

## The Plattsmouth Journal

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

R. A. BATES, Publisher

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$2.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

A great deal of this high cost of living comes from the high cost of politics.

Keeping your mouth shut puts a lid on ignorance and passes for wisdom.

Garlic will drive away rheumatism, but nothing will drive away the garlic.

If you don't believe that army food offered for sale is good stuff, ask any soldier.

Don't be like a hen and put in the rest of the day cackling after you have laid an egg.

What is a bosom friend, anyhow? We never had a bosom friend. Maybe it is because we haven't any bosom.

Lawyers work the men, doctors work the women, and politicians work everybody, playing no favorites.

A blonde hair on a blue serge coat should never be affected as a color scheme by the husband of a brunette.

Experiences is a dear school, and if it be the college of alcoholic absorption the tuition is extra high, and then some.

Eat less, booze less, keep your head cool, your feet warm, your mouth shut and inflate your nickel into two-bits.

The man who works with his hands gets \$3 a day, and the man who works with his mouth gets everything else in sight.

There are two jobs which seem to be a good deal alike—being president of Mexico and holding a yearling bull by the tail.

Too much booze is a sin, all right, but there are also several other brands, and where some prohibitionists make their mistake is in thinking all sin is wet.

Big enough fortunes are being made out of the manufacture of chewing gum and Battle Ax plug without either men or women working over time on the finished product to increase the dividends.

Be a manly man, strong in courage and firm in whatever is right. If you come to what looks like a stone wall, don't sit supinely down and sob, but climb over it, dig under it, or butt it down.

### NOT MUCH DANGER.

An exchange worries for fear women will catch cold if they don't quit going bareheaded. With the more or less gentle sex having an abundant head of hair to start with, and reinforcing that with baled hay, felt mattresses, rats, puffs, excelsior switches, a gross of hairpins and a yard or two of six-inch ribbon, the danger is not apparent.

## INVESTMENTS

Public Service Corporation  
Paying

**7%**

Can be had in amounts of  
\$100

PAUL FITZGERALD,  
Investment Securities  
First National Bank Bld'g,  
Omaha, Neb.

There is nothing the matter with life And the sunshine is never dim.

For the man who's in love with his wife,  
If she is in love with him.

A poet and the fellow with a bum liver both have that same soulful expression.

A flood of immigration does not do as much damage as a flood of water, but it smells worse.

Better have callouses on the hands than on the conscience or next to the cushion of the chair.

When the devil reads what a few United States senators are saying it tickles him nearly to death.

We would think more of colleges were it not for the excruciating and altogether damnable college yell.

When coming in late and trying not to wake her up a fellow always steps on that squeaky board in the floor.

San Francisco has a lady undertaker. None of that for us. We would wake up, no matter how long dead.

Keep looking for something to find fault with and your face will get twisted with wrinkles like a corkscrew.

The cider-mill squashes up a few worms, of course, but being squashed they can't land in one's vermiform appendix.

One reason new inventions are in demand at good prices is because most of us couldn't invent a bung-hole for a barrel.

A Los Angeles man has just paid \$1,000 for an old bible, when he could have got a perfectly good new one for a dollar.

We like to see the young folks dance, but quit it ourself as soon as we got to figuring up the mileage proposition it involved.

### YOUNG MEN'S HEALTH.

Some of the things which seem in a fair way to be forgotten are the revelations made by the draft as to the health of young men.

From one-third to one-half of the boys coming before the examining boards were found to be unfit for service in the field.

While the necessity was before the country of maintaining a great army abroad and keeping an active working force at home, the business of making over as many of these youths as possible into strong, healthy men went steadily on.

Now, unless measures are taken to keep up this work, it will lapse, and instead of an army of men, hale and well equipped physically for the economic struggle, we shall revert to the old, low standards under which it was possible for so large a percentage of American young men to be physically unfit.

Gen. Leonard Wood urges the necessity for correcting this national weakness, and holds that universal military training is one of the most effective agencies. Undoubtedly a great proportion of the men who had army experience showed marked physical benefit.

Certainly for the sake of present efficiency, and for the sake of generations to come, the nation can not afford to forget this solemn lesson of the draft. Whether it be distinctly military or not, every educational institution from first to last should have some definite program for improving the physical and moral standards of the youth in its care.

### WAR AND PROSPERITY BOTH H—

Everybody is so prosperous just now they don't know what to do. Wilson, Clemenceau, most of our congressmen, and all of our politicians assure us it is so, therefore it must be so, yet the bullheaded and stubborn cashier at the bank will persist in using red ink on our accounts. The undertakers have doubled the price of coffins, so they are prosperous, too, while none of the rest of us can afford to die, and few can afford to live. Rents are up, taxes ballooning, meat a luxury, butter and eggs ditto, marriage on the decline, race suicide staring us in the face, skirts are slit, money hiding out in tin cans and stocking legs and half of the people are scared as rabbits.

We have initiative, recall, referendum, blue-sky government by commission, partial suffrage and half-way prohibition, and we are so dogdasted prosperous some of us don't know where we are going to sleep tonight. If the ultimate consumer can dodge the cold-storage prosperity pirate and manage to tide over this great wave of prosperity until some real old-fashioned hard times come again, maybe he can live on his salary. Gosh! We like prosperity—if it don't break us!

### THE SCOUT AND THE TRAP.

If, years ago, people had realized the value of training boys there would have been little need now for protective game laws.

One of the big things that the boy scouts learn is the protection of wild life. Wanton slaying of wild animals, bird-hunting and egg-stealing all are forbidden under the scout law. Wanton practice of trapping also is regarded as one of the things in which no true sportsman will indulge.

It has been discovered, however, that the law against trapping has been made too sweeping to coincide with the public good in some cases.

Dr. William Hornaday, in speaking on the subject, says that the only case in which the use of the steel trap in animal hunting can be brought into harmony with the boy scout ideal of mercy is where there are present animals distinctly a menace to the life and property of the community. In ridding any section of this sort of undesirable neighbors the scout may employ a steel trap if necessary.

The sly gray wolf, which works havoc among flocks in the west, the fox in some sections, the skunk and the weasel who rob the henroosts, spoil the crops and prey on the birds, may be considered legitimate game for the scout trapper, but only in cases where their depredations justify stern measures.

This training of boys from their youth up in the protection of their wild neighbors is one of the best elements of scoutdom. No race of valuable and beautiful animals will become extinct in the future as so many have in the past, if the coming generation of hunters learns such principles as these.

### PERCENTAGE OF PROFIT.

The French government has established a provision that no food dealer is to be allowed more than 15 per cent profit. The cost of commodities to the wholesaler or retailer is definitely established and made a matter of public record, and the merchant is obliged to conform accordingly in adjusting his selling prices.

There may be some question as to the precise rate of profit justifiable in various lines of food trade; but does not this French policy strike at a fundamental evil and establish a fundamental principle?

It is natural that manufacturers and dealers should make a larger amount of profit on their goods, measured in dollars and cents, than they made before the war, because to some extent the general price-level is legitimately higher. That is to say, if an article used to sell for \$5 and bring 50 cents profit, it might sell now for \$6 or \$7 and bring 60 or 70 cents profit. That

would mean simply a continuance of the same rate of profit, 10 per cent.

The fact, however, seems to be that manufacturers, jobbers and dealers in general are not satisfied with the percentage of profit they were making before the war. Instead of, say 10 per cent profit, the producer may exact 20 per cent. The middleman, the wholesaler and the retailer may each exact as much, or more. The result is a pyramiding of profits that may result in the doubling or trebling of the total profits which have to be made up out of the price paid by the ultimate purchaser.

It is a difficult thing, and perhaps not a wise thing, to try to fix prices. It is an infinitely detailed operation, which can hardly work successfully or fairly. But is it not possible to get at the matter as the French do, by simply restricting the percentage of profit?

### LOST FOOD.

In one of the big cities there is said to be a "rot train" of 15 to 25 cars which runs regularly to a big dump out in the country, with its cargo of decayed foodstuffs.

Some of that food is spoiled in transit from the farm to the city. More of it is spoiled while standing on the switch after arrival. It is openly charged that much of the decay is due to the deliberate and systematic action of commission men in refusing to accept carloads of sound food, and letting a considerable percentage of the receipts rot right along, in order to keep up market prices.

The producers, who are almost helpless, have to stand the loss. That loss is passed on to the entire consuming public, with a liberal increase, in the form of higher prices for the stuff sold.

Add to this the waste that occurs in almost every wholesale and retail store, due to poor methods of handling the produce.

Add the foodstuffs that decay in the garden and orchard, and in the shed while awaiting shipment.

There is extortion enough, but there is still more waste, and it is just as indefensible as the extortion.

### OPTIMISM VERSUS PESSIMISM.

Pessimism is as destructive a force in one's health as it is in one's purpose and performance. The average pessimist seeks the shadows and willfully deprives himself of the life-giving sunshine. The sun, the flowers, the trees and the green foliage of the glad earth smile at him in vain. The trill of the birds, the murmurous whisper of the brooks, the organing of the wind as it comes cavalierly through the forest, kissing the silence into song, are all dead to the dulled ears and jaundiced eyes of the pessimist. He hears only his own groaning and sees not the silver lining to a cloud.

Optimism, happy, buoyant, wholesome optimism, counts as much for health as all the laws of hygiene. Illness is not only a misfortune, but half the time a self-inflicted wrong. We recognize this clearly enough in dipsomania. We trace consumption or pneumonia to a cold carelessly contracted. We know that small-pox, plagues and fevers are due to uncleanness of person or surroundings. Science is relentlessly fixing responsibility for early all our ailments upon ourselves. And we desire to aid it right now by the assertion that pessimism is a breeder of disease, while optimism is a vigorous and effective eradicator of almost everything that ails you in this life.

There is no power on earth that draws like the power of kindness. Kind thoughts lead to kindly acts, and kindly acts make lifelong friends for you.

Kind thoughts are good for your health. They may not cure a tooth ache, nor keep you from getting fat, but they give you a good, rich feeling around the heart. Kind thoughts are as much an asset as honesty. A narrow minded man is too selfish to be kind. Be kind to aged people, for they will not be here very long.



## Give Me a Friendly, Natural Hand-shake

an' a friendly natural tobacco. Keep yo' put-on airs an' 'sauced-up' tobaccos for the fellow that likes nut sundaes better than home made pie—

So says a friend of ours named Velvet Joe. And he just about hits the nail on the head.

Velvet is made for men who think there's no smoke like real tobacco. If you are that sort of man, listen:

Velvet was born in old Kentucky, where more than one good thing comes from. It was raised as carefully as any other Kentucky thoroughbred. But the real secret of Velvet's friendly qualities is its slow natural ageing in wooden hogsheads. Ageing in the wood never hurt anything—and least of all, tobacco.

And so we say, Velvet is good tobacco—nothing more or less. It runs second to none.

The picture of the pipe on the tin needn't keep you from rolling a jim-dandy cigarette with Velvet.

*Liggett & Myers Tobacco Co.*



15c

Not 16 cents  
or 17 cents—

But 15 cents

-the friendly tobacco

So, also, be kind to the young, for they will be here a long time.

In this big, lonesome world, both in the cities and in the farm houses, can be found many hearts that are pining for kind words. A seed of kindness dropped there will spring up a flower.

Look up at God's blue sky and starlit or sun-kissed heavens; listen to the song of the birds; note the smile on the face of your neighbor; shake off the blue devils; work hard; eat and sleep well; and thank the Lord for your manifold blessings; instead of digging down into the earth for musty bones, growling, grumbling and predicting calamity which never comes.

Be an optimist. It is just as

easy as being a grouch, and just as cheap. Get next to the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man and the Gospel of Sunshine.

### VISITING IN THE CITY.

From Friday's Daily.  
Mrs. W. F. Bull and two children arrived in the city Wednesday evening for a visit at the home of Mrs. Bull's parents, Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Marshall. For the past year Mr. Bull has been located at California, Pennsylvania, where he has been superintendent of the telephone lines, and the family have been making their home in that city but are preparing to move to Canton, Ohio, where Mr. Bull has accepted the position of manager of the state telephone lines in that city and vicinity. This is an important pro-

motion and one that the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Bull here in the old home will be pleased to learn of.

### TO ATTEND FUNERAL.

From Friday's Daily.  
Charles S. Johnson, the Burlington yardmaster, departed this afternoon for Rock Island, Illinois, where he goes to attend the funeral of his sister-in-law, Mrs. F. W. Johnson, whose death occurred on Wednesday at the home in Duluth, Minnesota. The news came as a great surprise to Mr. Johnson as he was unaware of the illness of the sister. The body will be laid to rest in the family lot at Rock Island where the Johnson family resided for a number of years.

Fancy stationery at this office.