

# The Plattsmouth Journal

Nebr. State Historical Society

VOL. NO. 40

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

MONDAY, NOV. 19, 1945

NO. 92

## Thanksgiving Is Time to Buy Victory Bonds

Residents of Cass county were urged by Harold Elliott chairman for the Victory Loan drive, to make this year's Thanksgiving observance a tangible expression of their gratitude through the purchase of additional Victory Bonds.

Extra bonds purchased now will help the county meet its goal and would be an appropriate way to observe this Thanksgiving Day, the first one celebrated in peace since 1929.

Sales throughout Nebraska through the third week of the drive, which is scheduled to end December 8, put Nebraska past the one-quarter mark of its 40 million dollar individual sales goal and its 25 million dollar E bond quota.

Leading the Victory bond parade toward goals was Kimball County with Buffalo next contender for ton state honors as the first to officially subscribe its full quota in Federal Reserve Bank tabulations.

Nebraska residents are going to see an exhibit of unusual interest Mr. Clark said, when a Victory Loan Special Train visits three Nebraska cities, North Platte on December 8, Grand Island, December 9 and Omaha, December 10. One of the trains has already shown in Lincoln, November 17.

On the later train will be the four-inch naval gun from the USS WARD which had the distinction of firing the first shot at Pearl Harbor. It will also feature such famed sea-going weapons as radar, naval guns, carrier aircraft, the amphibious tank, and helicopters. Facsimiles of the original Japanese surrender papers signed aboard the USS MISSOURI and a reproduction of the plaque placed on the surrender deck of the ship, will be other features of the exhibit.

## Guest Speaker at Methodist Church

Miss Letah Doyle was guest speaker at a special meeting Sunday afternoon at the Methodist church when a large number of people were in attendance from Weeping Water, Nehawka, Papillion as well as other churches in Plattsmouth.

Miss Doyle was sent by the church as a missionary to Meerut, India, where she has spent twenty years in service, excepting four years when she has been home on furlough. She described her work in this Indian community from the very primitive beginnings to the present well organized programs used by the natives who became Christians and completed their studies in Methodist mission schools, hospitals and teacher training schools.

Mention was also made of the great interest of the natives of India in our music, the growth of housing facilities for the many children without homes, industrial work for boys and new housing programs.

Mrs. Allen Johnson, Fremont, district secretary of missionary education of the W. S. C. S. under whose department this itinerary is made, and Mrs. Elmer Conklin, Nebraska City, district president of the W. S. C. S., accompanied Miss Doyle from Nebraska City where she held two meetings Sunday.

Mrs. Edgar Glaze presided at the meeting. Mrs. Howard Davis played an organ prelude and accompanied Miss Phyllis Bourek who sang, "O Zion Haste."

### HUNTING TIME

Wednesday—6:57 a. m. to 5:01 p. m.  
Tuesday—6:56 a. m. to 5:02 p. m.

### Call Me Mister!

Eleven men reported discharges from the armed forces Friday to the Cass county selective service office.

From the army: John Oberle, Howard Mulanax, Donald Pittman, Louis Kief, and Carl Chrissner, all of Plattsmouth; Clyde Althouse, Eagle; Clarence Mayabb, Omaha; John Abbott, Greenwood; Donald Thornton, Tilmock, Oregon; and Basil Little, Ennegran, Mo.

From the navy: Kenneth A. Jones, Omaha.

## Larger Parcels May Be Sent Overseas

Postmaster Edward Egenberger announced Monday that larger parcels for men overseas may now be sent through the mail.

Effective at once, Egenberger said parcels not exceeding 11 pounds, in weight or 42 inches in length or 72 inches in length and girth combined, containing articles requested by the addressee, will be accepted for mailing to army personnel overseas.

On Thanksgiving Day the post office lobby will be open from 7 a. m. to 6 p. m. but there will be no window service, no city delivery and no rural delivery.

Mail will be dispatched and received as usual.

## New Law Firm Will be Formed Here December 1

A new law partnership will be formed December 1 in Plattsmouth under the firm name of Smith and Lebens. Attorney Harold R. Lebens, 33, of Omaha, will become associated with Walter H. Smith, Cass county attorney.

### Location

Their law offices will be located on the ground floor of the Donat Building across from the present room space will be started immediately to furnish two private offices, large library room and a secretarial and waiting room.

Lebens graduated from Wayne College in 1934, receiving his A. B. degree. In 1938 he received his LL.B. degree from the Creighton law school with high scholastic honors and was awarded membership in the Alpha Sigma Nu, national honorary scholastic fraternity.

### Graduation

Upon graduating in 1938 he became associated with the law firm of Webb, Beebe and Kelley of Omaha and has been actively engaged in the practice of law with the firm. Lebens is married and has three children and will move his family to Plattsmouth, to the home he recently purchased on North 6th street from Theodore Prak.

Walter H. Smith will continue to serve as county attorney from his new offices and the present office space occupied by him will be vacated to make room for other office demands in the courthouse.

## Nebraska Traffic Toll Going Up at Alarming Rate

Nebraska's traffic toll is going up at an alarming rate since the removal of wartime restrictions and in behalf of the Nebraska Safety Patrol, Captain C. J. Sanders is warning motorists to take every precaution against the hazards of winter driving.

By early November this year the number of Nebraska traffic fatalities was 29 per cent greater than for the same period of 1944; the number of injuries was up 30 per cent and the number of accidents showed a 31 per cent increase.

### Cause of Trouble

The patrol believes these factors are contributing to the accident increase:

First, free from wartime restrictions people are now yielding to the desire for "jumping in the car and going somewhere." They long to enjoy pre-war freedom but forget their cars and tires are not up to high speeds.

Second, safe driving habits such as judging of distance, and speeds are rusty from disuse.

Third, the return to standard time makes more night time driving and night accidents account for two-thirds of the traffic deaths during the winter months.

Fourth, most cars on the roads are at least five years old.

### Death Rate

Pointing out that the traffic death rate in snowbelt states increases from 24 percent to 53 percent during the winter season the Patrol offers these safe driving suggestions:

Adjust speed to weather conditions. Slow down before you reach a curve or intersection. Don't get too close to the car (Turn to Page 4, Number 2)

## Council Action Brings Hope for Decision on Auditorium

The action of the city council authorizing the appointment of a recreational planning committee is the first official step toward bringing the matter of an auditorium before the public for consideration. The move, in our opinion was a wise one and one for which the council is to be congratulated.

Here are a few reasons why we think an auditorium would be good for Plattsmouth.

Everyone of us who lives in Plattsmouth has a job of selling to do, not only as individuals, but as a group. It is our job to sell the town.

All of us know that the town depends upon the trade of the farmers in our area. If we are to keep and increase that business in the face of competition from other centers we must offer every possible inducement. We must sell the town.

An auditorium would help us do this job of selling. It would help for this reason: The population of Plattsmouth need not be confined to the city limits. Thousands of Cass county farmers regard Plattsmouth as their home town. The more interesting the town makes itself, the more people are going to do business here.

Our stores, our schools, our churches, our doctors, our library, our newspaper, our bank—all of these bring people into town. To this list we should be able to add—our auditorium. For here we could have farm meetings, athletic contests, public speakers, exhibitions, civic meetings, dances and a score of entertainment and educational programs.

Certainly, it is true that all of these things can be found in larger communities nearby. It is only too true. Why should we send trade, that would normally come to us, to some other place? An auditorium would bring people to town. It would help create a greater "good will". And when good will increases, so trade increases.

### War Memorial Building

And while the auditorium question is being discussed, why not consider the possibility of making it a memorial to the men who fought and gave their lives in World War II?

Instead of calling it the city auditorium, why not make it a War Memorial Building?

Such a building would be a lasting and useful tribute to the men who died to preserve our way of life.

Much has been written in late years about making memorials that serve some useful purpose. Certainly an auditorium—or War Memorial Building—would qualify.

### Let Your Voice Be Heard

When the new recreational planning committee is appointed make it a point to let the members know if you want an auditorium here.

The main decision of whether the auditorium shall be built rests with the general public. The committee is responsible only for the details.

The desire of Plattsmouth as a whole will decide the big question. Make certain your voice is heard.

## Lady Threatens to Go Nudist if OPA Doesn't Leave New Styles Alone

By Frederick C. Othman  
WASHINGTON, Nov. 19 (UP)—News is like gold; it's where you find it. And here, with no more ado, is an interview with my bride about her war with the federal government. Put your money on her. The government hasn't a chance.

She says the Messrs. Snyder, Bowles, et al have been so busy poking their big noses into the female clothing situation that she's thinking of going nudist. If her hair were longer and she had a white horse I hate to think what she'd do, if the weather warmed up.

**Lady Godiva**  
Get that, Snyder? Bowles, you paying attention? You want a Lady Godiva clomp-clomp down Pennsylvania Avenue? Goose-pimp! She blames you, Snyder, for putting out a government edict—in reverse, revolutionizing feminine styles about week after next. You, Bowles, she holds answerable for the fact that her underwear is mostly holes.

Two big, grown men, she says (tapping her foot), monkeying around with lingerie and the length of a lady's skirt. Tch-tch, Gentlemen, she says.

### Winter Outfit

The trouble is she went shopping for her winter outfit. She could have bought a \$19 dress for \$69.50, she continues, but it had short sleeves and a tight skirt in accordance with war-time austerity styles. She didn't buy it, Snyder, because of your announcement that the regulations will be abolished after the spring selling season.

She says that you are a misguided male who thinks the spring selling season is in the spring. She says ladies' fashions are like Christmas in July. Winter dresses sold out last summer, spring frocks are here now, and before the first heavy snow, next summer's dresses go on sale.

They're the ones that'll be different. It'll surprise her if they don't have nine yards of cloth in the skirts, sleeves like balloons and maybe bustles. Why should she spend \$69.50 for a dress that will be last year's rag before she wears it twice? That's you she's talking to, reconversion director Snyder.

**Student Bond Sales Pass \$10,000 Mark**  
Bond-selling high school students were going strong Monday with total sales now amounting to \$10,186.50.

The Junior class is leading in the school contest with \$4,012.50 worth of bonds to their credit. Other figures for the classes are as follows: seniors \$3,868.25; sophomores, \$1,218.75 and freshmen, \$1,087.

## Christmas Seals On Sale November 19

Cass county residents received sheets of Christmas seals in the mail Monday morning which they may purchase if they so desire.

L. H. Behrends, county superintendent, said there are many families who are not on the school census list who will not receive seals unless they ask for them.

"These people," Behrends said, "may either call my office or send a card requesting stamps and we'll be happy to furnish them. We have no mailing address for anyone who was not included in the census."

Half of the funds received from the sale of Christmas Seals goes to the state and national tuberculosis associations. The other fifty percent is used within the county. Buying seals helps in the fight against tuberculosis.

## Congregational Church Observes 58th Anniversary

The Weeping Water Congregational church Sunday celebrated the eighty-fifth anniversary of its founding in 1860. It was the third Congregational church in the state under the supervision of mission churches to survive and was organized when Nebraska was still a territory.

Services were first held in a small frame church and in 1871 a stone church was erected. This second structure is considered one of the finest pieces of early architecture in the state and now houses the Weeping Water library. The present church was built in 1887.

The Christian Endeavor Society, an organization for the youth of the church, was formed in this church in its early history and is one of the oldest such organizations in the state.

Sunday's celebration started with the morning worship service with Rev. John C. Pryor, the present pastor, presiding. Bryant Drake, president of the Doane College, spoke. A covered dish dinner was served by the women of the church in the church parlors to a large crowd of people drawn from over the state and especially from Cass county for the occasion.

Mrs. E. H. Wescott, who sang in the choir of this church when she was a girl in school, was soloist on the afternoon program with E. H. Wescott serving as her accompanist. During the afternoon, there was no special speaker, but members of the large group present were encouraged to reminisce and offer as much information about the history and people of the church as possible. The young people's choir sang several numbers.

Visitors from Plattsmouth included Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Wescott, Mr. and Mrs. George Farley and Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Behrends.

## Sneak Attack Was Not Part of Plan

WASHINGTON, (UP)—The sneak attack on Pearl Harbor was not in Japan's general pre-war plans and would have been called off if the United States made certain concessions, it was disclosed Monday this information was contained in records submitted to the congressional Pearl Harbor investigating committee by Rear Admiral T. B. Inglis, chief of U. S. naval intelligence. It was based on statements by Jap naval officers in response to questionnaires prepared by the investigation section of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's occupation forces in Tokyo.

The documents did not specify what concessions Japan demanded, but they threw further light on the story Inglis told the committee Saturday. In addition to the summary that the Admiral presented, the questionnaires showed:

1. The Pearl Harbor attack was conceived in January of 1941, but was not a part of Japan's General pre-war plans. The decision to use it was made Nov. 3, 1941 by Admiral Qasami Nagano, chief of the Japanese naval general staff.

2. It would have been discarded if the United States made concessions.

3. If the U. S. Pacific fleet had been at sea the Japanese task force would have scouted an area of 300 miles around Oahu, prepared to attack anyhow, before withdrawing.

**Fined \$10**  
John Hadraba was fined \$10 and costs Saturday by County Judge Paul E. Fauquet after pleading guilty to a charge of operating a motor vehicle on the left side of the roadway when approaching the crest of a grade.

## U. S. Is Becoming Second Class Military Power, Leaders Fear

WASHINGTON, (UP)—The United States may have packed the world's greatest war time punch but today it is sliding down the skids toward status as a second class military power.

American military leaders are alarmed. They are protesting in public and in private. They do not seem to be making much impression on the public.

"In the words of one uneasy officer: 'We explained the situation to the people and the people do not seem to give a damn.'"

**Evidence**  
In support of the statement that the U. S. is skidding toward a second class power status, here is evidence from some of our top generals and admirals:

General of the army, George C. Marshall; Nov. 5, in New York City: "It is certain that the military establishment cannot hope to insure the safety of the U. S. very much longer at the present rate of demobilization unless some permanent peacetime program is established at an early date."

**Emotional Crisis**  
"In a widespread emotional crisis of the American people, demobilization has become in effect disintegration not only of the armed forces but apparently of all concentration of world responsibility and what the demands are. Definite measures must be taken immediately to determine at least the basic principles of our post-war military policy. I have never felt so certain of anything in my life."

Representative J. Leroy Johnson, R., California, of the House Military Affairs committee, on Nov. 16, asked Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King, this question: "Disorganized

"Is the navy so badly disorganized (by demobilization) that it could not now fight a major battle?"

King replied: "I'm afraid I'd have to answer 'yes' to that question."

On Nov. 15, Gen. Carl A. Spaatz army air forces, appeared before the Senate Military Affairs committee. Here is some of his testimony:

"At a moment of transition to a new period of history which will (Turn to Page 4, Number 4)

## Car Prices at 1942 Level

WASHINGTON, (UP)—The hungry public was told Monday that new 1946 model automobiles will sell for about the same average retail prices that prevailed in January of 1942.

The OAP, after a series of delays, finally announced its "anti-inflation" reconversion pricing formula but included specific dollar and cents ceilings for only two companies, Ford and Studebaker. On other makes, however it gave the public definite information on what to expect.

**Fords Higher**  
In general, Fords will sell at retail at two per cent higher than in 1942; Studebaker, nine per cent higher; General Motors products (Chevrolet, Pontiac, Oldsmobile, Buick and Cadillac), 25 per cent lower; and Chrysler products (Plymouth, Dodge, De Soto and Chrysler) about one per cent higher.

Information still is being prepared on Packard, Nash and Hudson prices.

The OPA did not explain specifically why average General Motors prices would be lowered while others were increased. It said only that the move was indicated by information submitted by GM itself.

**Average Price**  
Price Chief Chester Bowles said that average factory prices, apart from extra costs for specification changes, would be 3.5 per cent higher than in 1942. But to the buying public he gave this assurance:

"This increase in factory prices will not be passed through to the car buyer."

"Dealers normal prewar initial margins will be uniformly reduced by 2.5 per centage points, which will assure the 1942 retail prices on the average for all cars. Because of the elimination or reduction in the losses which they formerly were forced to take on used cars, dealers are, however, assured margins considerably above those actually realized before the war."

**Door Still Open**  
Bowles did not close the door entirely on General Motors price increases. He ruled that in the case of GM and other companies whose specific prices have not been fixed, slight increases will be allowed to cover the cost of improvements in structure and design.

Ford models—three passenger coupe, \$834 (\$815); Tudor Sedan, \$882 (\$850); Fordor Sedan, \$931 (\$885); Super De Luxe Model—three passenger coupe, \$891 (\$860); Tudor Sedan \$940 (Turn to Page 6, Number 3)

## Seek Clues To Identity of Two Men Killed In Crash

Civilian and military authorities Monday sought clues to the identity of two servicemen and a civilian whose charred bodies were recovered yesterday from the twisted wreckage of a Pacific Greyhound bus.

Three other victims, a soldier and two sailors, were identified last night by scorched bits of paper in their wallets. The names were withheld, however, pending notification of next of kin.

In addition to the six dead, sheriff's officers said 13 other persons were injured seriously enough to require hospitalization. The remainder of the 27 bus passengers were released after receiving first aid.

The victims—charred beyond recognition—were pinned in the blackened wreckage and burned to death when the diesel-motored vehicle careened off the highway and completely overturned, witnesses said.

## Jap Boasts of Manila Murders

MANILA, Nov. 17 (UP)—A Japanese colonel boasted in court Monday that he ordered his troops to "kill Americans cruelly" and to slaughter Filipino women and children if necessary.

Col. Masatoshi Fujishige, a prisoner of war who commanded 6,000 Japanese soldiers in the Batangas area south of Manila, was brought into court as one of the prosecution witnesses in the atrocity trial of Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita.

**Brags Of Atrocity**  
Squinting sullenly at his American interrogators, the shabby little colonel bragged that he had ordered his men to fight without mercy in the final days of the Luzon campaign.

"I issued an order to kill the Americans cruelly and not with one stroke," he said. "Also to shoot guerrillas, including women and children."

"I was told by a higher-up that my mopping up of guerrillas was behind schedule and I'd better speed up."

Fujishige testified, however, that he never reported to Yamashita that Filipino civilians were killed in his command area "because it was not true."

"I told my men that each of them must kill 100 American and (Turn to Page 4, Number 5)

## WEATHER

Nebraska Forecast: — Partly cloudy to cloudy Monday through Tuesday; warmer Monday; warmer except cooler extreme northwest Monday night; low Monday night 35-40 west; 40-45 east; colder north and west portions Tuesday; increasing winds Monday night and Tuesday; increasing winds Monday night and Tuesday.

**They Won The War-- Let's Bring Them Home**