

# Plattsmouth Daily Journal

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## Start Toward a New Era

The personal aircraft industry today is about where the automobile industry was 30 years ago, and for the same reason. Inexpensive, mass-produced cars had to wait upon the construction of improved highways throughout the country. The personal plane has been waiting for numerous, convenient airports to be built. And now with the signing of the billion dollar federal airport act, the era of private flying seems really to have dawned.

About 3,500 of the country's 16-750 incorporated urban areas already have landing fields. The new airport appropriation (which municipalities must match on a 50-50 basis) will add 3,000 more over a seven-year period, besides improving 1,300 existing fields.

This is only a start, of course. But it should encourage the resumption of activity by aircraft manufacturers which was drastically curtailed by the cutback in military orders. It should stimulate competition, and thus start the price of personal planes downward toward a point where they will be within reach of a mass market.

As the market grows, volume, production and continued competition should give rise to further research and a resulting advance in safety, simplicity, efficiency, and comfort.

But the market probably cannot grow to a point where all these things can be realized until the plane owner is no more limited in his choice of places to go than is the car owner today.

That brings up the problem of the 10,000 communities which will still be without federal aid for an airport after the civil aeronautics administration has chosen the site of 3,000 new fields on the basis of need and, probably, considerations of national security. What can the 10,000 do?

Well, many of them could do what the town of Eldon, Mo., has done. Eldon built an airport—a name coined to designate a small landing field sufficient to the need of small planes—which will be dedicated next month. It was financed by a \$25,000 municipal bond issue which costs the Eldon taxpayer about one extra mill on every tax dollar.

Such an investment would seem to be a sound one. An airport in a smaller community will attract business to the field just as an airport does in a big city. It will help provide jobs for the many air-minded and air-trained veterans who desire to remain in aviation. It will bring new money and new people to town.

And, in a small way, it should help to speed the day of safer, cheaper private flying for the many who are eagerly looking forward to a plane of their own.

Q—What is an aerolite?

A—An "air-stone," or meteorite.

Q—What animal, a close relative of the leopard, is a fish eater?

A—The jaguar. South American natives say the jaguar lures fish by tapping its tail on the water's surface, but this has never been proved.

Q—What is tzuica?

A—Romania's national drink—plum brandy. Romania is Europe's largest plum-growing nation.

Q—How old is President Truman?

A—62.

# The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DEWE PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Today a vote by the House of Representatives will determine whether the so-called nylon lobby has been able to do its job. This is the lobby of Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas utility bigwigs who have been trying to block distribution of government power in competition with private power from the Norfolk and Denison dams of the Texas-Oklahoma border and in Arkansas.

The name "nylon lobby" comes from the fact that Ham Moses, president of Arkansas Power and Light, arrived in Washington with a promise of nylons for the wives of Arkansas senators and congressmen. However, a lot of other interesting "public relations" expenses by this lobby have since been uncovered, including the fact that the Oklahoma Gas and Electric company paid club dues and entertainment bills for its executives at various Oklahoma golf clubs—all at the expense of the consumer.

However, the most effective lobbying done in Congress for many years is by those two spokesmen of the so-called cotton bloc, Senators John Bankhead of Alabama and Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma, who, while vigorously opposing curbs on cotton, have been trading, either personally or through their families, on the cotton market.

## Father Coughlin's Friend

Senator Thomas' cotton trading has been through Robert Harriss of Harriss and Vose, 60 Beaver street, New York, with the account carried in the name of the senator's wife, Edith. Bob Harriss is an old and intimate friend of the Senator's and of other senators in the cotton bloc. At one time, Harriss handled the cotton trading of Senator Bankhead of Alabama, and was also extremely close to the late Senator "Cotton Ed" Smith of South Carolina.

Harriss first became prominent on the Washington scene when he was purchasing agent for Father Coughlin's silver speculations. After becoming friendly with Harriss, the radio priest started a vigorous campaign for the remonetization of silver, and later it was disclosed that Coughlin's secretary, Amelia Collis, had purchased 500,000 ounces of silver and was the biggest holder of silver in the country.

Senator Thomas of Oklahoma also was a great silver-inflation enthusiast and did his best to tack a silver amendment on the work-relief bill in 1935. This was at about the same time Father Coughlin was speculating in silver and when Bob Harriss was close to both men. Senator Thomas also seems to have a bent for other kinds of speculation and during the early days of the war proposed that the war's cost be paid by a national lottery.

His recent cotton speculations, however, are especially interesting and appear to be closely related to his speeches on the senate floor.

Mr. Harriss, who handles the Thomas family's cotton-trading account, is in and out of the senator's office every week or so. They are very warm friends. The Thomas purchases never go more than 5,000 bales, which is the legal limit for cotton, and usually the Thomas trading is through pools which generally run up to 20,000 bales.

Investigation shows that the Harriss and Vose firm was trading in cotton—and very heavily—between the dates of March 4 and 7, between March 29 and April 4 and between April 8 and 12. Harriss and Vose trading at this time was largely for its customers and the firm was careful to break no market regulations.

If you compare the dates of the Harriss and Vose cotton-trading and the dates of speeches made by Senator Thomas, Senator Bankhead plus other members of the cotton bloc in Washington, the similarity is significant.

For instance on March 4, cotton futures were selling as follows: March 27-29 cents, July 27-29 cents, October 27-16 cents, March 4 is the date when the Harriss and Vose trading became active.

Then, on March 6, two days later, Senator Bankhead made a public statement charging Chester Bowles with trying to put a price ceiling on cotton and planning a 60 per cent margin on futures. Prices immediately dropped \$3.25 a bale and recovered to a close of about 25 points. On March 7, prices snapped back sharply by \$1.10 a bale.

The next heavy operations by Harriss and Vose were between March 29 and April 4. On March 28, cotton futures were selling for about 27.40 cents, at which time, according to the Wall Street Journal, "cotton futures rose \$1.35 to \$1.85 a bale on a late rush buying orders stimulated by the possibility that the Pace bill would be adopted by the Senate. The rally was touched off by the plea of Senator Thomas (D. Okla.) for higher farm prices in supporting tacking on of the Pace measure to the minimum wage bill. All futures made 22-year highs."

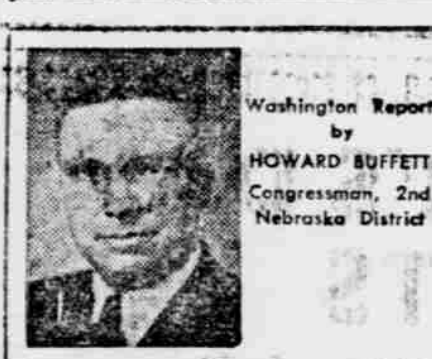
On March 29, the cotton market rose again \$2.45 a bale as a result of Senate statements by members of the cotton bloc. Again the Wall Street Journal commented: "Predictions by Senate sponsors of the Pace parity bill that the Senate would approve it as an amendment to the minimum wage measure developed broad buying in cotton futures."

Again on April 1, cotton soared again, as a result of cotton-speakers' operations in Washington. "New maneuvers by the cotton congressmen," remarked the Wall Street Journal, "to assure passage of the Pace parity-raising measure, provided the structure for a sharp rally in the cotton futures market."

On April 3, cotton was still soaring but on April 4, the Harriss and Vose operation got out of the market. Simultaneously the price of cotton dropped.

The next Harriss and Vose operation was between April 8 and 12. The date April 8 is significant, because, next day, congressman Stephen Pace pressed for early action on his bill in the House of Representatives. The cotton market soared. Then on April 12, Congressman Pace announced that he would not attach his amendment to other legislation but that it must stand on its own merit. This meant, of course, that it would not pass; so the cotton market dropped. Simultaneously the Harriss and Vose operators got out of the market.

## Latest Style Note From Paris



Washington Report by HOWARD BUFFETT, Congressman, 2nd Nebraska District

In Russia the government operates black market stores. For example, a ration book there might entitle you to purchase monthly a pound of butter for 50 cents. But if you have the funds you could buy extra butter in the government black market store at \$1.50 per pound, or some fancy price.

Apparently our government has adopted the Russian black market system with a new twist. The 30 cent premium the government now pays above its own legal prices for corn and wheat is an official black market. If Bowles and some others have their way, it will be even worse. They are reported to favor seizure of corn and wheat supplies—like the Russians did when they liquidated the Kulak farmers.

Price fixing in America is following the regular course of this narcotic. Always the first result of price control, like a dose of marijuana is pleasant exhilaration. Later black markets, thievery, and ruthless regimentation develop. Finally, producers discover how the decline in the value of money is cheating them. Then they either

slow down deliveries or stop producing.

Most of UNRRA's supplies are paid for by American taxpayers. The money is created by borrowing. That names UNRRA is one important cause of inflation. By the end of March, 200,000 tons of free UNRRA supplies had gone to two Russian provinces. Now Russia is sending food to France—to both feed them and promote communism.

How does that deal sound to you? Borrowed dollars finance UNRRA. By having a high priority, UNRRA grabs off short supplies here and sends them to various places, including Russia. Russia gets them free. With Russia getting supplies from us, they can send supplies to foster communism in France. This is made possible by your government, and at your expense.

The foregoing deal is inflation with both barrels. First, it creates purchasing power here by government deficit spending. Then the goods purchased with the borrowed dollars are sent abroad, so that the shortage problem here is made more difficult.

A constituent suggests administration bungling has created much of the food crisis in Europe. First, unconditional surrender and the Morgenthau plan prolonged the war many months. That prevented crop plantings. Then the administration refused the plea of church and private charities to aid

central Europe, claiming there was no food shortage. Then the farmers, who are the food producers were whipsawed on prices.



Ralph (Rip) Roelofs, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roelofs, was discharged from the Marines at San Diego, Calif., April 10. He was inducted into the service Jan. 22, 1943, and received his boot training at San Diego. He served 23 months overseas on Tinian Island, Saipan, Okinawa and Japan. He arrived in Lincoln May 1 and was met by his parents and two sisters, Mrs. Carl Winget and Minnie, both of Alvo.

Mrs. Harry Anderson, formerly of San Diego, Calif., is visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Reuter, while her brother, Elmer Reuter, and her husband returned to California. Mr. Anderson will drive his car back with him. Walter Reuter, who has been in boot training, will return home with them to spend a short furlough.

Alvo is the owner of a new 16 millimeter Bell Howe projector. The purchase was made possible through the efforts of the P.T.A. and the cooperation of school district 102.

Ivan Brunkow and son, James, returned to Kansas City Tuesday. Mrs. Brunkow has been at home caring for their daughter, Dixie Jane, who is a victim of polio.

## Special Purchase Sale of TIES

The MOST BEAUTIFUL SILK TIES we have been able to offer for your selection in a long time ARE HERE NOW.

These Ties are silk woven brocades—not printed but woven—and very hard to get. They were contracted for in January and have just arrived. You can see them on display in our east entrance window. Make your selection now for Father's day and avoid disappointment.

Price \$150 Gift Box Included

Wescott's since 1879

Yes! We give S. & H. Green Stamps

## EDSON'S WASHINGTON COLUMN

BY PETER EDSON  
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—The unemployed are beginning to figure in the news again. There is a lot of official and unofficial guessing as to how many there are, why they are, and whether the situation is going to get worse or better. But when it comes to pinning down facts, the figures are at variance, and about all that can be reported are a number of trends which indicate a terrific amount of milling around, a concentrated effort to get settled.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics collects figures on the number of workers employed in non-agricultural industries, dealing with wages and hours, quit rates, and labor turnover. Proprietors, the self-employed, and domestic servants, are excluded from these figures.

The Department of Agriculture collects from its crop reporters estimates on the number of farm workers and their wages.

Unemployment figures come from three sources. The Bureau of the Census runs a sample survey on the number of unemployed and the size of the labor force, month by month.

Using the Bureau of Census figures, March returns show 2,700,000 unemployed in a labor force of 55,660,000, both totals constituting new highs since V-J Day.

The other two sources of unemployment figures are the Social Security Board and the Veterans' Bureau. The Social Security Board collects figures from state unemployment insurance benefit payments. They show a March average of 1,573,000 unemployed collecting job insurance.

The Veterans' Bureau pays out unemployment insurance under the GI Bill of Rights to ex-soldiers and sailors unable to find work. At the end of March, 1,704,256 vets were on its rolls. When you add this total to the Social Security Board figure, you come up with a total of 3,277,000 collecting job insurance, and this is half a million greater than the census survey indicated.

As for the trends, the Army and the Navy are now close to the four million mark on combined strength, and they have about two million more to demobilize. Other federal government employment is still high, at 2,343,000.

STRIKERS are not counted as unemployed, though strikes since V-J Day have had as many as 1,500,000 idle at a time.

Quit rates and labor turnover are still high, being over six per cent for non-veterans and eight per cent for vets. Up to the beginning of the coal strike, the highest separation rate was reported in mining. The building and trade industries have shown the biggest increase in employment—500,000 each, and still rising.

Farm labor always picks up during the summer. The peak for 1945 was a little over 11 million, two million above the March level. The average monthly farm wage for the nation was put at \$83.80 with board, \$97.40 without, reflecting the shortage of farm labor.

Dixie Jane is reported to be out of danger now. Mr. Brunkow is an inspector on the pipe line and has been in Plattsmouth. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Brunkow have been caring for their grandson during their granddaughter's illness.

The volunteer firemen held their meeting in the fire house Monday evening. A large number were in attendance and was served at the Alvo cafe.

Weldon Kinney is employed at Plattsmouth on the pipe line.

Six couples gave a party Saturday evening in honor of Ralph Roelofs' homecoming. They later attended the piano. All spent an enjoyable evening.

Cops Like Paper, too

PLYMOUTH, Ind. (AP)—The following note appeared recently on the Plymouth police blotter: "Some culprit stole the newspaper out of the station between 6 and 7 p.m."

## REMEMBER TO MAKE THIS DAY REMEMBERED

Mother's Day

Fancy Stationery  
Colors or Plain  
New Designs  
Each, 98c

Brush and Comb Sets  
Pure Bristle or Nylon  
Assorted Sizes  
\$1.00 to \$25.00

Evening in Paris  
Perfume .....\$1.25  
Coty's Perfume .....\$2.25

Perfume Sets  
Rouge - Lipstick  
Perfume - Cologne  
Powder  
Popular Brands  
\$1.00 to \$10.00

Old South Body  
Powder .....\$1.00  
Cotton Blossom  
Sachet .....\$1.00

Pen and Pencils  
Skyline by Eversharp  
\$5.00 to \$14.95  
Other Popular Makes  
\$1.00 to \$5.00

Home Items  
Coffee Makers  
Vases  
Book Ends  
Electric Fans

Cotton Blossom  
Cologne .....\$1.25  
Honey Suckle  
Cologne .....\$1.15

Chocolates  
Large Assortment  
Fancy Boxes  
65c to \$5.00

Mother's Day Cards—Gift Wrappings and many other items that will help solve your problem.

Garnation  
Cologne .....\$1.00  
Pine Bath Oil .....49c

Spa Bath Foam .....\$1.00  
Cake Make Up .....\$1.00

# CASS DRUG

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