

The Plattsmouth Journal

ESTABLISHED 1881

Published semi-weekly, Mondays and Thursdays, at 409-413 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska, by The Journal Publishing Company.

LESTER A. WALKER.....Publisher
B. J. ALCOTT.....General Manager
ROBERT B. STAUFFER.....Managing Editor

Entered at the Postoffice at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, as second class mail matter in accordance with the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE—\$3 per year, cash in advance, by mail outside the Plattsmouth trade area.

DAILY JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Delivered by carrier in the City of Plattsmouth, 25 cents per week, or \$7.00 per year cash in advance; by mail in the Plattsmouth trade area: \$3 per year, \$1.75 for six months, \$1.00 for three months, cash in advance. By mail outside the Plattsmouth trade area: \$5.00 per year, \$3.00 for six months, 60 cents per month, cash in advance.

Public Responsibility

Some interesting observations came out of a conference between General McNarney and a delegation of enlisted men which followed the "we want to go home" demonstration in Frankfurt-on-the-Main.

One sergeant reported that replacements were stepping off the gangplank at Le Havre and inquiring, "How soon can we go home?"

Another sergeant said the men he represented knew that we had made commitments abroad that had to be met, but that they felt it was time somebody else took over. He also expressed the opinion that an educational job was necessary back home, and that congress should put some pressure on the local draft boards which aren't meeting their quotas.

General McNarney told the men that their families back in the states were the ones to bear down on congress and the draft boards, and that if congress got the impression that what the people want is "to get the boys home and to hell with foreign commitments," then congress would oblige them and the job in Europe would be left unfinished.

It does not seem to us that the army can hold itself entirely blameless in this situation. If replacements are clamoring to go home as soon as they reach Europe, there is something badly wrong with the present army indoctrination program. And if the army can not bear down on congress, then there has been a recent departure from old practices.

But it is certainly true that the public has the greatest influence with congress. And it is becoming more and more apparent that the public must accept a good share of the blame for promoting and increasing the bad military morale and governmental embarrassment which these soldier demonstrations have caused.

A large section of the public seems to be thinking along these lines: "Sure, there is a big job to do in Germany and Japan, and it must be done—as long as it doesn't interfere with our Joe's coming back from overseas, or take our young Johnny away from home." The draft act expires May 15, and congress is almost certain not to renew it. The prospects of the Army's achieving its goal of 1,550,000 by July 1 are extremely dim. Universal military training, as presently conceived, would not help the situation. There seems little to look forward to except a drastically curtailed American role in policing the former enemy.

Meanwhile, we are looking increasingly weak to our enemies and increasingly foolish, or worse, to our friends. The least the public can do is encourage, rather than block, the army's efforts to secure replacements in order that we may have a military force adequate to our defense and our destiny in world affairs.

Q—Do birds have family quarrels?
A—Pigeons and doves do, if bred in cages which are too small. Less than 24 cubic feet of cage space produces squabbling.

Q—How long have cafeterias been in existence?
A—Since 1885. The first was the New York City Exchange Buffet—for men only, and they ate standing up.

Q—How far do flying fish glide in the air?
A—Usually a bit farther than 100 feet, but 300-foot glides have been recorded.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By **DREW PEARSON**

WASHINGTON—The Pearl Harbor investigating committee has now spent nearly three months digging into military-naval-political reasons why we were caught asleep on Dec. 7, 1941. While this is important, all the facts show that Japan would have attacked anyway; if not at Pearl Harbor, at some other place, and if not on Dec. 7, at some other time.

Meanwhile, we have seized various documents from the Japs, showing that this war was carefully built up over a period of years and that certain American munitions makers were either unsuspecting or deliberate Jap co-partners.

If we are to prevent war in the future—and that presumably is one motive of the Pearl Harbor committee—the manner in which American business aided the Japs to prepare for Pearl Harbor is important. We must build up machinery so this doesn't happen again.

When the Japs dive-bombed on unsuspecting battleships on the morning of Dec. 7, word went around that they had evolved a new and powerful fighter plane—the Zero. All during the early months of the war, the Jap Zero was a match, sometimes more than a match for U. S. fighters.

Zero Mystery Clarified

The mystery of how the Japs developed their famous Zero is now in government files, seized from the Japanese, and proves to be no great mystery. The Japs bought the original Zero from an American company, Chance Vought, a division of United Aircraft. They modified it a lot, and the Chance Vought people now piously claim it is not their plane; but aviation experts say that unquestionably it gave the Japs a big lift toward developing their Zero.

At the date of purchase, there was no embargo, moral or otherwise, against selling planes to Japan, and Chance Vought violated no law, though Secretary Hull invoked his moral embargo shortly thereafter. However, it is important to remember that Japan was then at war with China, that Baron Tanaka and other Jap leaders were bragging about plans to conquer all Asia, and that Henry L. Stimson, as early as 1931, had tried to rally the League of Nations to prevent Japan's conquest of Manchuria.

The official policy of this government was to refuse recognition of Japanese conquest in China. We had also signed the Kellogg pact outlawing war. Finally, we had signed the Nine-Power pact guaranteeing China from outside invasion. Nevertheless, our munitions makers not only sold important war goods to a nation which violated all of the above—but they did so with the okay of our army and navy.

Thus the U. S. army and navy not only put themselves in opposition to the foreign policy of the United States but they built up more death and destruction for themselves—and the rest of the nation—when the Japs finally struck at Pearl Harbor.

If the Pearl Harbor committee is sincere about getting at those responsible for this war, and preventing war in the future, this is something they might well investigate.

All the Jap files, now seized, show that the Japs were interested not in commercial, but military planes. The files also show that American munitions makers were eager to get this business, actually sent experts to help the Japs manufacture our planes, and carried favor with the Japs in every possible way. For instance, in the Jap report quoted below, the manager of United Aircraft talks about a price reduction to the Japs if they finally decided to buy what later became the Zero.

Japs Secret Report

The report, translated from the Japanese text was written by Jap agents in New York to Tokyo and is captioned: "Re-Negotiations Chance Vought V-143 pursuit aircraft by navy Captain Wata." Dated May 8, 1938, the report says:

"1. The recent development of the European airplane is remarkable but American make is best.

"2. The main reason for the Japanese navy spending 2 to 3 million dollars in America yearly is to promote the continuous technical cooperation between American manufacturers and Japanese companies.

"3. About Wright Aeronautical Corp. which has continually extended good will toward Japan. He thinks Japan can make about 100 cyclone engines yearly at least and she can pay its royalty to the company.

"4. If any American private company gets release from a new machine, he wants us to recommend it to the Japanese navy promptly."

In the meantime, attracting Captain Wata's interest in Chance Vought V-143 single seat fighter. The reasons are as follows:

"A. When, in Europe, the captain met the arms broker, Mr. Gasda, who highly recommended this machine to him—it is the most superior single-seat fighter in the world especially if both wings are furnished with aerlikan wing cannon. There is plenty of space for its equipment.

"B. In his judgment, even this machine can't win in the army's competition, but it is not inferior to the winner.

"C. It is necessary for the (Japanese) navy to import fighter planes sooner or later despite the fact that we bought all kinds of big and small bombers and amphibian flying boats for research from them, but the fighter was neglected."

"5. Following up Captain Wata's request, we asked Chance Vought Co., for a demonstration of V-143 machine when Captain Wata's party came out to Hartford on April 26th that company had Mr. Allen, a first-class American pilot, demonstrate the machine for us, and our party contacted the company's president, Mr. Wilson (Eugene E. Wilson, an Annapolis graduate and ex-commander U. S. Navy) and the engineering director, Mr. McCarthy. We heard their explanation as follows:

"This plane should be furnished with aerlikan wing cannon. It will be a simple matter for Aerlikan Co., to mount the cannon because they are very skillful and the intensity of the wings will not change because of this work. It Japan wants to import aerlikan, Chance Vought Co. will supply it." . . . (Copyright, 1946, by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

Scram, You Birds, While the Scramming's Good!



Greenwood

MRS. JUNE KYLES, Correspondent

Lt. Cederick G. Laughlin and father, John Laughlin, of Ashland, visited Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Niles Coleman.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Witt, little Mary Katherine and Stevie were Saturday supper guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Witt.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wright of University Place and Mr. and Mrs. John Meyers attended the funeral of Larry Raasch at Ashland Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Heinie Brehm left Wednesday for a ten-day visit in Denver, Colo. and Sidney, Nebraska.

While helping to put out the fire at his home, William Meyers fell from the roof, bruising himself badly.

The M.W.M. pinochle club met Thursday at the home of Mrs. Dorothy Stutheit. Mrs. Inez Manbeck won high. Mrs. Lila Wall traveling and Mrs. Edna Meyers low. A lunch was served by the hostess.

Mr. Jacob Witt went back to the University hospital in Omaha Thursday for a checkup. His shoulder and arm is improving nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Raasch of Pine Bluffs, Wyo., spent several days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Meyers.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Marvin were in Lincoln last Saturday, to attend the wedding of Miss Lois Blair and Mr. Gilbert Golding.

Jasper Hosfelt, who has just returned from overseas duty, is visiting at the home of Mrs. Sailey Iden.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Rosecrans of South Bend were Sunday afternoon visitors at the Bernard Grady home.

Ariene DeFrates of Lincoln spent the week-end with Norma Jean Cameron.

The choir of the Methodist church met with Ruth Leadabrand Thursday evening.

Mrs. Louise Erskine of Lincoln

spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Landergreen and family.

Mrs. L. C. Marvin was hostess to the L.C.C. at a 1 o'clock dessert luncheon on Thursday. Mrs. A. Hansen, Mrs. Leonard Jardin, Mrs. Walter Holt and Mrs. G. R. Winklepole were guests.

Mrs. Norma McNurin and Bob Coulter were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ora McDonald Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Sands were in Lincoln Thursday evening.

The Dorcas Society met at the church Friday with Mrs. Lulu Lincoln and Mrs. Myrtle Voleman hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Odle, of Lincoln, were Sunday dinner guests at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Audry Dixon and family.

The Jolly Jokers met at a 1 o'clock luncheon at the home of Mrs. Mae Gribble, honoring Mrs. Minnie Marolf and Mrs. Mae Gribble birthdays. The afternoon was spent playing pinochle. Mrs. Vivian Cope and Mrs. Margaret Howard were guests.

Mrs. J. R. Marolf, from Cheyenne Wells, Colo., and Mrs. Will Hoppe, of Fremont, have been visiting at the Harry Marolf home the last three weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Millard Anderson, of California, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Harold Olson and family. Mrs. Frank Welton spent Monday in Lincoln at the home of her daughter, Mrs. William Bond and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Rouse and Mrs. Carl Anderson attended the funeral of their cousin, Mrs. Fern Montgomery, of Omaha, Friday afternoon.

The Jolly Jokers met Friday afternoon with Dorothy Cameron. Mrs. Vivian Cope and Mrs. Elsie Marvin were guests.

Mr. R. A. Casey, who has been working in Omaha, came home Thursday evening to spend a three weeks vacation with his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Millard Anderson of California, and Mrs. Harold Olson and Sharon were guests at the Ray Rouse home Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Niles Coleman and Lawrence spent Wednesday afternoon in Lincoln.

16-Year-Old Builds Own Radio Studio

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., (AP)—Sunday is a special day for 16-year-old Philip B. Clark of Schenectady.

He sits in his home-made basement radio studio waiting for a "cue" from the minister of Faith Lutheran church. When the light flashes, young Clark spins a turntable and organ music fills the church from a wooden loudspeaker behind the pulpit. It is the church's only source of music.

When the area's youngest licensed radio engineer was unable to make up his mind whether to make music or engineering his hobby, he decided to combine the two.

Clark built the cellar radio studio and control room. It is about the size of an average clothes press, contains a wooden control panel, a turntable with two speeds, and a large wooden shelf for records.

In addition to supplying the church with music, Clark also furnishes "canned music" for the family through loudspeaker and radio connections throughout the house.

At times he even entertains with "live music" from an organ. Clark built the organ about two years ago. Materials used included toothpicks, a vacuum cleaner and a keyboard from an ancient organ.

The youthful engineer plays by ear and apparently inherits his talent for music from his mother, who was once a singer. His knack for pattering with electrical apparatus probably comes from his father, a General Electric Co. engineer.

Famous Hotel to Expand
MOBILE Ala.—(AP)—Postwar plans for the Battle House, one of the South's oldest and most famous hotels, include the addition of 40 rooms, President W. Culver White of Jackson, Tenn., says.

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



EDSON'S WASHINGTON COLUMN

BY PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—If General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower and Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz had any doubts about the war being over they should know it now. And another thing they ought to know now is that these soft peacetime chief of staff jobs they hold are really a lot rougher than being under fire 3000 miles away in muddy Italy and rainy France or 8000 miles away on gummy Guam.

The two heroes appeared before an informal joint session of Congress recently to explain their demobilization programs. But oh, what a whole of a difference between that and the last time they appeared before joint sessions of Congress. The congressmen still love Eisenhower and Nimitz in January, but not as much as they did in June and October.

It was last June that Eisenhower came back to Washington. A million people turned out to line the streets on which he passed.

Nimitz didn't get back for his hero's welcome till October. But what a turnout it was. All the midshipmen from Annapolis came down and paraded. A thousand planes flew overhead in formation spelling out "N-I-M-I-T-Z."

Both of the five-star heroes got medals from President Truman and banquets. Both appeared before Congress for ovations.

EISENHOWER, resplendent in a big grin and five rows of ribbons, said it was the greatest experience of his life.

Nimitz, when his turn came, expressed the hope that the American people, then possessed of the "mightiest sea power in the world," would not "pat it on the back and let it die." That was October.

What prophecy and what irony in those words. Now, less than a year later, the two heroes are called before a joint session of Congress to explain themselves.

So here was Nimitz having to explain that the Navy's job wasn't done till the bases were rolled up. And here was Eisenhower, explaining with big charts how the Army was way ahead of schedule on demobilization and in danger of stopping itself to so few men it could not finish the jobs in Germany and Japan.

Eisenhower called it hysteria and that's what it is. But he said the time has come to replace hysteria with calm judgment. That was telling 'em. He said the time had come for sound discipline.

SAY what you like, the Army brass has behaved with amazing understanding all through these demonstrations. To say that it hasn't worked at morale or hasn't any plan is stupid.

The big brass has shown that it has learned at least one good lesson in democracy—that the people have a right to speak even when they're in the uniforms of enlisted personnel. But now that the steam has been blown off, the time has come to face realities. The jobs have to be finished.

Army Chaplains in Mix-up over Name

BUTLER, Pa., (AP)—After getting one another's mail for years, the two Pennsylvania Chaplains Thomas Madden have finally met.

Chaplain Thomas Madden of Philadelphia, a major, met Chaplain Thomas Madden of Pittsburgh, a captain, at Deshon General Hospital here. Capt. Madden is recovering from wounds received in Italy, while Maj. Madden recently has been assigned to Deshon as post chaplain.

Their mail isn't the only thing that has gotten crossed up. When the Pittsburgh Madden, who was formerly from Butler, was wounded in Italy, the Philadelphia newspaper mistook him for that city's

Chaplain Madden and carried the story.

Capt. Madden is still receiving congratulations on his "promotion" to major, and each of the Catholic chaplains has given up trying to get his correct laundry and cleaning.

Back in their seminary days, when one attended St. Vincent College, in Latrobe, Pa., and the other, St. Thomas, in Denver, Capt. Madden received an appointment to attend the American College in Rome, Italy, but through a mix-up the Philadelphia Madden almost went.

Now Capt. Madden is expecting a discharge because of his wounds, but the two Maddens are keeping their fingers crossed, waiting to see which will get the important papers mistook him for that city's paper!

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