

The Plattsmouth Journal

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If there was nothing in a name, there wouldn't be any autograph collectors.

Observers in almost every part of Europe are predicting the early overthrow of Hitler. So, little man, what now?

Professor Tugwell is planning a western speaking tour. This, perhaps, is in order that Senator Borah won't feel lonesome touring the West all by himself.

That person you see walking down the street with a strut, is the amateur gardener who has just picked the first ripe tomato out of his patch.

The news that in one of the western Democratic states that are 25,000 candidates for public office this year is somewhat surprising to those who never supposed there were so many not already on the federal pay roll.

The return to fashion of the cartwheel hat is reminding many an old-timer of the story about the irate lady on the trolley who turned indignantly to a male passenger and said: "Sir, your glass eye has broken my hat pin."

Not that the bridegroom is deserving any publicity for his negligible part in the wedding, but lots of people do know the bride in her girlhood have a pardonable curiosity to know what her name is going to be in the future.

Pre-wedding gifts from John Jacob Astor III to his fiancée are valued at more than a million dollars. Older married men for whom birthdays and anniversaries now come all too fast will regard young Mr. Astor as a victim of some very bad advice.

An oil company has launched a campaign to persuade motorists on extended trips to adopt the army marching custom of halting for a "breather" for five minutes of each hour of travel. That is to combat the effects of carbon monoxide gas. That ought also to serve the useful purpose of permitting the motorist to see the country through which he passes.

This is one of those dry years when you don't have to go out into the grassy areas to get chiggers. Competition is pretty keen in the chigger world this year, and they go quite a distance for business. In fact, about all you have to do to get chiggers is hunk for curb service.

RUSSIAN GOLD PRODUCTION UP

Russia has now passed both the United States and Canada as a gold producer, and so stands second only to the Transvaal in this respect. At one time the world might have been excited by this announcement, hoping that it would relieve the alleged shortage of monetary gold about which so much was being said not long ago. Today few people are worried about the imaginary deficiencies of the world's gold supplies. We expect advocates of bimetalism, who would find their occupation gone if they conceded the sufficiency of existing gold supplies.

Last year it is estimated that the world output of newly mined gold attained a record high figure of 2,648 million Swiss francs, as compared with 2,595 million Swiss francs in 1932. Gold stocks have not only been augmented by these heavy current additions, but shipments from India and China have swollen the total amounts of gold available for monetary employment. Of late, the gold reserves of central banks and governments have not shown the effects of these current increases, which appear to have been offset by private hoarding. However, central monetary reserves are already abnormally large, and they increased slightly during the year. Although monetary reserves are badly distributed, they are capable of supporting a credit structure vastly greater than that now existing.

In view of the economies achieved in the use of gold under modern monetary and credit systems, and considering, too, the large amounts of hoarded gold which will eventually come out of hiding, fears of a gold shortage are baseless. Nevertheless, the world's hunger for gold appears to be insatiable and Russia will find in the development of her gold mines a support for her domestic currency system as well as a means of paying for much-needed imports.

A jury in Massachusetts sent a note to the court inquiring whether they could convict a person not on trial. Apparently some of them had an overpowering desire to convict one of the lawyers in the case.

Oklahoma has 25,000 candidates for public office this summer. In the odd years, the principal occupations in Oklahoma are agriculture, manufacturing, oil production and inspecting officers who were lucky in the even years.

Two New York women were most unkind to a man acquaintance in an endeavor to collect his insurance money. One hit him with a mallet and the other ran over him with her motor car. Perhaps he was insured against breakage.

COL. CLARK ON EFFECT OF WAR PREPAREDNESS

"The assertion which we constantly hear, that the best way to preserve peace is constantly to be prepared for war, is in open defiance to the universal experience of mankind. For the nations of the world to permit a situation to continue in which possibly this generation or almost certainly the next, will witness another conflict, possibly involving the obliteration of our civilization, is stupendous and incredible folly." Senator Bennett C. Clark of Missouri before the graduating class of Washington and Lee university.

The Register does not know how Senator Clark ranks in the American Legion, which he helped to organize, but at any rate he was a colonel in the world war, so he can hardly be accused of being one of those mollycoddle pacifists that the legion leadership so detests.

And yet the senator has figured out that if the nations of the world would take what they are paying annually for maintenance and extension of armaments, and invest it at a 14 per cent return, it would pay off within 40 years the whole staggering national, provincial, state and municipal debt of the entire world.

But even more important than the economic aspect, it is as Senator Clark says "in open defiance to the universal experience of mankind" to expect peace to be preserved by piling mountains of armaments on each side of a boundary line, susceptible to explosion at the slightest touch of personal greed or meanness. The world has always been armed, and it has always fought at the drop of a hat. The preparedness crowd (which, consciously or not, is the munitions crowd) simply wants to continue the same old savage system.

—Des Moines Register.

The farmer's problem is your problem, too, for after all, it's the trade territory surrounding us that keeps Plattsmouth up.

SILLY OBJECTION TO ROOSEVELT VACATION

President Roosevelt soon will leave Washington for a vacation trip of several weeks. He feels that he may do this, now that congress has been adjourned. No doubt he is eager for this respite from his labors as chief executive of the nation in a period unsurpassed in its stresses and strains and annoyances and burdens. He has worked hard. He needs the rest his vacation will give him. And the country needs the strength this vacation is expected to conserve in the president.

Senator Schall of Minnesota has seen fit to issue a statement in criticism of Mr. Roosevelt's contemplated vacation. He objects to the chief executive traveling at the expense of the taxpayers on a warship. He complains because no newspapermen are permitted to accompany him. He insists this is a "press censorship" and he wails in fear that the freedom of the press is thus being abridged. He raises the question of the legality of Mr. Roosevelt continuing to hold office because he is leaving the country "while 12 million of his subjects starve."

The Schall statement really should not make much difference one way or another in the affairs of government or of the people. Assuredly, it will not affect the chief executive. Mr. Roosevelt will pay no attention to it, but will carry out his vacation plans just as though the Minnesota senator were in complete accord with them. As far as that is concerned, it would make no difference if Senator Schall were more enthusiastic over the Roosevelt vacation than anyone else.

One cannot help wondering, however, how the people of Minnesota can send to the United States senate a man of the Schall type. His criticism of the president is silly; how can he impress sensible persons with the idea that everything else he says and does is sound? Sometimes United States senators seem to take leave of their senses just to undertake a little political shenanigan on the side. That is what Senator Schall has done. No big man, no one worthy of a seat in the United States senate would do it.

Let this be said: The country and the people need the Roosevelt vacation as much as does the chief executive. We work our presidents to death as a rule. No man can stand the White House grind month after month, year after year without paying a heavy toll. Mr. Roosevelt's work is not even half done. He will need all the strength he possesses to carry on to the end of his administration. American citizens worthy of citizenship and regardless of their political affiliations will wish the chief executive bon voyage as he sails on a warship and will gladly pay the bill, trusting that when he returns to Washington he will be happier and stronger.—Sioux City Journal.

CHANCE FOR TRADE WITH CANADA

The new tariff deal which empowers the President to make mutually beneficial import and export agreements with other countries, adjusting tariffs accordingly, opens the way to new consideration of closer relations with Canada.

It was in 1911 that President Taft tried to engineer a reciprocity treaty with Canada. It was passed by congress, but later rejected by the dominion government.

Now it is reported that Canada again is exploring the possibilities of such arrangement. With the completely new view of foreign trade which now prevails throughout the world, there are possibilities here.

Five years ago the United States and Canada carried on the greatest 2-nation commerce in the world. Today there must still be vast possibilities for trade between us, which will be equally advantageous to both. Certainly no two nations are more closely linked by geography and every consideration of true neighborliness that should enable them to help each other in trade.

There is reason to believe that among the many trade proposals which will be put before President Roosevelt under his new tariff powers, one of the first will be plans for wider and mutually beneficial trade with Canada.—Rocky Mountain News.

The list of motorists who haven't responded to traffic tag arrest in Kansas City is growing rapidly. With all the other literature that is thrown into parked cars these days, it is not remarkable that a few traffic tags get lost now and then.

Plattsmouth stores offer shopping advantages the equal of any to be found. Why not give your home town merchant first opportunity of serving you?

Eastern Part of State Gets Most of Funds

\$22,000,000 for Wheat; Hog Raisers Also to Profit; Corn Checks to \$16,000,000.

Approximately 42 million dollars in the form of government crop reduction checks will pour into Nebraska during the next six or seven months, a survey of agricultural conditions revealed Friday. Most of this money, which represents new and liquid buying power, will be distributed in the eastern half of the state.

In addition to the funds received under the various federal crop programs, farmers will also receive substantially larger prices for their products. In some instances—notably wheat—crop reduction checks, when added to current market prices, will give the farmer a much larger return on his crop than he received last year.

\$22,000,000 For Wheat. Based on latest available figures, wheat growers will receive approximately \$22,570,100 for this year's crop, including about \$11,745,000 in benefit payments. About 40 per cent of the benefit payments have already reached those who signed wheat contracts, and another 20 per cent will be paid within a month. The final 40 per cent will be paid this fall as the first installment on next year's contracts. More than \$8,000,000 will be distributed to Nebraska farmers under this program before the Christmas holidays.

Most of the buying power represented by wheat income is concentrated in the southeastern section of the state. With the exception of four counties—Cheyenne, Kimball, Perkins and Box Butte—the major share of Nebraska's wheat income will go to farmers living south of the Platte river and east of Gosper and Parnas counties.

Despite a reduction of about 25 per cent in total output this year, hog producers will receive approximately \$33,350,000 for their porkers, compared with \$19,453,000 last year. Under the plan set up by the government to bring output and consumption into balance, hog raisers who agreed to curtail production will receive \$5 a head, on 75 per cent of their normal production, in addition to the amount received at the market place.

Hog Checks \$6,000,000.

The first government checks to be issued under the hog reduction program will total about six million dollars and should be in the hands of Nebraska farmers within a few weeks, according to officials in charge of the program. These checks have been held up while government agents checked claims of production in recent years, these data comprising the basis on which payments are made. Special attention will be given to contracts from drought areas, officials said, and these areas will be the first to receive checks.

A second payment of six million dollars will be mailed from Washington early in the fall and the final payment of three million dollars, less a small charge for administrative costs, will reach hog farmers soon after the turn of the year.

Regardless of the condition of the corn crop farmers in this section of the corn belt will receive a substantial sum under the terms of the federal crop reduction plan.

NUB OF ROOSEVELT'S INFORMAL YALE TALK

President Roosevelt's informal, extemporaneous speech to the alumni was as far as possible from the style of Lincoln's Gettysburg speech. In its completeness it has no marks of the "speeches that live." Yet there is an arresting passage that makes one think of Lincoln at Gettysburg.

Lincoln in dedicating the Gettysburg national cemetery after several years of war re-dedicated America to democracy. His short address, rising to the climax sanctifying "government of the people, by the people and for the people," has taken its place with the preamble of the Declaration of Independence as a classical statement of the American ideal. The speech was needed at the time it was delivered, for the war between the states had been accompanied by war measures that strained the constitution, invaded the domain of civil liberty and placed democracy in peril.

The depression, like the civil war, has had consequences upon government that have raised doubts as to the future of democracy under the constitution. In these circumstances President Roosevelt in a passage that seems almost an aside, yet was certainly meant for the public ear, very

informally and simply proclaimed: "After all, we are, whether we like it or not, living in a democracy. I like it. We are going to continue to live in a democracy."

Those 27 words are worth more than the rest of the speech. And Mr. Roosevelt was as sincere as Mr. Lincoln was at Gettysburg.—Springfield Republican.

LOUP CITY'S TRIAL

A study of Loup City, Neb., is offered to those who fear that communism may get a foothold in the United States.

Loup City is a county seat town on the Loup river, near the geographical center of Nebraska. It is primarily a trading town for the nearby farmers, who have been none too prosperous in recent years. It has its churches, its press, its banking, elevator and retail trading facilities. And it has some local industry, limited in scope, but affording employment to its townsfolk. Loup City has a few more than two thousand persons. It is, one may say, the typical Nebraska small town, with decent homes, a lively community pride, a neighborly spirit. In the countryside round about the Farm Holiday association was more successful in recruiting members than in some other Nebraska sections.

Why Loup City should have been picked by the rebel minority for a demonstration is somewhat of a mystery, but it seems to have been so selected. The local creamery branch employed girls and women to pick chickens and in other similar jobs. The pay is not very good. Perhaps the pay is too small for the work that is done; perhaps it is fair enough. At any rate a group of agitators, some of them of the Farm Holiday crowd, one of them the well-known labor speaker "Mother" Bloor, are accused of striving to foment trouble in the plant and to induce the women workers to strike.

The Loup City press described the events leading up to the fracas of June 14 as a deliberately incited row. One distinct case of sabotage is reported—the draining of the boiler at the plant. Had this not been happily discovered, it is said, an explosion might have resulted with injury and loss of life, and certainly with damage to property. A committee of 25 of the demonstrators was permitted to enter the plant for a parley with its manager. Meanwhile a large number of deputies gathered, and the inevitable happened. There was pushing, shoving, and finally fighting; men were injured, several were arrested, several fled. Today there are on trial in Loup City, charged with rioting, seven persons including "Mother" Bloor.

Loup City citizens supported the constabulary in the first array and clearly resented the visit of the outsiders. As the trial opened with rumors of new demonstrations, the townsfolk girded themselves to enforce peace. This defense of Loup City seems to have been largely spontaneous. The good people there are evidently of the opinion that no local industrial trouble needs blows struck in its settlement. The whole thing has developed into a debate between the community and the demonstrators, and the workers themselves have become a singularly silent and unimportant factor in the quarrel.

It is this silence, this lack of complaint from the workers, that indicates that whatever their point of view may be, they, too, are opposed to violence in their cause. They are the supposed beneficiaries of the agitation, yet they have studiously refrained from taking part in it. This commends their cause to the state at large and should commend it to their employers. If their condition could be improved and their pay increased, their own attitude justifies a generous response from their employer.

Loup City, as such, makes it clear that there is no place for violence in the community. The citizens obviously believe that an un-American attempt has been made to upset the peace, and they have resisted that attempt. One believes that they will do more, and insist upon a fair trial for those at the bar. Loup City must be as quick to assure impartial justice for the accused as the town was quick to resent their coming. In that way Loup City will complete its picture of a Nebraska town solving its difficulties by American principles, and according to American traditions.—World-Herald.

France is suffering from a heat wave which threatens the national wine crop and therefore is causing much anxiety in that country. Since France has not used up much anxiety concerning the failure to pay the debt it owes to the United States, it should have plenty to apply to the wine crop failure.

Phone the news to No. 6.

RECOVERY OBJECTIONS OF THE HOUSING BILL

Revival of building construction, stimulation of heavy industries, increasing employment and a reduction in the burden of public relief—these are the objectives of the administration housing bill, passed in the closing hours of the congressional session. Construction is still our most depressed industry. In a good year, we spend more than 11 billion dollars on new building; now we are spending only three billion dollars. Residential construction has fallen off nine-tenths, from three billion dollars a year to around 300 million dollars. In normal times, the industry employs directly 3,500,000 men, indirectly, 1,500,000 more. The present idleness of a considerable portion of these workers seriously enhances the burden of relief.

The new law makes no serious demands upon the federal treasury. It undertakes, rather, to stimulate building by attracting private funds into the mortgage racket and by reducing the cost of financing renovation and new home construction. It rules out the speculative operator, affording support exclusively to the renovators and builders of small family dwellings.

Home modernization is to be stimulated by the creation of a Home Credit Insurance corporation, which will employ up to 200 million dollars to guarantee 20 per cent of any sound loan of less than two thousand dollars which is made by a private agency for that purpose. New construction is to be encouraged by authorizing the corporation to insure first mortgages running to 20 years, covering 80 per cent of the value of new houses costing \$15 thousand dollars or less. It may also insure present first mortgages up to 70 per cent of their value. Each of these classes of insurance may be extended to a total of one billion dollars.

The act aims to increase the availability of mortgage money in still other ways. It creates a Federal Savings and Loan Insurance corporation to guarantee deposits in building and loan associations as bank deposits are already guaranteed. It provides for the establishment, under the supervision of the Federal Home Loan bank board, of private national mortgage associations to rediscount insured mortgage paper for other lenders. It adds another billion to the borrowing power of the Home Loan Owners' Loan corporation to provide for the further refinancing of existing home mortgage debt. These devices, taken together, are expected to increase the willingness of savors to deposit their money in building and loan associations, the willingness of such associations, of savings banks and of others to lend to home builders and the readiness of private individuals to build themselves new homes.

It must be recognized, of course, that the act is not a housing measure in the sense in which that term has come to be used. It presents no comprehensive plan for the rehousing of our urban industrial population. It involves no public construction of homes for the lower income groups. It confines itself to promoting the construction industry by making it somewhat easier for those who can already afford to build houses to do so.

It is impossible to say whether the new law will immediately revive home building. It lowers only one element of building costs—the cost of credit. Material and labor costs, on the other hand, have been boosted by the NRA to levels far above those which prevailed in 1932. It now costs within 6 per cent as much to build a five-room brick house as it did at the height of the boom in 1929. Unless the supply trades and the unions co-operate by reducing their charges, the new credit which the law has made available may go begging. It may be doubted, too, whether middle-class families, in the face of existing uncertainties, will hasten to encumber themselves with new debts, even though interest rates may be lower than they have been in the past.

The long-run effect of the law, however, cannot fail to be good. It eliminates high-cost second mortgages by enabling lenders to extend as much as 80 per cent of the value of a property. It outlaws short-term mortgages with high renewal fees, by making it possible for them to lend for periods as long as 20 years. Eventually, if not immediately, it will afford the home builder material aid.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

"Recovery" is in reach, says General Johnson. The General is appointed a committee of one to grab him with a flying tackle.

We can believe all of the New England fisherman's story about seeing the school of 200 whales last Sunday, except his statement that he was badly scared.

"Wake up, Bill, they've convicted a banker!"

