carry Omaha at the general election? many are asking. It will be a funny Omaha if he does, under present conditions. He did carry it for judge, but he then stood in with the bad element, as he considers it now. A man who changes his policy for a chance at the pie counter cannot expect the voters to retain confidence in him. There is no use talking, if the race for the republican nomination for governor had been left to Sutton and McKelvie, the latter would have defeated the former by a two to one vote in the state. The people do not take kindly to a man of Judge Sutton's disposition, and they do not believe such a man will make a successful governor for the state at large.

THE DEATH-DEALING FLY.

Regarded in the light of recent knowledge the fly is more dangerous than the tiger or the cobra. Worse than that, he is, at least in our climate, much more to be feared than the mosquito and may easily be classed, the world over, as the most dangerous animal on earth. This is a carefully prepared assertion of a high authority writing in a current magazine. It supplements what scientists have long been saying.

Longer than memory of man runneth the fly has been recognized as a pesky nuisance, but it has also been regarded as a hygienic blessing in that it cleans up decaying matter that otherwise would fill the world with disease. So mankind has fought the fly only half-heartedly. The "fly brush," ingenious traps and curious, wide domes placed over dishes of food were followed later by vile poisons, then sheets of sweet, sticky paper, then door and window screens that seemed to have carried the war on the fly to perfection.

In all this flies were treated merely as persistent nuisances, harmless except for their annoyance, and it was a war for comfort only. Now that the fly is known, upon almost limitless authority, to be even more dangerous than the fever-carrying mosquito, we may fight it with more relentless determination. It is a fight not for individuals to wage alone, but for municipal and state boards of health. The fly is to be exterminated by cleaning up the filth in which it breeds; and as the filth goes away many other evils besides the fly will go with it.

THE TARIFF OUT OF POLITICS.

Three bills have been introduced in congress, providing for the creation of a non-partisan, non-political tariff commission. The bills have been introduced by Senator Gore of Oklahoma, Congressman Rainey of Illinois and Congressman Neely of West Virginia, all democrats.

The Rainey bill has been approved by the president, and an early action on the measure is expected soon. The following excerpt from the National Monthly concerning the bill tells of the intent, purpose and provisions of the measure.

It (the non-partisan tariff commission bill) provides for a commission which treating tariff subjects from a strict standpoint of economic science, the needs of commerce, agriculture, and the wage earning public, shall eliminate politics from the question, and make it as it should be, a matter of sound economics, based on the welfare of industry and commerce in their very legitimate form—in a work tariff for the people and free from any infusion of politics.

"All of the three bills referred to represent careful and conscientious investigation into the requirements of legislation necessary to make the non-partisan tariff commission an accomplished fact. The Rainey bill, which has the approval of the administration and was reintroduced into the house March 27, after revision of the bill submitted by Mr. Rainey in February, provides for a commission to be composed of six members to be appointed by the president by and with the consent of the senate, not more than three of the commissioners to be members of the same political party. The first members chosen, would, under the provisions of the bill continue in office for terms of two, four, six, eight, ten and twelve years, respectively. The term of each is to be designated by the president who would also designate biennially the chairman and vice-chairman.

It is provided that the successors of the first commission would be appointed for terms of twelve years, except in case of any member chosen to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term. The clauses of the bill to establish and define the powers of the commission are such as to create comprehensive authority for all purposes of investigation and research necessary for information on the tariff subject.

"It is intended, says Representative Rainey, to make the commission permanent. The president in his speeches throughout the west recently, declared for a Permanent Tariff Commission. We have therefore inserted a clause in the bill providing for a permanent annual appropriation for each fiscal year hereafter of \$300,000 with which to meet the expenses of the very important work to be performed by this board.

"The Taft Tariff Board was created simply by executive order to expend a certain sum of money each year. This bill creates a distinct, independent establishment of the government with its duties well defined by law and with its permanency absolutely assured.

"It, in my judgment, insures in the future tariff stability and whenever revisions appear to be necessary it will make it possible to make such revisions intelligently."

"The democratic party is not now, never has been and never will be the enemy of successful business.

"The move now being made to bring this matter to a head in congress is correctly interpreted, all over the country, as marking a direct and decisive step toward the adoption of the permanent, non-partisan tariff commission plan."

Governor Major of Missouri, who is a candidate for vice president on the democratic ticket, is an old friend of the writer. We have known Governor Major for thirty-five years, and have seen him advance from postmaster in the house of representatives at Jefferson City to state senator, attorney general, and at present governor. We would have no hesitancy in supporting him for vice president, only for the fact that our own Governor Morehead is a candidate for the same position. And as one of our sacred principles has always been "home first—the world afterward," we are in duty bound to support Nebraska's great governor, John H. Morehead, for vice president.

"Chickens come home to roost," "a setting hen never grows fat," etc., but they go to your neighbor's garden and flower patch to scratch and that's what raises h—. An "old hen," human or otherwise, can always scratch up a row. If you must raise chickens in town, keep the bird variety out of your neighbor's garden, and the human variety muzzled.

A lot of fellows who are bragging about what they would do if they were President Wilson, haven't brains to do what the code of Nebraska tells them to do if they should happen to be elected justice of the peace.

A poor politician, like a poor poker player, is always a bad loser.

There are signs of a clash between the president and the house on the army reorganization bill. We hope not.

Civilization is a commodity that can be purchased in the open market. It can be purchased by maintaining schools, art, music, good roads, institutions to care for the helpless, and similar activities of organized society.

The race is seldom won by the horse that is swift at the start but goes to the steady goer that can pick up in the last quarter. In the race of life the steady, studious, reliable plodder has the prospect of a fine finish marked by success throughout middle life.

The World-Herald has gotten safely housed in its elegant new building, one of the finest newspaper structures in the west. The World-Herald deserves fine quarters and it surely has them now. One of the greatest newspapers in the west, it has striven for years for a Greater Omaha, and has the satisfaction of seeing itself rewarded with great success. We hope to see the World-Herald go onward and upward and improve beyond the most sanguine expectations of all concerned.

It is indeed pleasing to note how the American people are standing up for President Wilson. President Lincoln, in the beginning of the civil war, had just such a time as President Wilson is having. There were many sympathizers of the south in the north, but as soon as Grand Old Abe made them understand what he was there for, it was not long until it was a united north against a solid south. The American people should stand by President Wilson in his efforts to protect America and American institutions.

PASSING OF THE VETERANS.

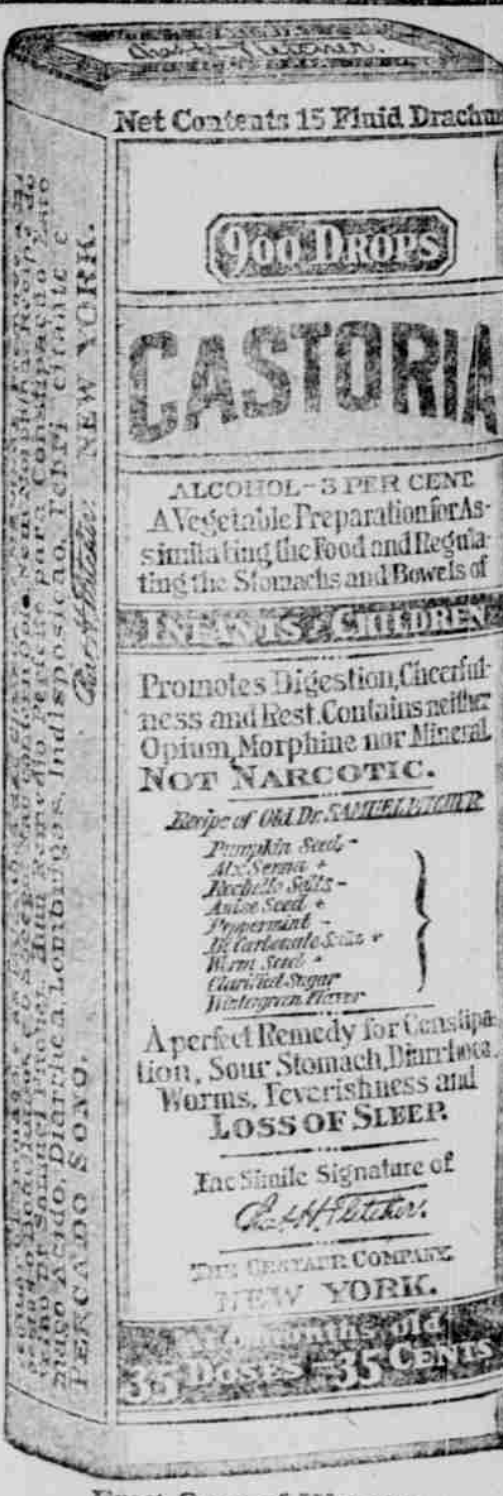
During the month of February, the shortest of the year, 3384 pensioned soldiers of the civil war, and 2298 of the widows of veterans, are recorded as having died in the twenty-nine days. In January, the next preceding month, the loss was 3851 veterans and 2104 widows. In the two months a total of 11,641 civil war soldiers and widows passed from the rolls of the living. At this rate the mortality among civil war veterans and widows would be 69,000 for the year. On February 29 the civil war pensioners numbered 374,848, which is all that remains of the more than two millions enlisted. The diminution is more rapid as the years go by. Over 100,000 pensioners will have died during the present congress, whose two years' tenure ends March 4 next. Congress cannot fail to see that the time to consider the pension legislation before it is short. It should be considered promptly and disposed of definitely. Its course largely depends upon the recommendations of committees, and these are often slow to move, not acting at all in many pension matters, but turning them over as unfinished business for a succeeding congress.

The period is past for further delay of this kind as far as the surviving soldiers of the civil war are concerned. The country as gratified by the general response of the national guard to the call for volunteers now heard. Every state can be trusted to be in line when the occasion demands it. These patriotic, self-sacrificing young men are not thinking about future pensions. Nor were the volunteers of 1861-65. A high sense of duty to the republic of which they were proud to be citizens, and whose preservation was dearer to them than their lives, was the feeling that impelled them to enter the service of their own free will. It is true that the pension policy of the government has always been liberal. The fact ought to be a source of universal pride. If the United States should ever neglect or undervalue the men it summons to the field a strange and humiliating change must occur in the American character.

Relations between Russia and Great Britain are said not to be as pleasant as they might be, because Russia can't find out what Britain is doing with her land forces. If Kitchener doesn't see fit to let his home public in on the secret, it seems as though he might at least let his allies know whether he has any forces at all.

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Next Sunday is Mother's day.

What we need is less war talk here.

The man with a good home in Plattsmouth ought to be happy.

The German reply is not satisfactory to the English press. Of course not.

And to think that a few months ago people were complaining of Roosevelt's silence!

It is very apparent that April made up its mind not to celebrate spring until after Easter.

Mr. Brandeis is almost as terrifying to the senate as the national prohibition amendment.

Each silver-tongued orator ought to have something to say that is worth while, but many times they don't.

Did you notice the number of automobiles parked Saturday afternoon? Old Plattsmouth is doing the business these days.

The rich Chicagoan who recently died and left all his money to his lawyer probably figured that he would get it, anyway.

The fly seems a little late coming around to see us this year. But don't worry, he'll be here in plenty of time to get in his work.

If, as a St. Louis clergyman says, the secret of longevity is the loose collar, may not a ball gown be looked upon as a ticket to great age?

If some people could see themselves, as other people see them as "they pass by," maybe they would not feel as important as they think they are.

GERMANS STILL GAIN IN THE VERDUN REGION

NIVELLE TO SUCCEED PETAIN

Paris, May 8.—General Robert G. Nivelle has been appointed commander at Verdun, succeeding Henri Philippe Petain, who will be commander-in-chief of the group of the central armies in the sector between Soissons and Verdun.

London, May 8.—What seemingly is a new offensive, with its objective the capture of Verdun, has been started by the Germans northeast and northwest of the fortress. In both of the sectors gains for the Germans are chronicled in the latest French official communications.

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The first president of Ireland didn't last long.

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