

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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## THE INNOCENT 'BUREAUCRATS'

Some of our congressmen seem to be suffering from a malady which might be called lumpsumitis. Perhaps the condition is inevitable. They are often called upon to deal with lump sums of vast proportions, and to think in terms of them, as in the case of the budget.

Take a proposed spending program of 37 1/2 billion. Take a goal of 6 billions' reduction in that spending. Make more or less arbitrary cuts here and there which add up to the goal. Lop 'em off. Bang! That's how it has to be done, and it's bound to affect one's thinking.

One of these rather arbitrary cuts is going to be in government employment. There was some wild talk at first about letting 2,000,000 of the nearly 3,000,000 federal employes go. Now the figure is wavering between a half million and a million.

The federal payroll is certainly overstuffed. Large and necessary economies can be effected by reducing it. But we hope that Congress will give some individual as well as lump-sum consideration to this economy. Because, whatever final arbitrary figure may be selected, the members of

Congress will be dealing with jobs and livelihoods, not dollars or abstract figures.

One gets the impression, from various congressional statements on bureaucracy, that government employes are so many pigs at the trough, or perhaps hungry leeches attached to the body politic.

It would seem that every Civil Service employe in Washington is a beauretat. He is, to hear some congressmen tell it, a person positively and maliciously intent on doing as little work as possible. What little work he does do is mischievous, designed to interfere with our private lives and bind them with red tape.

Undoubtedly there are some who answer that description. But every federal worker is not a bureaucratic policy maker. Any firing that runs into the hundreds of thousands is going to take in mainly clerks and others in similar humble positions.

Among them will be many war veterans. There will be many "government girls" who answered the call for help when they were needed. There will be many older persons, men and women, who gave up other jobs out of a desire to "do something" in the war.

A lot of federal employes who are slated to go are honest and earnest. Maybe they even outnumber the gold-brickers. The government doesn't need them today—in fact, they're a useless expense. But it needed them once.

The excess federal workers aren't a plague of locusts, nor are they little pigs to be plowed under. They are human beings, young and old, people with families to support. We hope that Congress can contrive not to punish them personally when it deals the death blow to bureaucracy.

## Achilles Heel



with a movie, "Wheels Over India." Stewardship emphasis for each age group.

Monday, 7:30 p.m. Scout meeting.

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Board of Stewards meeting.

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal.

**Christ Lutheran Church**  
10:30 a.m. Sunday services. No Sunday school.

Friday, Feb. 21, World Day of Prayer to be observed at 7:30 p.m. in church.

Wednesday, Feb. 26, the Ladies Aid will meet at 2:30 in church parlors. Hostesses will be Mrs. Ed Meisinger and Mrs. Glen Kraeger. Everyone welcome.

**Independent Church of Christ**  
10 a.m. Sunday school.  
7:30 p.m. Evening sermon by pastor.

Midweek services Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**  
9:00 a.m. Morning prayer and devotion.  
10:15 a.m. Church school. Edward Egenberger, superintendent.

Special Lenten service each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Sunday school.  
10:30 a.m. Sermon by pastor.

**Holy Rosary Church**  
16th and First Avenue  
Rev. Edward C. Tachek, Pastor

Sunday - Holy Mass is offered at 8 and at 10 a.m.

Lenten Devotions  
Lenten Devotions are conducted every Wednesday and Friday evening at 7 o'clock. The Stations of the Cross, a devotion where a mental journey with Christ is made from the Porch of Pilate to the Hill of Calvary, comprise the Wednesday evening devotion. The Novena to our Sorrowful Mother is conducted each Friday night. During this Lenten season a Question Box will be conducted during each evening devotion. There is a special container in the rear of the church where people can deposit their questions. Questions pertaining to Catholic belief and practice, scripture, liturgy, Catholic traditions, etc. are invited. Each devotion will close with benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Confessions are heard every Saturday evening from 7:30 to 9 o'clock. During the Lenten season, to encourage daily Holy Communion, confessions will be heard every week day fifteen minutes before the 8 o'clock Mass.

**Christian Science Society**  
6th Street and Second Ave.

Sunday services at 11:00 a.m. "Mind" is the subject of the Lesson - Sermon which will be read in Christian Science Churches throughout the world on Sunday, February 23, 1947.

The Golden Text is: "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" (Romans 11:33). Other Bible citations include, "Finally, Teen Ager and the Knights of Columbus. A sound projection machine is ordered for the recreation and education program conducted by the church.

Knights of Columbus

A "Smoker" for the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic men of Plattsmouth will take place in Rosary Hall Sunday, February 23 at 8 p. m. State Deputy Knight Edward Dosek will be present.

Coach Masterson of the University of Nebraska will also attend Confessions.

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prodigious trying, an option on a tract of land adjoining the Eldorado property. Moreover they had had the tract surveyed by geologists, who assured them that oil was as plentifully beneath it as beneath the Eldorado's surface.

But drilling for oil, even when you're positive it's there, is a suspenseful project and one in which you like to feel that you are not alone. With this phase of the matter in mind, the partners had decided to organize a company, and to divide the responsibilities, like the enormous profits, by shares.

They wanted to enlist with them in a common endeavor some particular man in Blakesville, who would act—temporarily, at least—as the company's president and by his own integrity and good repute, identify and establish the company's probity.

"AND so," said Mr. Milgrim, rather suddenly, "when I saw you in the barber shop, Major Cameron, I resolved to beg your advice. If this all seems abrupt to you, let me tell you that I am an uncanny judge of character, and the minute I looked at you, I was convinced that you were capable, anyway, of advising Mr. Breen and me. I do hope that you will. Where, where in Blakesville is the citizen we're hunting?"

As silence fell, the Major stroked his mustache tentatively. "This man would—um—be a capitalist, I suppose."

"No, not necessarily," said Mr. Milgrim. "No, he would have to invest nothing more than his name and his interest and his unimpeachable honor."

"Well," said the Major slowly, clearing his throat, "it is just possible that I—I can suggest someone."

Mr. Milgrim interrupted. "Why not come up to my room with me, sir, and we'll have luncheon sent to us from the restaurant? Mr. Breen is not in today, and I should like so much the chance to talk at greater length on the subject."

The Major could see no reason why he shouldn't lunch in Mr. Milgrim's room. The idea seemed to him a very good one.

(To Be Continued)

## Edson's Washington Column

BY PETER EDSON  
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—Before mid-January, Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio hopes to get something started in the way of new housing legislation. It won't be a bit too soon.

Shifting Democratic Administration policies on housing, with the scrapping of most of the veterans' housing program, have created a snarl which will require some of the best law-making abilities of this or any other Congress to straighten out.

Relaxing of ex-Expediter Wilson Wyatt's controls may have freed the housing industry to build a lot of homes, but most of them are bound to be fairly high-priced. Construction of low-cost housing may not get going again till the demand for higher-cost housing is met. How long that will take is a question, but a fair guess is that it will take most of the 1947 building season. That means little low-cost housing before 1948, unless Congress can put through a program that will encourage the housing industry to build it.

TAFT was co-author, with Democratic Senators Robert F. Wagner of New York and Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana, of the Wagner-Ellender-Taft long-range housing bill introduced in the last Congress. With a few changes in content and a slight change in strategy, he plans to reintroduce most of his last year's program.

One of the most difficult decisions which Taft had to make at the beginning of this session of Congress was whether to give up his seat on the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, which handles housing legislation. He finally surrendered this post. But that left his housing program without a strong Republican backer on the Banking and Currency Committee. The question is where the Republican backing will come from.

There are some indications that real estate and building industry representatives—and the voters—may have convinced many Democrats that a lot of the veterans' housing program was no good, and that the controls were worse. So how much Democratic support Taft can get for his bipartisan housing bill of last year is a political riddle.

THE housing lobby is apparently divided. While real estate and builders' trade associations in general want government restrictions removed, the home builders want curbs kept on heavy construction. If all brakes were taken off commercial and industrial building, home building would suffer greatly.

Last year President Truman was for the W-E-T bill, and his mid-December statement liberalizing the housing policy declared, "The main point of emphasis for 1947 is rental housing. . . . We are planning financing and other aids that will encourage builders to produce units for rent."

The President's Economic Report message to Congress may reveal in further detail just what housing policy he favors.

whatsoever things are of good and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Phil. 4:8).

The Lesson-Sermon also includes the following passage from the Christian Science textbook "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy. "We must form perfect models in thought and look at

(Continued on page 8)

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## Our Churches

**First Christian Church**  
Rev. J. W. Taenzler, pastor

10:00 a.m. Communion and sermon.

11:00 a.m. Bible School. Service will meet at the Eugene Buell home.

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. All members of Scout Troop 357 will meet at the church.

Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. Monthly social and program of Ladies Aid at church. Choir practice at 7:30 p.m.

**St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church**  
Fifth and Avenue A

Rev. E. J. Moritz, pastor

9:30 a.m. Church school.  
10:30 a.m. Worship service.

Wednesday, Feb. 26, Lenten service at 7:45 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 27, Social and Coffee by Women's Guild at 2:30 in church parlors, with the following committee members serving: Mrs. Louis Baum-

gart, Mrs. Ed. Barker, Mrs. Fred Buechler, Mrs. Frank Claus, Mrs. L. W. Egenberger, Mrs. E. Englekmeier, Mrs. Herman Graham, Mrs. William Halmes and Mrs. Catherine Kintz.

You are cordially invited to attend our church school and worship service.

**Union Methodist Church**  
Rev. E. C. Williams, Pastor

9:45 a.m. Morning service with the laymen in charge.  
10:30 a.m. Church school.

**St. John's Catholic Church**  
Between 5th and 6th on Avenue B

Rev. Msgr. George Agins, pastor

Sunday masses:  
8:00 a.m. First mass.  
10:30 a.m. Last mass.

On week days mass is said every morning at 7:30 except at 8:00 on Tuesday and Friday.

Lenten devotions are held in the church as follows:  
Wednesday evening at 8:00, with the recitation of the Rosary. Sermon and benediction.

Friday evening at 8:00 o'clock, with there will be the Way of the Cross, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Presbyterian Church**  
H. G. McClusky, Pastor

7th Street and Second Avenue  
10:00 a.m. Sabbath school.

Ralph Wehrlein, superintendent.  
11:00 a.m. Morning church worship. Sermon: "He Restored My Soul." After a short sermon the congregation will adjourn to the Fellowship Room for a 20-minute picture on the topic "He Restored My Soul." This picture is sponsored by the Presbyterian church showing the religious needs in the world today.

7:00 p.m. C. T. Y. meeting. Leader will be Buddy White.

Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal.

The World Day of Prayer will be held next Friday afternoon at 2:00 in the Episcopal church for adults and at 7:00 p.m. in the Methodist church for the Youth. The Children's group will meet at 4:15 Thursday in the Christian church.

**Methodist Church**  
7th and Main Street

E. C. Williams, pastor  
9:45 a.m. Church school.  
11:00 a.m. Morning worship with laymen in charge of the service.

6:30 p.m. Youth Meeting.  
7:00 p.m. Fellowship meeting.

**Gather Ye Rosebuds**  
By JEANNETTE COVERT NOLAN  
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THE STORY: Major Cameron, veteran of the Last Campaign, is a man who believes the spirit of the Old South can never die. He scorns the Yankee town he lives in, hates drumming Spunky Male tobacco, leads a dreary existence, and the vulgar question of money never troubles itself. Miss Amy, kindly wife and mother, never questions anything he does. Their children include: beautiful, trusting Rose who has had a secret "adventure" with a strange young man; delicate Sidney, 19, who wonders why Ace Latslav stopped writing to her; Jeff, 22, whose ambitions to be a cartoonist are encouraged by Sidney; Beau, 10; and Hannah, 12. The year is 1910.

AN hour later, the Major saw in the glass a most resplendent image, shaven and shorn, perfectly groomed, slick as a whistle. He paid his bill (rather a disconcerting amount), tipped Joe, took his cane and went out, ascending to the street level. Here, under the griled fretwork of the hotel's marquee, he stopped, simply to bask a moment in his feeling of cleanliness and well-being. He planted his feet wide apart, folded his hands on the knob of his cane, which made the third and balancing leg of a tripod, and stared dreamily off into space. Standing thus, he heard, after not many minutes, a prefatory cough and a voice behind him.

"Excuse me, sir, but aren't you Major Cameron?"

He turned and saw a man of middle age, dressed in good, dark clothes and wearing a black derby. "The Major bowed. "I am William Cameron. But you have, I confess, the advantage of me."

"My name," the man said, "is Milgrim. Hubert Milgrim. And you could not be expected to know it, for we haven't met before. I of the Golden Eldorado oil well, who you were, and he told me. Joe was, I may add, very laudatory in his remarks. I thought at once that you might be the gentleman who could, and would,

give me some information I'm seeking. I am not a resident of Blakesville; my home is in Chicago. My card, sir."

The Major accepted the card and read its elegant engraving. "Ah," said the Major, and shook Mr. Hubert Milgrim's gloved hand. "Well, I am always ready to oblige a stranger to our little city."

"Thank you," said Mr. Milgrim. "Perhaps you will step into the hotel with me, where we can talk at leisure?" Gesturing, he led the way into the St. George's somewhat garish foyer. "I am registered here. But wait, perhaps you will do me the honor of having a drink with me, in the bar?"

"Ah," said the Major, and found himself waited along beside Mr. Milgrim into the bar, down to the very end of the mahogany and into the shadow of some potted palms.

THE bartender came to attention with all the promptness of a jack-in-the-box. "What'll it be, Mr. Milgrim?"

"My friend orders first," replied Mr. Milgrim, bowing toward the Major. "After you, sir."

"Buttermilk," rumbled the Major. "Buttermilk," echoed Mr. Milgrim. The bartender's jaw slacked a little, but he produced from a spigot under the counter two brimming mugs of foamy, cold buttermilk.

Mr. Milgrim spoke, with a really delightful informality, of the business which had brought him to Blakesville—and this pleasant moment. It was the oil business. No doubt the Major was familiar with the famous history of the Golden Eldorado oil well, located in Warrick County, just over the line from Blakesville? Well, Mr. Milgrim and his partner, Mr. Richard Breen, also of Chicago, had procured, by dint of

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