

The Plattsmouth Journal

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Tis always morning some where in the world.—R. H. Horne.

Art is long, but seldom long green.

Love laughs at locksmiths, but riot at silversmiths when the wedding presents begin to arrive.

Don't worry about what the world thinks of you, it has several millions of other people to worry about, also.

The war department wants 500,000 volunteers in addition to regular troops and state militia. That sounds like business.

Heroes may come and go, but the pretty war nurse and the winning base ball pitcher are sure of a season's devotion.

On the other hand unless you are going to do it right today, you might as well leave it for tomorrow. Don't be one of the poor workmen.

The old guard will pitch the republican campaign on a high plane, say the journals of the g. o. p. How high? About the second story level?

Charles E. Fanning has at last been named postmaster of Omaha. We don't know of course, but we think this appointment is a mistake.

There must be a big home coming celebration of some sort at Vienna. The Austrians on the east are going west, and those on the west are going east.

Surely Carranza has real history enough to know that when Uncle Sam gets ready to peel his coat there's always somebody around to hold it for him.

Secretary McAdoo expects the current year's receipts from the income tax to reach one hundred and fifteen million dollars, thirty million more than last year.

Again we warn the small boy to be careful where he flings his fire-crackers. It is sometimes easier to start a fire than it is to put it out. Parents can do a great deal in the way of cautioning their boys to be careful.

Plattsmouth will not pass another Fourth of July without a celebration if the people can help it, and they can if they turn loose. Four years since we had a demonstration in honor of our forefathers, the declaration and Stars and Strips.

The governor of Kentucky has pardoned a young native of that state who was under a life sentence for killing a base ball umpire. The remarkable feature of the case is how the unfortunate young man ever got more than thirty days in the first place.

The electric light plant has not been working as smoothly in the past few weeks as it ought to, and there has been considerable complaint in consequence. It is the duty of the mayor and city council to compel this company to "come to time" on the light proposition.

Conscription is on in England and every able bodied citizen between the ages of 18 and 41 must go to the training camps. This begins to look as though the English lords are going to do what they have long said, that the militarism of the Teutons must be broken before they will think of talking peace.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

Friends of Candidate Hughes have been deriving much comfort from a contemplation of the figures evolved from the national election four years ago, when President Wilson was given 6,293,019 votes, while 4,119,507 went to Roosevelt and 3,484,956 went to Taft.

They have fatuously calculated that the vote for Roosevelt and Taft could be combined for the defeat of Wilson, and insisted that in order to combine them Justice Hughes should be the nominee, pretending to believe that the progressive four millions who voted for Roosevelt would rally to the support of the candidate of the element that cast but three million votes.

If the Roosevelt progressives were to go over solidly to Hughes that sort of a calculation would be fine. But they will not. That is a demonstrable fact.

The progressive national committee, at its Chicago meeting on Monday afforded the indubitable proof. When the progressive leaders determined to put no candidate for president they were met by the declaration of Raymond Robins, chairman of the recent progressive national convention, that he would, in the absence of a progressive candidate, vote for President Wilson. A similar declaration came from John M. Parker of Louisiana, who was nominated by the recent progressive convention for the vice presidency.

It was by a vote of 32 to 6 that Hughes was ostensibly endorsed as the progressive candidate, while 9 members did not vote at all. That indicated that the nine men are not for Hughes. Hence the endorsement was really 32 to 15 in Hughes' favor.

On the proposition to put up a third party candidate the vote was 31 to 15 against the proposition.

Ikes of Illinois stated that 70 per cent of the progressives in his state would vote for Hughes.

In fact every outcropping in the meeting indicated that about 30 per cent of the progressives will vote for the re-election of President Wilson. Actual contact with progressive voters indicates that the proportion will undoubtedly be larger than that in progressive ranks, the pressure upon the committeemen being stronger than any that can possibly be exerted upon the former rank and file of the assassinated progressive party.

Now take the figures: Mr. Roosevelt got 4,119,507 votes four years ago. Take 70 per cent of them or 2,883,655, and add them to the 3,484,956 given Mr. Taft, and we have 6,368,611. Then take the other 30 per cent, or 1,235,852, and add them to the 6,293,019 given Woodrow Wilson, and we have 7,528,871.

It is not hard to calculate who will have the majority. It will be Woodrow Wilson, by 1,160,260.

Take the result four years ago in Nebraska. Wilson received 109,008 votes, Taft got 54,216 and Roosevelt 72,689. If we give 30 per cent of the Roosevelt vote to Wilson and 70 per cent to Hughes on the basis of the standpat vote, Wilson will beat Hughes in Nebraska 25,720 votes.

Friends of the president will insist that the foregoing is the very best that the Hughes managers can hope for at this time, and they know as a matter of fact that there are many who voted for Taft four years ago who will join the progressive contingent in voting for Wilson. This is why those who favor the re-election of the president refuse to be perturbed by the standpat braggadocio. It is an overworn political commodity.

Lincoln Star.

Anyhow, we'll bet Carranza recognizes us the next time he sees us.

He whose personal prejudice will not permit him to accept help from others never enjoys real success.

Not such a dull Fourth after all in Plattsmouth.

Mexico has two queens—Miss Rule and Anna R. Kay.

So many people say they know when they don't know.

A healthy man never pays any attention to health hints.

This country is filled with native Americans, foreign-born Americans and others.

The way to keep dandelions off the lawn is to constitute a taste for dandelion salad.

A man is no longer judged by the company he keeps, but according to the auto he rides in.

Europe is even saving its daylight. Apparently it will soon be about the only thing left to save.

A friend is a person who knows all about you and loves you still. Scarce, indeed, yet we all have a few.

The state treasury now possesses \$2,400,000 more funds on hand than at anytime in the history of Nebraska.

Returning good for evil is responsible for comparatively little of the overtime in the well known human race.

One fine precedent established by President, Wilson he has refused to be bossed by bosses or chained by conventions.

If Henry Ford stands for being called an anarchist by the Chicago Tribune, then he will prove himself a pacifist indeed.

Shall we strike for our altars and our fires and be free men—those of us who were constructed for that purpose—or shall we again be slaves to the white shoes?

Dr. Leichnecht, poor fellow, has been sent to prison because he dares to believe peace hath new victories more renowned than war. What a mad old world this is my Master.

Mr. Bryan's support of Mr. Wilson will probably be at least as hearty as Mr. Roosevelt's support of Mr. Hughes, and either candidate is likely to need something more if he hopes win.

A HOPELESS CAUSE.

The man who believes that Wilson has surmounted many difficulties and has performed eminent services to his country in keeping it out of war for three years; that his domestic policy has been such as to enormously increase the wealth of the nation and provide well compensated work for all the people; that he has preserved the honor and dignity of the nation and compelled the war maddened nations of Europe to recognize neutral rights, very frequently looks for real arguments against his re-election. Finding none, he has demanded that the critics of Mr. Wilson should specify wherein he has taken wrong action.

In answer to that demand, the Wall Street Journal says: "The demand that critics of the Wilson administration, in its dealings with Mexico, shall indicate what they would have done in his place, is disingenuous. That is no part of their business, as Mr. Wilson was elected chief executive." That is the course most of the eastern standpat papers are taking, others say nothing, and some resort to downright vulgarity.

The democratic revenue system is denounced by the Wall Street Journal in the following fashion: "And in this connection may it be suggested that to tax war profits, as the democratic party purposes, is at this time about the most asinine thing that their emblematic jackass ever attempted, and its record in that respect defies comparison." It would be of no use to ask one of these editors why a tax on war profits would not be a just and wise revenue measure. The answer would be: "Such questions are disingenuous." When the ablest defenders of republicanism are driven to such extremes as that, the cause must be hopeless.—World-Herald.

LAFOLLETTE'S DIAGNOSIS

Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin has a reputation for say what he thinks about things, and for refusing to endorse a proposition or policy merely because it bears the label of his party. In the latest issue of his magazine, LaFollette makes some very plain statements in regard to the men who are in control of the republican party and the way they ran the late convention at Chicago.

He declares that the platform adopted by the conventions is more reactionary than those of 1912 and 1908; that republican principles have been trampled upon in enunciating the new declaration; and that big business apparently dictated the greater part of it.

LaFollette thinks that possibly Hughes is better than the platform and indicates that he will support the latter, though he shows no enthusiasm over the nomination. As to Fairbanks, the senator judiciously refrains from mentioning him at all. The best LaFollette can say in regard to the presidential candidate is this:

"He (Hughes) will go as far as his convictions carry him."

As to how far Hughes' convictions may go, LaFollette hazards no guess. Evidently he fears that a man who as governor of New York, vetoed a 2-cent fare bill enacted by the legislature and in a special message urged the legislature not to ratify the income tax constitutional amendment is not so aggressively progressive as he might be.

Concerning the platform of the republican party, LaFollette speaks his mind fully in this fashion:

The platform adopted by the republican national convention at Chicago cannot fail to be a disappointment to the great majority of the party.

The reactionary element was in control at the convention. Supplied with unlimited funds, the national committee can perpetuate its control when it represents but a small minority of the voters.

More than four million progressive republican voters left the party in 1912. They were earnest patriotic men who had faith in Roosevelt as a leader. Hundreds of thousands of progressive republicans who had no faith in the political integrity of Roosevelt refused to abandon the party and follow him at that time. Together with those who joined the third party, they constitute an overwhelming majority of the total membership of the republican party. The great mass of these voters are men of deep convictions. They are republicans. They are for public interest and against special privilege and monopoly control of the government.

It would have been the part of wisdom for those in control at Chicago to have remembered this recent history.

Senator LaFollette then discusses the tariff planks in previous republican national platforms with the one this year, which he declares to be weak, dishonest and drawn in the interest of the great trusts and combinations which fatten off the American people under high tariffs. Continuing, he says:

These issues cannot be obscured by the European war scare, by the dust kicked up by the marchers in the parades of big business, nor by the platform provisions for a military and naval program so elastic as to cover the ever-expanding patriotism of the munition makers.

The ship trust will be highly gratified with the platform. In what it definitely promises and suggests, it smacks strongly of bounties, subsidies and subsidies.

But it is upon the subject of railroad regulation that the gentlemen who framed up the Chicago platform gave the country its greatest surprise.

Without warning, with no intimation made to the public that such a thing was contemplated by anybody, like a bolt out of a blue sky comes a platform declaration for the abolition of every state railroad commission in the country. The people in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, California, Oregon and every other state are to have the regulation of the rates and service of the railroads within each state taken out of the hands of their own commissions,

subject to their own control, and turned over to the federal government. That means that to secure any relief from excessive state rates, to correct abuses as to railroad service which is purely a state service and a matter of local concern the people will have to go to Washington and appear before the Interstate Commerce commission for redress. They are to have their state governments taken away from them to this extent, abrogated, abolished. We believe the people of every state will fight this proposition to the last ditch.

The railroads are for it. The railroad press of the country will support it.

It will be easier to concentrate the corporate power of the country upon the control of one commission, located in Washington, than upon forty-eight commissions working under the eyes of the people they serve. The recent advances in passenger and freight rates have greatly increased the popularity of the Interstate Commerce commission with the railroads.

I shall continue the discussion of these and other platform issues as the campaign progresses. It is not a pleasant task to criticize the action of the political party to which one belongs. But what I have said in this connection is compelled by my convictions.

Summer is also the present season when the medical profession takes a vacation, and offers no particular objections to kissing.

The democratic county central committee will meet in Elmwood next Saturday, July 8. Every member of the committee should be present.

An astrologer says there's going to be trouble before this year is out. No! You don't say! With everything so peacefully around us now?

It's along about this time that the June bride reminds her husband how he would have been a saving dyspeptic by this time if she hadn't reached out and rescued him with some sensible cooking.

Some men like to look like Lincoln, others prefer to roar like Roosevelt, and a contingent would even orate like Wilson. But the rest of us don't care a cuss how they look, and ofate. We admire men, not imitations.

France is anxious to get next to a war loan of \$100,000,000 from this country. That is a whole lot of money and if spent in developing the resources of this country will do a great deal more good than to loan it abroad for war purposes.

General Carranza knows, if he knows anything about Uncle Sam he knows that Uncle Sam is able to expeditiously to get his goat, when it comes to that. General Carranza ought, therefore, to govern himself accordingly. And we guess he will.

"Some dignified men," mused Prof. Fate, "seem to imagine that they move through life like a band of music down the street, flinging out pleasure on all sides to every one far and near who can listen, when in reality but few of the bystanders are even aware of their passing, and those few vaguely fancy that they heard the dog catcher's wagon go by."

The question is often asked: How can the European countries carry the burden of their war debts? They can carry a considerable part of that burden by saving where America wastes. Take our fire waste, for example. In the last year for which figures are available, the American people paid \$395,549,677 as fire insurance premiums. If our annual fire loss were held down by good construction and good laws to the standards of England, France and Germany, we could save at least \$300,000,000 in premiums each year—enough to pay 5 per cent interest on a debt of \$6,000,000,000. It should be borne in mind, too, that premiums do not represent our total fire cost. There are heavy uninsured losses every week, and the expense of maintaining fire departments which can afford protection under the conditions which prevail in American cities is not light.

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And it rained on the Fourth.

The corn crop is looming up.

So General Sherman once remarked Jauz, hell.

And the bridegroom wore the conventional khaki.

Hetty Green couldn't get it all, and all she did get she left, so, after all, what was the use?

"My love is dressed in sunbeams," says a western poet. Well, coal cream is said to afford considerable relief for it.

Some wheat has been harvested in this vicinity, and it is reported that it is turning out a great deal better than expected.

Carranza's note has been received at Washington, and is very mild in its tone, and may avert any immediate break between the countries.

Carranza should bear in mind that the grand old U. S. A., which he is contracting to whip, also includes Texas, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska.

Less fireworks were used here on the Fourth than at any Fourth of July since we have been a resident of Plattsmouth, and we hear of no accidents.

Ordinarily we know not what a day may bring forth, but we are convinced that many were disappointed on account of the rain on the glorious Fourth.

The most remarkable straw vote yet recorded comes from Abilene Kan., where 22 prominent republicans were canvassed and all except one declared for Wilson.

Hetty Green, the greatest financial and wealthiest woman in the world, is dead at 80 years of age. Her wealth is estimated at as high \$100,000,000, but death no respecter of person or wealth when it comes to leaving this old world.

"MILITARISM."

"Militarism," that vague and uncertain term held up as a bogey by the peace propagandists as this interpretation of the word preparedness," has at last been put in its proper place by the definition of President Wilson in his speech to the West Point graduating class last week. Mr. Wilson said: "You know that the chief thing that is holding many people back from enthusiasm for what is called preparedness is the fear of militarism. I want to say a word to you, young gentlemen, about militarism. You're not a militarist because you are military. Militarism does not consist in the existence of an army not even in the existence of a very great army. Militarism is a spirit. It is a point of view. It is a system. It is a purpose. The purpose of militarism is to use armies for aggression. The spirit of militarism is the opposite of the civilian spirit—the citizen spirit. In a country where militarism prevails, the military man looks down upon the civilian regards him as inferior, thinks of him as intended for his, the military man's support and use; and just so long as America is America that spirit and point of view is impossible with us. There is as yet in this country, so far as I can discover, no taint of the spirit of militarism.

The aim of the "best seller" is often the suspicion of thought invested in its stimulation.

It is strange but a short skirt doesn't look half so short hanging on a rack in a suit store.

The man who loves and boasts his home town is usually loved and boosted by the people of the town.

At times Plattsmouth has put up with very inferior lighting systems, but at the present time something must be done to remedy the poor light service we are receiving, and it is up to the city council to do something and right now is the time to agitate municipal ownership, and keep on agitating until we get it. That is all there is to it.

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