

The Plattsmouth Journal

PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY AT PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA.
Entered at Postoffice at Plattsmouth, Neb., as second-class mail matter.

R. A. BATES, Publisher

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

"My policy has been to cultivate peace with all the world. I most sincerely and devoutly wish that the exertions of those having this object in view may effect what human nature cries aloud for—a general peace."—George Washington.

Oh, for days of peace and plenty. It always sounds louder when somebody else slams the door.

Love is yelled from the house tops and whispered in the valley.

It's next to impossible to break bread or break into society unless you have the dough.

Many an invalid wife has been restored to good health by prescribing a new Easter bonnet.

There is an eastern sanitarium whose patients are cured by absolute silence. That's better than divorce, anyway.

With complete freedom of the seas enjoyed by every country that old joke about the Swiss navy may yet come true.

A systematic operator's definition of marriage is simply an opportunity for a girl to throw herself away on some trifling man.

"One good turn deserves another," and that is one good reason why Jess Wargis should be re-elected for city clerk. He has made good in every particular.

There don't seem to be any use for newspapers to warn people against frauds, they still go right on getting taken in for their dollars and cents by some fake affair in the cities, and never hear of their money again, or the articles they send for either.

The postoffice department is going to rip up the postmaster business on a record making tour of physical and mental economies. It is almost certain that a radical reduction will be made in the salaries of some postmasters, and clerks also.

Instead of building a new state house in the near future, the legislature simply wants to build the east wing now, and complete the other piece by piece. The taxpayers are not going to be given anything to say about it. "Damn the people," anyway.

It's interesting to hear that the nearly unanimous vote for Carranza as president of Mexico was largely due to the slogan that proved so effective for President Wilson—"He kept us out of war." Most Americans have supposed that Mexico wanted war with the United States.

The taxpayers and business men of Plattsmouth, who seem unconcerned about the city affairs, never even attending the ward primaries or the general convention should either take more interest in selecting candidates or forever hold their peace in reference to the matters in the city and what legislative affairs are conducted through the city channels.

The editor of the Hastings Tribune, Adam Brede, has been sued for twenty thousand dollars because of the use of a wrong initial in connection with a man's name. Don't worry, Adam, there isn't a newspaper office or newspaper in the state but what such mistakes occur every day, almost, but they are not all dampholes to holler about such mistakes.

Easter will soon be here.

Colored eggs will be in profusion.

Warm days make the hens lay and cackle.

Bixby says jingoism and prohibition aren't even first cousins.

You will soon be looking at the other end of the thermometer.

Among the earthly possessions of a worthless man you can always find a wife.

The French are on the road to Ham. That's where many of us would like to be.

It matters not how short a woman's skirt may grow, the bill gets a bit longer just the same.

It will soon be time to go after the weeds. Cut them early and they will be easier kept down.

Every citizen should have all the garden he can. That's the way to reduce the high cost of living.

Some men walk as though they owned the whole earth, when they could not pay for a town lot even.

Next week is "Pure Food" week and recognition of this affair by all agencies is recommended by Governor Neville.

No matter how soon the European war is over it will be many years before the taxpaying subjects lose interest in it.

Human nature is the same everywhere. It is the variety of the package in which it is put that makes it so interesting.

The fellows who opposed preparedness three or four years ago, can now see where they made a grand mistake in doing so.

Luck means being an early riser, living on a dollar a day if earning only two, minding your own business and letting the other fellow do the same.

The coal barons have robbed this this country about long enough, and something should be done to check them of completely robbing the consumer.

Garden making time is getting nearer and nearer. Everyone who possesses a garden spot should plant every inch of it, in view of still further increase in the high cost of living.

"There will be little change this year in men's clothing says a fashion paper. She will probably not take the word of the fashion paper for it, but will insist on going through them as usual to make sure.

Now they are going to make munitions of war down in Mexico. They don't want to put the plant near where Villa and his gang can get to it or he will blow up Mexico City the first thing he does.

Since the "bone dry" law has been in operation in Kansas, it is said the police have been pretty busy breaking up ginger ale bottles. And now the police have been instructed to arrest druggists who sell soft drinks that contain Jamaica ginger.

If the capitol is to be located it should be located by a vote of the people. While we are of the opinion that it would be located by the referendum at its present site it would prove a great satisfaction to the people of the western part of the state to even have the privilege of voting on the proposition.

AMERICA'S REAL ENEMY

President Wilson has called congress to meet in extra session on April second, instead of the sixteenth of April.

But why April second? Why not sooner? In fact why didn't President Wilson have the new congress take up the work where the old congress left off?

He knew the conditions then as well as he knows them now.

He knew that the United States must be prepared—he preached it but failed to put it into practice.

If the United States is not properly prepared then it could be very easily destroyed by a foreign foe—and without congress in session the work of preparation can not go on.

The United States has a little over one-tenth the number of officers that were killed and captured in the first eleven months of the Russian offensives and defeats in East Prussia.

It has been pointed out that we have not enough officers in service and in reserve to officer an army of three hundred thousand men, and we will need at least three million men.

That is why we favor the proposed universal training measure.

At this very time the United States fleet is short twenty-six thousand men and officers—and our battle-ships and auxiliaries are without officers and men to man them.

This is the predicament the United States finds itself in at this very moment.

If a state of war exists today between the United States and Germany, as Washington news tells us, then it is high time we were keeping our eyes on the Pacific coast.

It is not Germany that we should fear.

For about all that Germany will do is to sink a few more ships that are caught in the "barred zone."

But the movements of Japan are what we are interested in.

Those who think that Japan has no grievance with the United States should disillusionize themselves at once.

It is an open secret that for three years past Japan has been in secret alliance with Mexican revolutionary leaders, and with Carranza.

And while we have slept Japan and Mexico have prepared.

That is why that huge cartridge plant is being erected in Mexico today.

It is known that Russia and Japan have formed an alliance for the conquest and division of all Asia, as well as China, and possibly the Philippines.

This is one reason why Russia began talking for separate peace.

And it would not be surprising that at any time now Russia will withdraw from the entente.

Already China has been doing just what Japan dictated. That means that China will soon belong to Japan.

And Japan has been doing the same thing in Mexico that she has been doing in China.

Why does the United States shut its eyes to these facts?

Why have the newspapers failed to give these facts to the public?

It has been openly charged in congress that English gold has bought up the press associations and twenty-five of the leading papers of this country—and there is every good reason to believe that there certainly is good foundation for such serious charges.

England's gold is making the people of the United States believe that they have much to fear from Germany, but the real truth is that Japan is the enemy that we should fear and prepare to meet.—Hastings Tribune.

After the censor gets through with some of those Russian newspapers, they sometimes have more white space than print matter. In view of the cost of white paper the censor should be more considerate.

The biggest news events in the history of the world are occurring daily now, and the metropolitan journals are grasped more eagerly.

TRIUMPHANT DEMOCRACY.

It was admirably fitting that the first government to recognize the new government of Russia should be our own.

There is one issue, we take it, upon which all Americans, whether native born or naturalized, can and do agree. They are for democracy as against absolutism. They are for government of the people, by the people and for the people as against government resting on the claim of "divine right" which formulates its law regardless of the will of the governed and imposes it regardless of their consent.

When the French people deposed Napoleon III in 1870 and proclaimed a republic the United States was quick to recognize it and President Grant, in his message to Congress, said:

"The re-establishment in France of a system of government disconnected from dynastic traditions of Europe appeared to be a proper subject for the felicitations of Americans. Should the present struggle result in attaching the hearts of the French to our simpler form of representative government, it will be a subject of still further satisfaction to our people. While we make no effort to impose our institutions upon the inhabitants of other countries, and while we adhere to our traditional neutrality in civil contests elsewhere, we cannot be indifferent to the spread of American political ideas to a great and highly civilized country like France."

With the Russian revolution American political ideas have found a home in a country far greater than France in area and population, though far below it in the scale of civilization. But it is the element that represents the apex of Russian civilization that is in control of the new government, and the ideals that inspired it were feelingly told by Dr. Milukoff, the foreign minister, when he said to Ambassador Francis:

"I have been more than once in your country and may bear witness that the ideals which are represented by the provisional government are the same as underlie the existence of your own country. I hope that this great change which has come to Russia will do much to bring us closer together than we have ever been before. * * * We are proud to be recognized by a country whose ideals we cherish."

There are many and serious obstacles to be met and overcome before it can be said that the rule of the people is established in Russia. It is only the beginning that has been made. But that movement will move forward with moderation and wisdom toward an assured success must be the hope of every good American and of every friend of democracy everywhere in the world.

And with all the dangers that confront the liberal leaders of Russia, with all the internal weaknesses that must be dealt with, there is yet good reason to expect that this revolution will not move backward. For the very stars in their course are fighting against absolutism and for the growth and spread of the democratic ideals.

It is less than a century and a half ago that the founders of the American republic pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor to the ideals that had then but few friends in the world. They spoke for only a few million people sparsely populating an almost virgin continent. It was from France alone of the nations of the earth that they drew any substantial encouragement. And even France had before it almost a hundred years of struggle, of alternate progress and reaction, before it was destined to give stability to its own republicanism.

Today the democratic ideal has spread to the four corners of the earth and is planted, prodromantly, in every continent. Great Britain, France, the United States, with China a recent accession to popular rule, now joined by Russia, comprise together an area of more than a billion and a

quarter of people. Contrast with these the important nations that are still ruled by emperors—Austria-Hungary, Germany, Turkey and Japan—with a total population of only a little more than 200,000, and an area of less than a million and a half square miles! Six times the population under popular rule and nearly two and a half times the territory! And even in these the power of the people has been and is rowing fast. The House of Hohenzollern has survived the democratic storm thus far and only because the efficiency and honesty of the government it has given, and the close and respectful attention it has paid to the popular will.

The most powerful part in Germany today is the socialist, and its leader, Scheidemann, says in the socialist organ, Vorwarts:

"It does not require many words to explain why almost the whole world is arrayed against us. The answer is quickly given. The whole world sees among our enemies more or less developed forms of democracy and in it sees only Prussians. We have always answered by referring to the absolutism of Russia, but now Czarism is gone and the emperor's successor is to accept the throne only if the representatives of the people agree. These representatives are to be elected on the basis of universal, equal direct and secret suffrage."

And the conservative Berlin Lokal Anzeiger sees in the Russian revolution the strengthening and unifying of the entente powers. It has put an end to the antagonism between British and French democracy and Russian absolutism. The perils threatening Germany's future, the Lokal Anzeiger foresees, will be "formidably increased if a state with a democratic constitution were to arise on her eastern frontier."

Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the great German chancellor, has bowed before the storm. "Woe to the statesmen," he warned the Prussian diet, who, after this war is over, attempts to "put new wine in old bottles." And he rebuked to their faces the Prussian reactionaries who were contending against measures to equalize electoral rights in the empire.

The heaven is working, working fast. Democracy may hope, and with good reason, that after the war is ended, if not before, its deals will be accepted and established in the central European powers even as among their neighbors. When that day comes the one great standing menace to the peace of the world, and to the amity and co-operation of nations, will have been swept entirely away.—World Herald.

After which comes fine weather—maybe.

Letter files at the Journal office.

The world seems to be going crazy over the war business. War is nothing but the murder of young men who become soldiers. Europe has murdered millions of men, only for gain.

Only about one out of every fifty in business succeed. In other words, forty-nine out of every fifty are lacking in the business ability and good judgment necessary to succeed.

The near approach of the spring season has aroused our people to the necessity of opening the "clean-up" campaign early to make Plattsmouth cleaner and better in every way for the summer months.

Plattsmouth can't afford to overlook any move that has a tendency to make better roads. Some autoists in this old town would rather stand back on their oars and let the farmers do all the fixing.

William Jennings Bryan says: "Colonel Roosevelt declares that what this country must do is to go to war with Germany at once, and when it strikes to strike hard. If we do not go to war with Germany the colonel could gain the unstinted admiration of the allies if he would slip them the tip where to strike."

Easter Sunday, April 8.

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Clean up your premises. Don't delay.

The spring fever will soon be with some of us.

Speaking of flower gardens, the potato has blooms.

One more week and the legislature is done. Thank the Lord!

Here's hoping that oceans and oceans of potatoes will be planted this season.

The electric fan and the base ball fan come in about the same time in the season.

Next to wisdom the ability to look like ready money is probably the most to be desired.

Henceforth the lower house of the legislature serves without pay, and the senate has another week to go on.

Nursing a grouch is one of life's poorest occupations. The compensation is all in the form of knocks and kicks.

Any sportsman will tell you that man cannot always do his best, but there is no reason why a man should not try his best to do his best.

FOR SALE

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W. T. Nanney, Noel, Mo., writes, "Your B. A. Thomas' Hog Powder is doing the work down in this part of the world. It proved to be what we needed to prevent and cure hog cholera and expel worms."

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WELCOME NEWS For Yellowstone Park Tourists!

Commencing this Summer all tourists transportation within Yellowstone Park will be by automobile. The White ten-passenger cars that were so serviceable during 1916 over the Cody Scenic Road will be used throughout the Park.

Park tickets will cover a complete five-day tour,—in and out the same gateway, or in one gateway and out the other, whether via Cody, Gardiner or Yellowstone. All Park tourists, whether patrons of the hotels or the permanent camps, will be carried in automobiles. Touring the Yellowstone Wonderland by automobile will, indeed, be a combination of efficiency and luxury. Nothing in the travel world could be more scenic and satisfying than touring Yellowstone by automobile in connection with the Cody scenic route.

This early news is given to the public that has long waited for it. Illustrated publications will later be furnished on request by the undersigned.

R. W. CLEMENT, Ticket Agent
L. W. WAKELEY, General Passenger Agent.

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