

The Plattsmouth Journal

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Doctors say Americans are living too fast and the traffic statistics indicate that they are dying the same way.

One of the most overworked things in the world is the average motor car horn.

One of the prohibition heads in a western state is named Martini. Of course he's a dry Martini.

Life becomes more complicated when a motorist has a suit with two pairs of pants and only one driver's license.

We seem never to learn that great people are common people, that being common people is what made them great people.

The courtly governor, Ritchie of Maryland, is running this fall against a gentleman named Nice. But one can always turn to Louisiana for more rugged electioneering.

You can't fool the New York police very long. After four days of vain "grillwork" on Hauptmann for information, they have decided that he is of the mute type.

Probably no man living has his daily program outlined with more regularity than the prince of Wales. No wonder the poor chap looks worn out and thoroughly disgusted.

It's about time for people to start a private savings account; so after Christmas, if they didn't receive what they will be asking for from now until December 25, they can buy it anyway.

Jim Farley says the G. O. P. will sink to its lowest state, in the next senate, since the administration of Buchanan. Jim's opinion of Johnson, Norris, La Follette, et al., who are the only Republicans he concedes a chance, is apparently very low.

A pneumatic-tired milk wagon drawn by a horse with rubber shoes, recently tried out in New York City by a large milk company, proved so quiet it was necessary to equip the vehicle with a horn to avoid traffic accidents. The horn chosen simulates the "moo-o-o" of a cow.

Chinese music sounds to us like a major offense written in a minor key.

Some of the best back seat drivers received their education when Dad took both hands off the steering wheel to point out some object of interest.

A gracious gesture of welcome which Mr. Farley might make to Mr. Sinclair would be to issue a stamp with a picture of "EPIC" on it. There are so few stamp subjects left.

There is at least one good thing that may be said about the extreme hot and dry summer that has just passed into history, and that is the lawn mowers were not very extensively used.

Great Britain underwent a visitation of alphabetical agencies during the World War, but muddled through. In fact, muddling through is probably the only way there is to get through a maze of alphabetical bureaus.

It must be quite a thrill to be a president or a governor of a state and have an opportunity to push a button which will throw a switch that will flood the great grandstands with light at some big fair. That's a boyhood ambition worth striving for.

Several industries in California report improved business, but probably not to that extent of nullifying the Sinclair EPIC program, which isn't supposed to start until the new state administration goes in. No trick would mean that for poverty to fly out of California's window just because Upton Sinclair has looked in the door.

Reading so many conflicting statements of the Morro Castle disaster should teach us at least one thing: If ever we are on a burning vessel, we must not become excited and jump into the sea. It seems that the thing to do is to stick around the scorching decks and gather a connected story of the whole affair, because (if we live to tell the tale) such data will likely come in handy during the following federal investigation!

Artists do funny things. A cartoon recently published represents a big, fat munitions manufacturer lying among some bags of powder—smoking a cigar. Oh me, oh my!

Describing a recent scene at Hyde Park, the New York Herald Tribune says, "The President wore a well-broken-in pair of gray trousers." That shows progress. When they're worn out, the depression is over.

The caddies are striking all over the land—a bright indication that the ancient and royal game of golf is coming out of the doldrums that have plagued club directors with nightmare these last four years.

In reply to inquiries as to what Professor Tugwell is doing in Europe, our information is that he is studying agricultural conditions, and that he will master the situation just about in time to return home shortly after the November election.

New York is still dallying with that idea of raising revenue by municipal lottery. The difficulty is to decide whether it is worse to wheedle the money out of taxpayers or tax it from them by main force. In such an ethical quandary, why not toss up a quarter?

A Plattsmouth schoolboy was doing his problems the other night, one of which began, "A and B were partners in the carpet and rug business." "My, but there's an awful lot of hooey in these arithmetics," commented the lad. "Back here on this page, it says A and B are in the lumber business."

Professor Piccard voices the opinion that even if a fellow could fly to Mars, he would have considerable difficulty getting back. Pretty sharp thinking for an absent-minded professor. Unfortunately, the Piccard acumen seems to have leaked out before, and kept him out of the brain trust.

The speech of Maxim Litvinoff on the occasion of Russia's admission into the League of Nations was such a one as might have been delivered by the foreign chancellor of any government. Fortunately, M. Litvinoff doesn't offend in that manner very often. But it's hardly to be expected that he would perform as entertainingly, now that he is a member, as he used to when he was a guest performer.

Additional paying on O street this fall or next spring is assured. Although contract was not let for this work at Lincoln Thursday, due to unsatisfactory bids, it was announced the job will be re-advertised. A few more years will see the closing up of the present 14-mile gravel gap. It has been diminishing rapidly, but none too fast to suit the average motorist, who is footing a good share of the bill with the payment of the 4 cent gasoline tax.

"AS SURE AS TAXES"

There is an old saying "As sure as taxes," and to all of us who are on the assessor's roll—who own a modest domicile called "home" or more pretentious investment properties, that phrase is understandable and full of meaning.

Taxes have a habit of becoming due—and delinquent—each year, and (if not paid) of piling up rapidly from year to year.

The Journal office is busy just now preparing for publication next week the delinquent tax list for Cass county, and we are pleased to note (although it means less revenue to a printing office) that there is a marked decrease in the number of farms and town properties listed as delinquent in the taxes. Especially is this true here in Plattsmouth, where the advertised number has been cut almost in half.

There are a number of causes responsible for this reduction. Among them are the farm and home loan acts of the "new deal" that are daily saving the farms and homes of thousands of people over the nation. When the government loans money on a farm or a town residence, it insists on a clear tax record, and if the borrower can't comply, even loans him money to pay his taxes. This aid has been directly responsible for bringing in a goodly number of large tax bills—of from two to eight or ten years standing.

Another contributing cause to the lessened number of tax delinquencies being published is the purchase of tax certificates on properties three years delinquent by the city. After a two-year redemption period from date of purchase, foreclosure may be started and carried through to completion within a course of a few months. On the other hand, the time of foreclosure may be withheld as long as three additional years, permitting of greatest leniency in the case of those who are really trying to meet their tax burden.

Back in the "good old days" when nearly everyone paid taxes and the published list of delinquencies made little more than half a newspaper page (last year almost two full pages were taken up with it) it was considered little short of disgraceful to have one's property listed therein. With the changed economic conditions of the past few years, however, many have seen their properties listed for the first time. Today, the man who owes but one or two years taxes is still the exception and not the rule—but in a different direction, for many of his neighbors owe three, four and more years taxes.

The city, in its recently formulated tax policy, does not consider the purchase of certificates on one and two-year delinquencies. It is only after they have piled up three years, a certificate is bought, and as has been repeatedly pointed out, a two year minimum and five year maximum wait may be indulged in before starting foreclosure. Even then a four to six months further delay is necessary while foreclosure suit is being carried out, during all of which time the owner may redeem his property by payment of the taxes and interest.

When taxes become seven or eight years delinquent, statistics everywhere show they are never paid, and it is then time to act to get the properties into the hands of owners who will pay, in order to save the various taxing subdivisions from even greater loss of tax revenue.

Much is said of taxes being too high, but it must be remembered that for every property not paying taxes, its share of the tax burden is shifted to the shoulders of those who do. So it behooves every tax paying citizen to evidence a keen interest in any tax-collection program—for it will bring down all taxes in direct proportion to the degree it succeeds in stopping the chiseling practices of those who not only refuse to pay, but in the past have been making capital out of the practice, by getting back their tax-delinquent properties after the courts have wiped out large sums of general and special improvement taxes thereon, through devious means of "by-bidding" and like vicious practices. It is this sort of thing the City of Plattsmouth is primarily interested in checking—not the mere taking away of someone's home—and conformity to the plan now being carried out is already producing results that fully justify it.

As proof of this, just check the published list next week in comparison with last year.

Missouri river work continues on an enlarged scale. And to the number given direct employment, may be added the several hundred now working in quarries that have sprung up all over this part of the state, supplying the vast quantities of rock required for ballast and the more intricate use in rock paving, an art by itself, that requires skilled men to perform.

Sec'y Wallace Replies to Critics of Government

Secretary of Agriculture in Collier's Weekly Raps Charge of "Government in Business."

Secretary Wallace replies sharply to those who object to "government in business" in an article published today in Collier's Weekly. The article is taken from "New Frontiers," the forthcoming book by the secretary in which he expresses a political philosophy designed to mark the dividing line between liberal and conservative voters. The volume is regarded as the future hand-book of the New Deal and is accepted by those close to Secretary Wallace as the administration's answer to those business men and industrialists who, to use the secretary's words, seek a return to "the lush days of free-booster capitalism."

"Big business men of the United States who live in the great trading and financial centers like New York and Chicago," writes the secretary, "are continually talking about the dangers of governmental interference with business. The smaller business men of the United States in their chambers of commerce and moon-day luncheon clubs continually say that there should be 'less government in business and more business in government.'"

"As a matter of fact, certain businesses have always been up to their necks in government. This is especially true of the central core of the banking business and of those businesses which from a world-competitive point of view are so inefficient that they would die without tariff protection."

"The old-timers hold up their hands in horror at the thought of government regulation or ownership of business. It is a truism that any startling new development is usually the result of the extraordinary insight and hard work of some one man and of those who have been set on fire by his example. It is to be hoped, of course, that the government will never do anything to discourage the ardor or the insight of those individuals who, we trust, will in the future as they have in the past carry the banner of inventive American business genius."

"Private control of government in the United States began with Alexander Hamilton and has continued. Hamilton sincerely believed that the wealth and power of the United States should be strongly centralized in the hands of an aristocratic few. As the first secretary of the Treasury he bent every effort to tie the strong, influential, wealthy people in each community to the new government. By using the power of the government, he made it possible to redeem certain debts and bonds at par. This made most of the wealthy individuals feel greatly indebted to the central government. The Hamiltonian theory was adopted by the Republican party after the Civil War, and expanded. More and more the big banking houses assumed as a matter of course that they and the government were essentially as one on monetary and financial policies."

"If the full truth were ever known about the way governmental influence has been used by great corporations, public indignation would know no bounds. Nearly every president who has had anything to do with tariff revisions has been impressed by the way in which great businesses rally round in the hope of securing governmental favors through the tariff in order to help them promote monopolies. The legalized thievery of the tariff is probably working more harm to the people of the United States than all other forms of robbery put together."

"Those smaller men who sit at home attending quietly to their own business and who never come near Washington, either personally or through the secretary of their association, do not realize the extent to which our situation has always been one of private control of government. Larger business men and the paid secretaries are continually trying to change the rules. Hundreds of them are on the job every day whether congress is in session or not."

"When the codes were fixed up under NRA, business men came to Washington by the thousands, most of them hoping to get codes fixed so that their competitors would not have an advantage. Many of them hoped to get hold of governmental power in order to put their competitors out of business. They wanted the government to help them fix prices and control production."

"Of course, business men are not alone in this. In recent years farm organizations and labor organizations have also been doing their

best to get hold of governmental power for their own purposes. As these interests begin to fight one another more and more, it will become apparent that the old order is played out. A new one with new rules must be arranged.

"If we are not to go in for Communism or Fascism, it is most essential that government learn to look upon itself as a partner with business, labor, agriculture and consumers. For the sake of campaign funds governments have all too often handed out jobs and passed out favors."

"It is time for business to stop speaking scornfully of government in business and then go running to it in private to see what it can get out of the overment."

"The situation is so serious that government and business must learn to live together in a sensible way. In working out the terms of this partnership, it is important that not only big business men who have always made their voices heard in Washington be consulted, but that the small business men, laboring men, farmers and consumers also be in on the deal."

"The object is continually moving but balanced state."

"European purchasing power for our surplus is shattered. We still have great adjustments to make before we can safely face that fact. Men of all classes realize the need of readjustment. Many leaders in government recognize it. But unfortunately we still have in government and among business men many who are most interested in the short-time turns of the profit wheel."

"Some of these men know how to trim their sails so suddenly that they can profit just as well during a depression as during a time of boom. They are ghouls fattening on human disaster. Many of them keep their wealth fluid so that they can shift it rapidly from country to country. In time of inflation they pass their wealth rapidly into commodities. They may have no lobbyists in Washington but they keep in close touch with governmental policies so they can shift their wealth to the best advantage. They talk about lower income taxes, less government in business, and less governmental bureaucracy, but they have no fundamental interest in the long-time prosperity of the country."

"There are certain people living in Washington who have learned to make a specialty out of what might almost be called political blackmail. Some of them are representatives of well organized associations. They have been in Washington so long that they call the congressmen by their first names. They are acquainted with all the special cliques and know how to start a flock of telegrams rolling upon Washington at the right time. They can get close friends on the floor of the house or senate to interpose an objection in committee meetings or on the floor at a time when it will cause embarrassment."

"These lobbyists and legislative representatives are usually very pleasant and well-liked, but all too often they have their minds fixed on a special regional short-time objective and they are often more ruthless and unfair than the people who employ them. They feel that they must make a special showing of having done things in the interest of a particular small group in order that that small group will feel warranted in continuing their salaries for the following year."

"The alarming thing in Washington is not that there are so many special pressure groups but that there are so few people who are concerned solely with looking at the picture from a broad national angle. Most congressmen and senators, it seems, are of necessity special pleaders for a particular region. It is therefore up to the executive branch of the government to consider the national interest. This is difficult at times because many officials in the executive branch owe their positions to representations made by particular congressmen or senators at the behest of special groups."

"The rise and fall of political pressure is something like the weather. When economic conditions are bad the political situation will be hot and sultry. In boom time there is no thought of changing the fundamental rules."

"The financial gods that we worshiped before the 1929 crash have disappeared. They fell with the collapse of the fantastic financial structure they built out of the swapping of dollars and paper certificates. Perhaps we needed that experience so that the truer gods and values may now receive our whole-hearted allegiance."

"There is nothing new or sensational about the rules we should follow. They have to do with such things as the tariff, the balance of international payments, monetary policy, subsidies, taxation, prices and production policies and railroad-rate

Kin of Hauptmann



Declaring, "I don't believe my brother did it", Mrs. Emma Gloeckner, 42, of Los Angeles, Cal., sister of Bruno Richard Hauptmann, New York City carpenter arrested as a suspect in the Lindbergh kidnaping, is shown, top. Her daughter, pretty Mildred Gloeckner, a niece of Hauptmann, is pictured below.

regulations. Their significance lies in the fact that by their manipulation it is possible to direct, stimulate, restrain and balance those forces which have to do with proportioning the national income. All governments which have advanced beyond the pioneer stage find it necessary to promulgate such rules, in lieu of free competition. And in promulgating them, a democracy worthy of the name must be guided by social justice and social charity—in other words, the greatest good for the greatest number.

"Reliance upon such rules is not the way of Socialism, of Communism, nor of Fascism. But neither is it the way of the freebooster capitalists with their devotion to unlimited competition."

"Competition was limited by several types of rules—public and private—long before the World War, but to an increasing degree since the World War. The vital question is: In whose behalf is the competition being limited? Is the limitation making the rich richer and the poor poorer? If so, there is danger that the day may come when the extreme left will join hands with the extreme right to bring about that most dangerous of all forms of government—a corrupt oligarchy, maintaining itself in power by pandering to the vices and prejudices of a bitter, materialistic, perennially unemployed multitude."

"It is necessary in a modern democracy to furnish the red and green lights to guide the traffic but not to supply drivers for every car on the road. Reactionaries who hark back to the lush days of freebooster capitalism are really anarchists who think the traffic lights should be removed so motorists and pedestrians might illustrate the doctrine of the survival of the fittest."

Discussing radicalism, the secretary has this to say:

"During the past ten or fifteen years the Red devil has been the outstanding favorite among business men. The Red devil came from Russia and carries the brand of Marx and Lenin. If anyone in government service says anything which business men do not like they hold up the Red devil to scare the people."

"Some business men and certain congressmen really believe in the Red devil but most of them use him because they think this is an easy way to scare the people so that they will not give real thought to social and economic problems."

It is said the carpenters building temporary seats for the series in Navin Park at Detroit are considerably annoyed by Hank Greenberg, who persists in bouncing runs off their shoulders.

"Could you help a poor old man?"



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