

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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## The Housing Outlook

Prospects for new housing still seem as much a matter of guesswork as ever, even after President Truman has relaxed or removed most of the controls. Perhaps the most optimistic guess would be that construction of new dwellings will pursue the course which food followed after price decontrol—more abundance and higher prices.

That, we repeat, is optimistic. The demand for housing, unlike the similar demand for meat, cannot be satisfied almost overnight. Substitutes for a place of one's own are decidedly less satisfactory than substitutes for steak. And there is no abundant supply of building materials comparable to the abundance of cattle on the range in the last days of OPA.

The outlook would be pleasanter if the formerly scarce foods had leveled off at a price which showed only a reasonable advance. Unfortunately, that hasn't happened yet. And there is no reason to believe that the slower process of house building will not keep prices inflated for a matter of years.

rather than weeks or months. It has been said, with an uncomfortably accurate sound of true prophecy, that the President was inviting a boom and bust in housing and real estate by his decision. Yet what was he to do? Certainly the controlled housing program wasn't doing the job.

The intention, of course, was to do everything for the veteran, and do it first. The program proceeded on the assumption that most veterans wanted to buy houses. Dwellings planned under the first price ceilings could scarcely have been livable, what with present material and labor costs. And the eventual ceiling of \$10,000 didn't provide any dream houses.

It is scarcely to be wondered that many house hunting veterans, perhaps a majority, decided that they couldn't or wouldn't saddle themselves with such an obligation for a house whose value was almost certain to depreciate sharply in a short time.

Now, new houses will be more expensive. They will be too expensive. But perhaps the cost of building or buying them will now be borne by persons better able to stand the cost than youngsters only recently back from war.

The new uncontrolled and decontrolled program may at least open up some rental properties for veterans. Many families of older householders expanded during the war and are now badly in need of larger quarters. If a considerable portion of those families are able to assume the obligations of new and more adequate dwellings, the unhelpful prognosis of our housing ills at least may not be hopeless.

## Where Do We Go From Here?



## Edson's Washington Column

BY PETER EDSON  
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—Objections to the expansion of social security benefit provisions in labor union contracts are many and varied. Rugged individualists say all this is babying, and that it tends to make people shiftless.

Employers who have been carrying on disability and pension plans of their own are inclined to say, "We have been doing this on our own accord for a number of years. Why bother to put it into union contracts?"

Employers whose private insurance plans have been successfully administered and who have built up considerable good will with their employees as a result may be reluctant to give them up. One of the most interesting aspects of such situations, however, is that some employers who have been most advanced in this activity have been the hardest hit by their employees in recent strikes. International Harvester and General Electric offer outstanding examples.

Employers who have done nothing about insurance for their employees frequently say, "We can't afford it. Business conditions don't permit such expenditures."

The principal objection from management, however, is that any increased insurance provided by employers on an individual company or industry-wide basis is a double tax, in conflict with the present demand for increased government social security deductions, and contrary to congressional proposals for government health insurance plans.

This argument was heard particularly when the CIO Steelworkers put in their demands for a comprehensive health and welfare plan during the war. In effect, the steel companies said, "Wait a minute. Which way are we going? Are we going to have more state and federal government social security, covering all the people? Or shall there be a return of social security planning for employees by their employers? Let Congress determine a national policy on this, then go on from there."

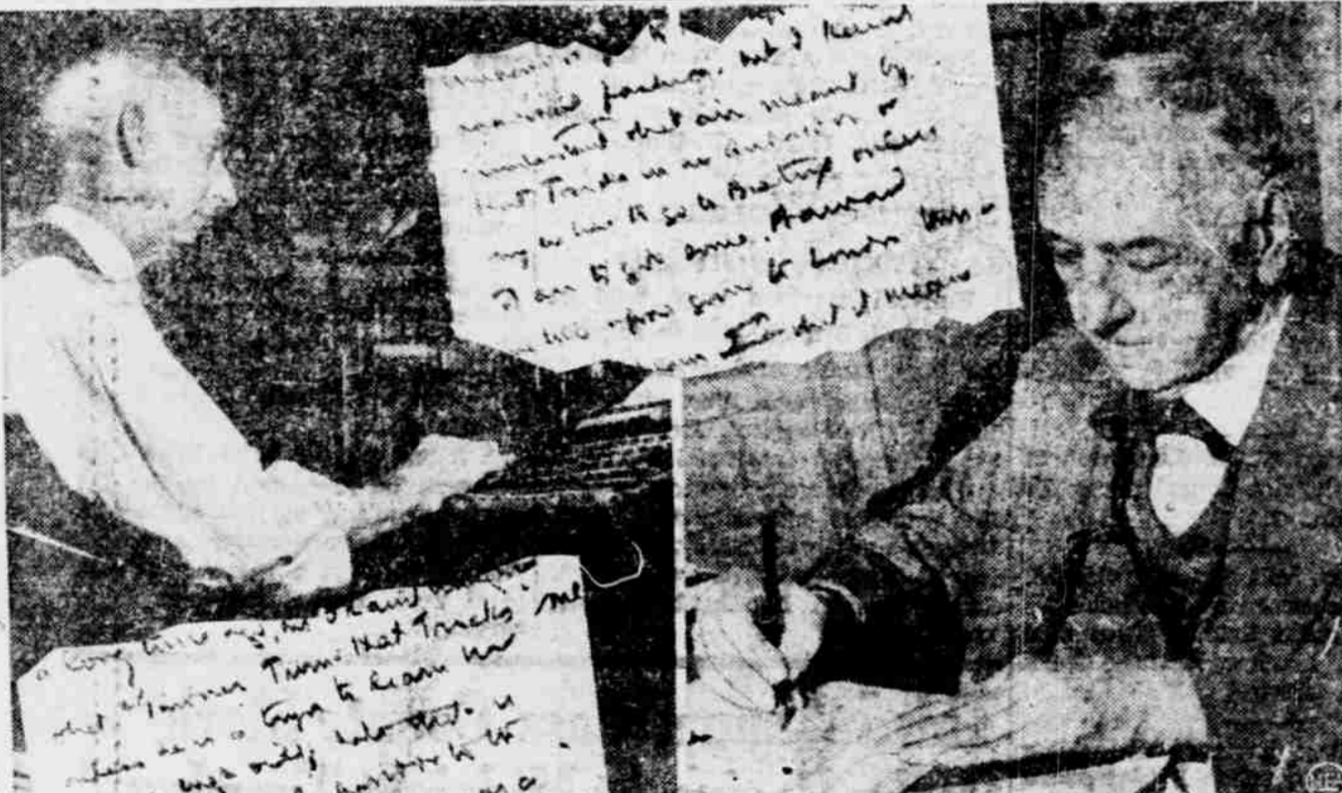
Congress, however, has not yet seen fit to decide which way social security should grow. The issue may be prominent in the new Congress.

ONE real legal tangle that may have to be cleared by Congress before much further advance is made in non-governmental social security, plans is whether insurance is interstate commerce.

In summary, the need for government regulation of union-private industry social insurance will come only if there is a multiplication of abuses under the various trustee systems set up to control funds set aside for sickness, disability or retirement insurance in labor contracts.

Another remote prospect is that all such group insurance plans will be taken over by the government, for administration as under the Railroad Retirement plan.

An innerspring mattress is designed to supply two-thirds of the total resilience of an ordinary mattress and spring combination. It should be used with a rather firm spring and should be well padded. When baiting a moleburrow it is important not to collapse it. A hole should be made in the side of the burrow with the fingers, a piece of bait inserted, and the hole covered with a handful of grass.



If the News and Observer of Raleigh, N. C., were to lose the services of lino operator James Hayes, the staff shudders to think what would happen to the editorial page. He is the only man on the staff who can decipher the handwriting of Publisher Josephus Daniels, right, dean of North Carolina editors, former Secretary of the Navy and ambassador to Mexico. Daniels writes his editorials and columns in longhand, and a wretched "list" it is, as inserts, above, show. But years of experience make it duck soup for Hayes, pictured left, composing a Daniels editorial.



The colorful native costumes of the Swiss completely capture the fancy of visiting Army Regulars, on furlough from occupation duties in Germany. An opportunity to "see the world" can become a realization to young men between 18 and 34 years of age, inclusive, who enlist in the new Regular Army.

## Junked Nip Air Force Now Aiding Civilians

TOKYO—The junked Japanese air force, from Zeros to heavy bombers—is beginning to down black market prices by providing the market with peaceful daily needs ranging from pots and pans to bicycles, toys, clocks, cigarette

cases, radio sets and new coin. Thousands of tons of scrap, the battered remains of Japan's war time air force, are providing reduction plant sand rolling mills in Japan with secondary aluminum for the manufacture of light metal products. Secondary aluminum being produced at a rate of 750 to 760 tons monthly. Allied headquarters disclosed. Most of the light metal rolled products now reaching the local markets are made from secondary

aluminum mixed with the 23,000 tons of part primary aluminum stock in the hands of the fabricators. No primary aluminum is being produced in Japan today. Shoes are said to take the biggest chunk out of the average American's clothing budget—accounting for seven-and-a-half per cent of the money spent by the average person for wearing apparel.

## Elmwood

Jack Hays was called to Superior, Sunday by a message saying that his mother, Mrs. Ben Hays had been taken to a hospital, and that she was seriously ill.

Vernie Amick, of Fullerton, was here Sunday to attend the funeral of his grandmother, Mrs. Minnie Engelkeimer.

Judge Paul Fauquet, and wife and family of Plattsmouth attended the Christmas entertainment at the Weeping Water Congregational Church, Sunday evening.

Rev. and Mrs. Jacob Balzar, of Crete, spent Thursday at the home of Rev. and Mrs. John C. Pryor. Rev. Balzar is a brother of Mrs. Pryor.

Jolly Home Makers Extension Club met Friday at the home of Mrs. George Miller for a one o'clock Christmas Luncheon, after which there was a gift exchange and a shower for one of their members, Mrs. Willis Lorenson.

Mr. and Mrs. D. O. Dwyer spent Christmas Day at the home of Miss Barbara Gering, in Plattsmouth.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Richeson, of LaMesa, Texas, arrived Tuesday, to spend the holidays at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ambler.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Ludwick and family, left Sunday for Cordova, Illinois, to spend a week at the home of Mrs. Ludwick's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Bruner.

Mrs. Elmer Worman spent the Christmas day attending a family reunion at Palmyra.

Miss Eloise Pool, mathematics instructor, at the State University at Lincoln, and her sister, Miss Hazel Pool, instructor at Geneva, came home Saturday, and the family had their Christmas celebration Saturday evening at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Pool.

Mrs. E. J. DeWolf is visiting her daughter in Plattsmouth.

George Sell and his son Lloyd, left Sunday for Indianapolis, Indiana, to visit Mrs. LeRoy Sell and the grandson.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sudduth had as their Christmas Day guests, their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Downs, and family, of Lincoln and their sons, and wives, Mr. and Mrs. Don Sudduth and two sons; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd

Sudduth. Sterling Amick, who spent Thanksgiving Day with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Amick, has been sent to Korea.

Mrs. Jack Cohen and two small sons, have been confined to their home with the flu. They spent Christmas Day quietly at their own home.

O. C. Hinds was able to come to Weeping Water, Sunday to attend the funeral services for Mrs. Don Philpot. He returned to Lincoln with his son, Harold Hinds. Mrs. Hinds was unable to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Tipton Powers, and daughter, of Denver, are spending the holidays with Tipton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Powers.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Jorgensen and daughter, Jerry Lou, of Lincoln, and Mrs. Reginald Jorgensen, and two daughters, Sandra Lynne and Kathrine, enjoyed the Christmas dinner at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Jorgensen.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Ranney entertained Mr. and Mrs. Sam Lingo and family of Blair. Mr. and Mrs. Ranney and Miss Margaret Ranney were Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Ranney, for Christmas dinner.

## Beer Not Like Pre War Lager, Bavarians Claim

MUNICH, (UP)—The first of a long line of complaints about Bavarian beer—it's neither light nor strong enough, strong enough nor cheap enough—was settled when brewery workers were allowed

their first house drink since 1941. An old Munich custom permits brewery workers to drink a certain amount of the products of their labor.

But the other complaints still stand. As long as they do stand, the strength of Bavarian morale and the size of the Bavarian bay window will continue to suffer.

The first complaint is that "beer isn't beer any more," to-day's 1.7 per cent "thin beer" not only compares lamentably with the old 12 per cent variety but also is poor in calories.

Added to that it cost four times the price formerly paid for a beer eight times as strong. A peasant must sell five quarts of whole milk to buy one quart of beer.

Bavarians, of course, never considered beer a luxury. It was a necessity. The idiom for absolute hopelessness is "hopfen and malz vegeloren" (hope and malt lost). This means things have come to a sad stall.

And that they have done on the beer front, since Bavarians formerly drank beer as a substitute for butter and meat. Beer and bread were always favorite mid-morning breakfast and supper staples. Another popular meal was beer soup, made of beer, beaten eggs, sugar, starch and cloves.

Another result of the beer shortage is a reduction in milk deliveries, because farmers doing heavy labor every day are drinking milk where they once drank beer.

Dog Catcher Fooled EVANSTON, Ill.—Chief dog catcher John Hoffman fired two shots at the rattlesnake coiled on a citizen's lawn, approached cautiously to investigate, and found the plaster paris scare labeled, "Made in Texas."

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Plattsmouth Loan and Building Association in Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska, on Monday, January 6, 1947 at 8 p.m. for election of Directors and all other regular business will be transacted.

C. A. Johnson  
President  
Attest:  
M. D. Brown  
Secy-Treas.

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