

# 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 A YEAR IN FIRST POSTAL ZONE** Subscribers living in Second Postal Zone, \$2.50 per year. Beyond 600 miles, \$3.00 per year. Rate to Canada and foreign countries, \$3.50 per year. All subscriptions are payable strictly in advance.

Too many people think they are broad-minded, when they merely are too lazy to form an opinion.

Campaign managers will soon begin to call the roll, but good party men with a roll are likely to be scarcer than usual.

Folks who hold the view that the impossible can't happen were stumped when a Democrat was elected to congress from Ne Hampshire.

Chicago has so many big hotels nowadays, it's pretty hard to tell which one the new presidential candidates will be nominated in.

The hardest thing in the world to do these days, is to keep up the payments on a set of books that were contracted for two years ago.

A Plattsmouth man has kicked up a row with his daughter because her boy friend had the habit of carrying away the early morning paper.

Shoes are \$50 a pair in Russia. This would become quite a serious problem if it should come the same year one needed a new set of tires.

There may be a shortage of other things, but with a presidential campaign on this year is going to see a tremendous overproduction of bunk!

All we hope is that winter will be over in time to avoid another appearance of that familiar abomination—a derby hat in a baseball grandstand.

When a Turkish court of law today renders a decision on any civil or criminal case, the decision cannot be reversed through additional legal fireworks. Appeal has been abolished.

The President's generous impulse, apparently, is to give the best secretary of the treasury since Alexander Hamilton a chance to be the best ambassador to the court of St. James's since—well, since Charlie Dawes.

We never liked the play known as the "Shanghai Gesture" in the first place, and we like it considerably less now than ever, since it furnishes the basis of innumerable sad quips on the Sino-Japanese situation at this time.

General Smedley Butler says he is sorry regular army troops have been sent to Shanghai because the marines could have done the job without "causing filk." But, probably the marines never would have ceased talking after it was over.

G. K. Chesterton says there are only three things in the world that women do not understand, and they are liberty, equality and fraternity. We were pretty sure when somebody found out that women didn't know, it would be something relatively unimportant.

Mayor Jimmy Walker's physicians are worried about his health, since they found that his resistance is low. A lot of friends of other Tammany leaders have been worried about them, too, since Old Doc Senbury demonstrated how low their resistance has been.

The 1,400 firms which supply commodities to the royal family of England today own warrants which give them permission to use the royal crest on their windows, stationery and labels. They are located in many countries and make everything from wine corks to horse millinery.

Now you see why joyriding has such a lure for boys of a certain irresponsible age. If, in addition to having to push the car seven miles, they had been forced to change a couple of tires, the expedition would have been deemed a success, regardless of how it finally turned out.

When the Carnegie medals for life saving are passed out for 1932, we hope particular consideration will be given to the news correspondents at Santiago, who reduced the number of dead from 1,500 in the morning papers to eight in the noon editions of the afternoon papers of February 3.

Even if Tokio accepts the Anglo-American proposals as a basis for peace, the fighting will go on, according to the Japanese government. But, of course, like the bridge hand you play for fun while waiting for those at the head table to finish their round, it won't count on the prize score.

An Emporian who fought through the World War has told the Emporia Gazette that if the United States declares war on Japan, he wants one of two jobs, either "boozing the Japanese acrobats who come here with the circus next summer" or "breaking up the Japanese lanterns at the lawn parties during the summer social season."

## THE COUNTY DOCTOR

The students at the Long Island college of medicine heard wisdom in the recent address by Dr. Babbott, its newly installed head. He gave praise to the vanishing "country doctor," whom he described as "not a scientific biologist, but a medical philosopher." And not the least of the remedies carried by the country doctor "was the confidence he inspired."

It takes less time to become a scientist than a philosopher, who is usually the wiser person. Just 60 years ago, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, father of the retired chief justice, gave an almost similar address at Bellevue college hospital. He remarked:

"See a wise old physician smile away a case that looks to a novice as if a sexton should be sent for; mark what a large experience has done for those who were fitted to profit by it. ... The young man knows the exceptions. ... He takes things more quietly and is much more willing to let well enough alone."

A new epoch in medicine was a direct result of that address. From time to time it is necessary that the old truths should be repeated.—New York American.

## A STATESMANLIKE TAXATION PROGRAM

Business of all kinds will read with relief the decision of the democratic leaders in the house of representatives to ban retroactive taxation and to balance the budget with a non-partisan levy. This announcement, made after a ways and means meeting attended also by Speaker Garner, tends to confirm the growing impression that the house majority is conservative, responsible and wise. It has been a brake on the wheels of business to be in doubt whether the new impost would refer back to 1931. New enterprises were held in check. If the government was to reach back for a share of profits already spent, no business man would know before the end of March where he stood.

Now the probability is that, even if the two wings of senate republicans seek to impose taxes retroactively, the house will not yield the point in conference. Under Speaker Garner the house has displayed order and firmness. The decision of the ways and means majority to call in the republican members when the writing of the tax bill begins is another point for public approval. Republicans about to write revenue legislation have often excluded the minority, the usual explanation being that they were in power in both the executive and legislative branches and wished openly to assume the responsibility for which they had a mandate. Though the senate and the executive are in republican hands, Mr. Garner and his colleagues could have done the same thing. But their apparent attitude that, in a crisis like the present, two heads should be given an opportunity to prove themselves better than one, marks a more creditable and effective course.

When Champ Clark was speaker and Oscar Underwood was floor leader, Mr. Garner of Texas mixed a conservative attitude with some rather sectional and partisan performances. Now and then he has talked in shrill tones about financial questions. But since becoming speaker he has kept a statesmanlike appreciation of the country's situation steadily before him. He has led his party carefully and soundly.—New York Times.

## STRANGE CASE OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE

From the western point of view the most striking feature of the military mixup in China is the demonstrated futility of Chinese opposition to Japanese armed forces. In the various engagements in Manchuria and in the fighting at Shanghai, disparity in numbers apparently counts for nothing. The small, well-armed and well-disciplined Japanese forces advance at pleasure, and the Chinese troops flee in disorder.

Still more striking is the attitude of the Chinese populace. Though disorderly bands of students riot and destroy property, they accomplish nothing beneficial to their country. There are no reports of Chinese civilians flocking to recruiting stations to take up arms in the defense of their country. The curiosity of the Chinese masses leads them to gather as spectators to mark the progress of the street fighting in Shanghai's native quarter, but no desperate efforts to drive back the invaders disclose a fighting spirit among the citizens. Meanwhile Japanese reservists living in Shanghai rush to their country's colors and take an active part in the military operations of the Japanese marines.

China's protests to the western powers, voiced by the feeble Nanking government, are both shrill and persistent, but Nanking's call to the people of all the Chinese provinces to take up arms in defense of their common country is sadly belated. A citizen of the west fails to understand why hordes of Chinese, armed with any weapons that might come to hand, do not sweep back the Japanese by mere force of numbers, even though at enormous cost in Chinese lives.

If the spirit of the Japanese or the spirit of the west had lodged in Japanese bosoms, so great would be the uprising of the people at this time that great amorphous China suddenly would become a united nation, fused into an unconquerable mass of militant patriots. But China fights effectively only with boycotts, not with arms.

Long years of civil strife, with provincial army against provincial army, apparently have brought the world's most populous nation no nearer to realize that internal strife and disunion, if long persisted in, constitute national suicide. China's lack of a true national spirit is its fatal weakness. It is a lack that has persisted through many hundreds of years, and has furnished the opportunity for a succession of alien conquerors.—Chicago News.

## LET DEMOCRATS FIND LOGICAL CANDIDATES

There is only one logical candidate for the democratic presidential nomination. There are several aspirants for leadership, all of whom should be gently but firmly sidetracked when the democrats hold their national convention in Chicago. After that operation, painful as it may be to the aspirants so served, the convention should select the one logical candidate. Following that, all logical democrats could be depended upon to support the nominee at the polls.

The Journal believes in the two-party system such as we have in this country. It is better in a democracy if the division of strength between two major parties is close. It probably would have been a good deal better for government and business in this country if, during the last 25 or 30 years, the democratic party had been stronger than it was. Any political party, if a good deal more powerful than its rival organization, can develop the desire to run things not only according to its wishes but in its own interest. There is needed a check against that development. Let it be hoped that the time will come when the democratic party shall grow permanently stronger so it may operate as a check and balance against the republican party. And let it be hoped, too, that the republicans retain strength sufficient to operate as a check and balance against the democratic party.

There is just one logical candidate for the democrats to select this year when they have a real chance to strengthen their organization and operate as a check and balance against the republican party. That candidate is not one of the opposing forces would knife, and what knife wielders the democrats are on occasions! That candidate is one who could pacify hot-headed democrats and corral more votes than anyone else. And who is he? Let the smart democratic leaders figure it out, which they might do through a process of elimination. Surely they do not have to guess as to the lack of ability of half a dozen or so who'd give their right eye for the call.—Sioux City Journal.

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## RUSSIA IN THE FAR EAST

Harbin is the headquarters of the Chinese Eastern Railway, which, owned jointly by Russia and Chinese interests, passes through a thousand miles of north Manchurian territory, and is a vital link in the Moscow Vladivostok railroad system. Today it is also the only town in Manchuria in which Japanese influence is absent—an island in a sea of Japanese and Japanese Chinese authority. Since the Bolsheviks regained their predominance on the railway in 1929, Harbin is a Russian island. Consequently, to the Russians this is the vital fact in the new situation that has developed in Manchuria, and accounts for the concern that has recently been expressed in Moscow, a concern now reflected in Mr. Maxim Litvinoff's move to conclude a non-aggression pact with Japan.

For some time past the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics has given evidence of a new desire to promote peaceful relations with other countries. In the Kremlin the opinion used to be held that Bolshevism, being a world movement, could not have any local; that, in John Wesley's words, the world was its parish. Some went so far as to say that even in Russia it could not survive without the existence of at least one more Bolshevist state. Under Stalin's leadership, however, the U. S. S. R. is now apparently turned inward. Just now the Russians are absorbingly busy with their own affairs. In this light the nonaggression pacts with which the U. S. S. R. is encircling itself mean that it does not wish to be disturbed in its peaceful pursuits at home.

Perhaps the Bolsheviks have more reason to try to obtain an agreement with Japan than with any other country. No matter what degree of non-interventionism is evolved in the Kremlin, north Manchuria must always remain of special concern to Moscow. This was proved by the lightning-like invasion carried through by Russian troops in 1929. The facts of Russian geography in the Far East, which were the reason for obtaining the original concession to build the Chinese Eastern Railway, are as patent to Moscow as they were to St. Petersburg. North Manchuria forms a salient into Siberia which the railway interest has made into a kind of extramural Russian backyard.

The Japanese have been slow to respond to Mr. Litvinoff's overtures. They are still smarting over the unceremonious ejection of the Bank of Korea from Vladivostok and the dilly-dallying over renewal of Japanese fishery rights in Siberian waters. Yet a policy of live and let live in Manchuria has hitherto determined the relations between Russia and Japan. In Yakhontoff's recent book, "Russia and the Soviet Union in the Far East," a stout appendix is devoted to the various understandings on this subject between the two countries since the Russo-Japanese War. Rumor has it that the policy has been reaffirmed even under the Bolshevik regime. It is well to recall such an understanding as the two nations confront each other in north Manchurian territory. It may be a good augury for the non-aggression pact proposal.

## TEXAS WARNS TRADUCERS

The editor of the Texas Weekly rises, rather wearily, to refute the "ancient lie" that this country seized his state from the Mexicans. That grossly inaccurate statement, it seems, recently has been circulated again by an eastern syndicate writer, in connection with the Manchurian episode. "Japan is only doing in Manchuria," wrote the misinformed Easterner, "what the United States did when it took Texas from Mexico." For his benefit, the patient Texan once more has explained that the Lone Star State was an independent republic at the time it was annexed by congress and had been such for ten years.

We fear, however, this is a snake which will be hard to scotch. A few misguided persons will always find it impossible to distinguish between the actions of the United States and those of a group of American citizens, so promptly approved by their government, as was the case in Texas. To such persons, the al-

## MARK TWAIN ON WAR

In the most militant attack on war ever recorded by the clergy, the membership of the Ohio Pastors' association says in formal resolutions: "We will never again sanction or participate in any war." But won't they?

Without desiring to be cynical, we want once again to quote Mark Twain on war:

"There has never been a just one, never an honorable one—on the part of the instigator of the war. I can see a million years ahead, and this rule will never change in so many as half a dozen instances. The loud little handful—as usual—will shout for the war. The pulpit will—warily and cautiously—object—at first; the great, big, dull bulk of the nation will rub its sleepy eyes and try to make out why there should be war, and will say, earnestly and indignantly, 'It is unjust and dishonorable, and there is no necessity for it.'"

"Then the handful will shout louder. A few fair men on the other side will argue and reason against war with speech and pen, and at first will have a hearing and be applauded; but it will not last long; those others will outweigh them, and presently the antiwar audiences will thin out and lose popularity. Before long you will see this curious thing: The speakers stoned from the platform and free speech strangled by hordes of furious men who, in their secret hearts, are still at one with those stoned speakers—as earlier—but do not dare to say so. "And now the whole nation—pulpit and all—will take up the war cry, and shout itself hoarse, and mob any honest man who ventures to open his mouth; and presently such mouths will cease to open. Next the statesmen will invent cheap lies, putting the blame upon the nation that is attacked, and every man will be glad of those conscience-soothing falsties, and will diligently study them, and refuse to examine any refutations of them, and thus he will be by and convince himself that the war is just, and will thank God for the better sleep he enjoys after this process of grotesque self-deception."

Twain wrote that years before the world war.—New York World-Telegram.

most immediate recognition of the new republic of Texas by the United States, after American settlers had established it by force of arms, is quite as significant as the later annexation. But we trust that the Texas editor will persist in his campaign against this calumny. It will never do to have American policy confused with the imperialism of foreigners.

## CONGRESS DESERVES A PAT OF APPROVAL

Bertrand H. Snell, republican floor leader of the house, wants the ways and means committee to report "a government tax bill, not an administration tax bill nor a democratic tax bill, but one that is framed with the interests of the government and all the people equitably considered."

This does not mean that the millennium has arrived, but it is significant of a spirit that has seldom been shown in congress except at the beginning of a war, when a fervent patriotism unite factions and parties in the common support of the nation. To be sure, we are facing an economic crisis that has already cost the country as much as a first class war. But too often in the past such a situation has merely augmented the bickering and party maneuvering in congress, and has made bad worse. Can it be that this congress is composed of patriots rather than politicians, statesmen rather than strategists in selfishness?

The signs are good. The democrats, who control the house, might have declared war on the republican administration and senate. They have not seen fit to do so. They have whipped into shape and passed measures demanded by the president. They have worked hard and with unusual expedition. Nor have senators wasted much time. The debates in that house have been unusually pointed and intelligent, and the attendance has been remarkable, with more than 90 of the 96 senators at their desks day after day. The committees are functioning like machines; the most skillful brains are laboring at legislation rather than at politics. This is a remarkable spectacle in January of an election year, and the country may well take note of it and give this congress a friendly pat of approval.—Detroit News.

## ORDER OF HEARING on Petition for Appointment of Administrator de bonis non

In the County Court of Cass County, Nebraska, In the matter of the estate of Drury M. Graves, deceased.

Upon reading the petition of Ralph J. Nickerson filed herein on the 21st day of January, 1932, praying for his appointment as administrator de bonis non of said estate: It is Ordered that the 19th day of February, 1932, at 10 o'clock a. m., be and hereby is assigned for the hearing of the petition, when all persons interested in said estate may appear and show cause, if any there be, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted, and that notice of the pendency of said petition, and the time of hearing, be given to all persons interested in said estate by publication in the Plattsmouth Journal, a newspaper printed in said County, three weeks successively, prior to said hearing, of a copy of this order.

A. H. DUXBURY, County Judge. (Seal) j25-3w

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

In the District Court of Cass County, Nebraska. In the matter of the trusteeship of the estate of Anna Gorder Ploetz, deceased.

Now on this 23rd day of January, 1932, this cause came on for hearing upon the petition of Frank A. Cloidt, trustee of the estate of Anna Gorder Ploetz, deceased, praying for a license to sell the following described real estate to-wit: The east half (E 1/2) of the northeast quarter (NE 1/4) of Section (18), Township (12), Range (13) in Cass County, Nebraska, and the undivided one-half interest in Lots 2, 3 and 4 in Block (85) in the City of Weeping Water, Cass County, Nebraska, for the purpose of paying the specific legacies bequeathed in the last will and testament of Anna Gorder Ploetz, deceased, and costs and expense of administration of said trust estate.

It is Therefore Ordered that all persons interested in said estate appear before me at the District Court Room in the Court House at Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska, on 12th day of March, 1932, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., to show cause, if any, why a license should not be granted to said trustee to sell the above described real estate for the purpose of paying specific legacies bequeathed in the last will and testament of Anna Gorder Ploetz, deceased, and costs and expenses of administration of said trust estate. It is further ordered that a copy of this order to show cause be published in the Plattsmouth Semi-Weekly Journal, a newspaper of general circulation in Cass County, Nebraska, for a period of three successive weeks prior to the date of hearing. By the Court, JAMES T. BEGLEY, Judge of the District Court. j25-3w

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The State of Nebraska, Cass County, ss. In the County Court.

In the matter of the estate of Floyd M. Saxon, deceased. To the creditors of said estate: You are hereby notified, that I will sit at the County Court Room in Plattsmouth, in said County, on the 19th day of February, A. D. 1932, and on the 20th day of May, A. D. 1932, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of each day, to receive and examine all claims against said estate, with a view to their adjustment and allowance. The time limited for the presentation of claims against said estate is three months from the 19th day of February, A. D. 1932, and the time limited for payment of debts is one year from said 19th day of February, 1932. Witness my hand and the seal of said County Court this 18th day of January, 1932.

A. H. DUXBURY, County Judge. (Seal) j25-3w

## NOTICE OF HEARING on Petition for Determination of Heirship

Estate of Marion S. F. Wiley, deceased, in the County Court of Cass County, Nebraska. To all persons interested in said estate, creditors and heirs take notice, that Josephine Timblin, has filed her petition alleging that Marion S. F. Wiley died intestate in Alaska on or about the year 1923, being a resident and inhabitant of Alaska and died seized of the following described real estate, to-wit:

An undivided one-thirteenth (1/13) part of Lot seven (7) in the southeast quarter of northwest quarter (SE 1/4 NW 1/4); northeast quarter of southwest quarter (NE 1/4 SW 1/4); Lots three (3) and thirteen (13) in the northwest quarter of northeast quarter (SW 1/4 SE 1/4); and Lots four and eight in the southwest quarter of northeast quarter (SW 1/4 NE 1/4); all in Section nineteen (19); Township eleven (11), N. Range fourteen (14), east of the 6th P. M., in Cass County, Nebraska; leaving as his sole and only heirs at law the following named persons, to-wit:

Josephine Timblin, Lizzie L. Jenkins, Sarah F. Smith, William G. Wiley, Rosabell N. Hesser, Charlie E. Wiley, Addie E. Park, Annette Wagner, Warren M. Wiley, James C. Wiley, George E. Wiley, brothers and sisters; and Helen R. Read, Rose K. Smith and Malvern W. Read, children of a deceased sister. That the interest of the petitioner herein in the above described real estate is that of an heir and praying for a determination of the time of the death of said Marion S. F. Wiley and of his heirs, the degree of kinship and the right of descent of the real property belonging to said deceased, in the State of Nebraska. It is ordered that the same stand for hearing the 20th day of February, A. D. 1932, before the court at the hour of ten o'clock a. m. in the Court House in Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska. Dated at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, this 30th day of January, A. D. 1932. A. H. DUXBURY, County Judge. (Seal) j1-3w

## NOTICE OF REFEREE'S SALE

Pursuant to an order of the District Court of Santee County, Nebraska, made and entered on the 19th day of December, 1931, in an action pending therein, in which Nora Folsom and husband, Guy Folsom, Margie Gilbert, a widow, are plaintiffs, and David Wagner and wife, Abbie Wagner; Edna Wagner and wife, Sarah Wagner; Harry F. Wagner and wife, Anna Wagner; William Wagner and wife, Rose Wagner; Jessie Nichols and husband, James Nichols; Amanda Morgan and husband, Morris Morgan; Jesse Wagner and wife, Neddie Wagner; Addie B. Gilbert and husband, John Gilbert; Emma Graves and husband, Hod Graves; Nancy Graves and husband, Wallace Graves; Frank G. Arnold and wife, Effie D. Arnold, are defendants, ordering and directing the undersigned Referee in said cause to sell the following real estate, to-wit:

The south half (S 1/2) of Lot two (2), in the northwest quarter (NW 1/4) of the northwest quarter (NW 1/4), Section seven (7), Township twelve (12), Range ten (10), Cass County, Nebraska, containing five acres (5 A.). And, the north half (N 1/2) of Lot three (3), in the northwest quarter (NW 1/4) of the northwest quarter (NW 1/4) of the northwest quarter (NW 1/4), Section seven (7), Township twelve (12), Range ten (10), Cass County, Nebraska, containing five acres (5 A.). And, all of Lot five (5), in the southwest quarter (SW 1/4) of the southwest quarter (SW 1/4) of Section seven (7), Township twelve (12), Range ten (10), Cass County, Nebraska, containing ten acres (10 A.). And, the west half (W 1/2) of the southwest quarter (SW 1/4) of Section seven (7), Township twelve (12), Range ten (10), Cass County, Nebraska, containing sixty and 28/100 acres (60.28 A.).

Notice is hereby given that on the 16th day of February, 1932, at the hour of 9 o'clock p. m., at the Wagner farm, one mile east and one mile south of the post office in Ashland, Nebraska, the undersigned Referee will sell the above described real estate at Public Sale, to the highest bidder, for cash. Said sale to be held open for one hour. Dated this 12th day of January, 1932. JOE MAYS, Referee. J. C. BRYANT, Plaintiff's Attorney. j14-5w