

The Plattsmouth Journal

ESTABLISHED 1881
Published semi-weekly, Mondays and Thursdays, at 409-413 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska.
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Furse's Fresh Flashes

When you meet a person, of whom it is rumored that only half of what he says can be believed, it is safest not to believe anything he says. You might believe the wrong half.

A Chicago bartender has been arrested for selling a customer a glass of brass polish. And rightly so. Bartenders must remember that since repeal a new generation is growing up that can't drink brass polish.

A Plattsmouth man insisted that his boss give him a raise as several other companies were after him. The boss later found out it was the gas company, the light company and the grocery company.

Then there is the man who asked his boss for a half day off to work in his garden and when he got home he found someone had stolen it off the window sill.

EDITORIALS

ANOTHER LESSON IN ECONOMICS

The quaint theory that it is possible to continually raise wages without raising prices was disproved long ago. Now the public in witnessing still another demonstration of the fact that wages and prices move together.

The current case is coal. As the Wall Street Journal said, "The American public will soon be 'chipping in' to finance the latest pay hike which John L. Lewis wrapped up for his soft coal miners." The probable average increase once the situation stabilizes, will be about 55 cents a ton. That, along with some other factors, is expected to raise the price of steel by \$5 a ton. And when steel prices rise, it is felt throughout all basic industry. The price tags on thousands of articles will be increased.

The desire of workers to earn more money is perfectly natural. But, in the long run, the welfare of industry is what will determine job security and worker's annual income. If, as an example, higher coal prices force consumers to substitute other fuels, the ultimate result will be a shrinking market for coal and fewer jobs for the miners. Again, if a wave of price increases brings on consumer resistance and a general decline in buying, the ill effects will be felt throughout the country—at the expense of all.

There is but one way wages can be permanently increased without prices being increased—and that is by higher output per worker to hold down cost of production. In the last two years, worker productivity in many fields has actually declined while wages have soared. The inevitable result has been price inflation and a cheapened dollar. The present coal situation simply indicates that still more price inflation is on the way.

OUR APPETITE FOR OIL

There is considerable misconception concerning the oil situation.

In certain sections of the country, notably the Middle West, supplies of both crude oil and oil products are tight—and are likely to remain so for 12 to 18 months. The reason for that is simple. It is solely because short supplies have made it impossible for the industry to drill enough wells, to provide the transportation, and to construct all the new facilities needed to handle record demands for oil in all its forms.

Consumption of oil has hit unprecedented levels. Today the American oil industry is producing more than 5,000,000 barrels of crude each day—a rate higher than at the peak of the war effort, and 30 per cent more than in 1941. That is an astonishing performance, in the light of the postwar shortages and scarcities of materials. But even that output is insufficient.

So far as reserves of oil are concerned, the industry is expanding them as rapidly as possible. It is getting more usable products out of each barrel of crude than ever before. It is experimenting to find new sources of oil, such as the underwater salt domes off the Gulf Coast. Concurrently, it is carrying on an enormous development program abroad to make available the untouched oil resources of the Middle East and other regions.

It is forecast that by 1951 American consumption of oil will reach 6,200,000 barrels a day. The industry is preparing to meet that enormous need.

THE SMALL RETAILER

What chance has the independent retailer to compete with the chains and hold his own? That old question was recently given a modern answer by Wade G. McCargo, who described him-

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Ten years ago Dr. and Mrs. P. T. Heineman returned from a three weeks outing in the east including visits at Boston, New Jersey and Niagara Falls. They travelled over 4,000 miles on the motor trip. . . Plamora Park scene of Katzenberger reunion. . . Stoehr family held reunion at Garfield Park honoring Mr. and Mrs. Carl Stoehr of South Gate, California. . . Three year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Stone of near Nehawka died from eating poison tablets. . . "Miss Plattsmouth" Genevieve Bloom) and Leland Laase married at Glenwood, Iowa in surprise ceremony. . . Norfolk Packing company had 2,000 acres of sweet corn under contract to begin pack with 125 employees. . . Edwin H. Schulhof installed as Grand Knight of M. A. Shine Council 1966, Knights of Columbus. . . Plans completed for Rock Bluff homecoming at Hutchison grove five miles south of Plattsmouth. . . Mrs. Katie Hild and daughter, Miss Minnie, returned from an outing in Oklahoma. . . Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hartford of Kansas City visited friends here. . . Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Langhorst celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. . . Mrs. V. V. Leonard fell and broke her hip; taken to Clarkson Hospital. . . Judge and Mrs. A. H. Duxbury attend seventy-first annual pow wow of the Indians at Winnebago.

"Clothes give you a lot of confidence," reads a headline of a prominent clothing company. They certainly do. In fact there are so many places one can go with them that he could not possibly go without them.

Napoleon was quite a boy in his day too, but he's just a bust now.

The baby's first month is said to be the most hazardous. Another most hazardous period is the one in which the boy friends undertake to show the baby how skillfully they can manipulate the old man's car.

"Do you have life bouy?", asked a well dressed lady of a new clerk up the street. He was slightly embarrassed but quickly came back with, "Set your pace, lady, set your pace."

ities are going to have to decide whether to build new roads or new schools.

And while roads are important, what seems to me more important is the fact that children's minds cannot wait. Roads can be built. But you can't retreat children's minds. Their characters and mentality are moulded young. For them the clock can never be turned back. The mental cobwebs they gather from six to fourteen can never be brushed out.

Furthermore, this all will see schools more crowded than ever. Seventeen million war babies were born from 1941 through 1946, an increase in our birth rate of 50 per cent, and the biggest crop of children this country has ever seen. They will start flooding the schools this fall.

In the face of this, the commissioners of my county have cut the proposed educational budget by \$400,000, and plan building a new road instead of new schools.

A lot of my neighbors are sore at me for frowning on the new road. But until the schools are improved, I'm going to put in my two cents' worth against it.

POLITICAL LOAN TO DUTCH
Despite revolutionary fire-works in the Dutch East Indies, World Bank President, John J. McCloy will soon announce a \$200,000,000 loan to the embattled Dutch government.

In his announcement McCloy will state that the bank's loan has nothing to do with the fighting in Indonesia. However, some of those who helped author the World Bank believe this will be the first clear-cut case of the bank's openly injecting itself into a dynamite-laden situation as an instrument of diplomacy. They point out that the bank originally was set up by the United Nations and approved by Congress as an instrument for reconstruction and rehabilitation, not as a medium for backing any one side in a civil war. In the past the bank, prompted by the State department, has refused loans on political grounds to countries such as Poland.

Unfortunately the Dutch loan will be interpreted throughout the Pacific as evidence that the United States is willing to back imperialism—which, of course, plays right into Moscow's hands.

Note—McCloy is making a determined drive to move the World Bank and the stabilization fund to Wall Street where it can be nearer the big bankers.

CAUGHT WITH LOBBYISTS
How cozy Senator Brewster of

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By **DREW PEARSON**

DREW PEARSON SAYS: MARYLAND COUNTY PUTS ROADS AHEAD OF SCHOOLS; WORLD BANK TO LEND MONEY TO DUTCH; SENATOR BREWSTER "CAUGHT" WITH PAN AM OFFICIALS.

WASHINGTON—The other day I wrote something about poorly paid schoolteachers of Pennsylvania, a state in which I used to live. Today I want to write something about the schools of Maryland, a state in which I live now.

Some people may think that I am hipped on the question of schools. But to me they are one of the greatest bulwarks of the nation. They are as much responsible for the intelligence and idealism of the American people as any other institution. We cannot stand by and see them neglected.

However, I live in a county which appears to believe in educational neglect. That county happens to be one of the wealthiest in the world. Thousands of people commute daily from the District of Columbia into Maryland, people who help to run the government of the United States, who should believe in good education.

Yet the school in my part of the county would put to shame some of the schools in war-torn Europe. Classrooms are overcrowded. Some of the kids have to study in the halls. Teachers are so overworked and harassed that discipline is almost impossible.

The other day a group of citizens met in the western part of Montgomery county—as citizens do everywhere—to complain about various things which the county government hadn't done but which the citizens thought should be done. Among other things they complained, quite properly, about the Potomac school.

ROADS VS. SCHOOLS

The answer, given by one of the county officials, was that building costs were too high. Therefore, an addition to the school would have to wait until building costs went down. Almost in the same breath, however, county officials announced to the assembled citizenry that the road which passes in front of the school would finally be made over new. This brought loud cheers from everyone.

However, the cost of the new road is going to be \$130,000; and for one-half that amount a new addition to the schoolhouse could be built. And although costs are high for building a school, they are equally high for laying a road.

Now some readers of this column in Seattle or San Diego may wonder why I am baring them with a local problem in the distant state of Maryland. However, the problem isn't local. From what I gather it exists everywhere. Schools throughout the nation are overcrowded, undermanned, the teachers underpaid. Thousands of commu-



merce committee last January. It looked as if he were gaining for TWA even then. Brewster reported that TWA was in a shaky financial status and having trouble with Equitable Life Insurance company from which it had borrowed \$40,000,000. Brewster told senators how Howard Hughes had invested another \$10,000,000 in TWA, thus offering temporary financial relief, despite which TWA probably would still require another RFC loan of \$50,000,000.

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Mr. and Mrs. Tony Kaszmark of Memphis, Nebraska attended the theater picnic here, and also visited at the Rudy Kuehn home.

The girls of the Canning Club, of which Mrs. G. E. Eveland is director, enjoyed last week at the Seward camp. Those in attendance were Beth Blessing, Shirley Ross, Judith Cook, Gwendolyn Gerbeling, Frances May Schick and Janice Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. Lodge Caygill are here from California looking after their property interests in this county and visiting in the homes of their daughters, Mrs. George Coatman and Mrs. Vernon Schewe.

Mr. Charles Marshall, as president of Nebraska Farm Bureau, has been having a pleasant trip to New York and Washington, D. C. He represented Nebraska in the airplane visit to these cities sponsored by Swift and Company. Seventeen men were in the group.

Mrs. Raymond Eveland and Mrs. G. G. Douglas attended the meeting of the past county Woman's Club presidents and present county officers, and local presidents of clubs. They planned

EDSON'S WASHINGTON COLUMN

BY PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—Federal Court in Boston is expected to hand down its decision this week in the treason trial of Douglas Chandler, American-born Nazi sympathizer and broadcaster for Adolf Hitler.

The case is worth watching because it may set an important precedent. If the United States should ever get into a war with a certain other power, the number of treason charges against fifth columnists will probably be tremendous. And what can be done with them, under present laws, may be determined by the outcome of the Chandler case.

There have been few treason cases in U. S. history. Aaron Burr's trial for conspiracy to overthrow the United States and set up an independent government west of the Allegheny river is most famous. But Burr was acquitted. The Whiskey Rebellion and Fugitive Slave Law cases rank next. In World War I prosecutions for treason were largely supplanted by trials under the espionage act. In World War II there were less than a dozen treason indictments.

Douglas Chandler was one of eight native-born Americans who were indicted in July, 1943, on charges of giving aid and comfort to the enemy by making propaganda broadcasts for Germany and Italy. Ezra Pound, Idaho-born poet who was being disposed in support of Mussolini, is the only one whose case has been disposed of. When he was apprehended at Berchtesgaden in May, 1945, he tried to commit suicide. Brought to the U. S. in November, he was found to be mentally unsound by Federal Court the following February.



NOW 58 years old, Chandler was born in Chicago but grew up in Baltimore. He served in the U. S. Navy for a few months in World War I. Then he became a newspaper reporter in Baltimore, an advertising man and stockbroker in New York. He was wiped out in 1929.

He went to Europe in 1930 and never came back. He wrote travel articles for American magazines, but they dropped him when it was learned he was taking money from the Nazis. He was converted to Nazism several years before the war broke out.

The State Department invited him to return to the U. S. in 1941 but he declined. Then he began his broadcasts to America. He was billed as "Paul Reveré" and he went on the air to the strains of a few bars of Yankee Doodle. All through the war he hailed at "international Jewry" and the "war-mongering Roosevelt."

The others in his "little band of free American patriots" included Robert H. Best of Sumter, S. C., who criticized the U. S. for "selling out to communism" when it entered the war. He was arraigned and indicted with Chandler in Boston. Also in the Berlin group were Edward Leo Delaney, of Olney, Ill., Constance Drexel, of Philadelphia and Max Koischwitz of New York. Frederick Wilhelm Kaltenback of Dubuque, Ia., the "American Lord Haw-Haw," was reported to have died in a Russian concentration camp two years ago.

THE treason statute under which Chandler has been tried is the first section of the present U. S. criminal code. It goes back to an act passed in 1790. It has had few changes, except that in 1862 it was provided that anyone convicted of treason should lose his slaves and be disqualified to hold public office.

Under the Constitution, treason is limited to levying war on the United States or giving aid and comfort to its enemies. There must be open confession in court or two witnesses to an overt act.

Acquittal in the Chandler, Best or other cases would probably provide a new incentive for removing some of the loopholes in the treason law, so as to be prepared to handle acts of disloyalty by fifth columnists in future emergencies. Measures introduced by the House Un-American Activities Committee in the last Congress lean in this direction, and there is now more support for such proposals than during the last war.

the program for the autumn county convention at Union County Chairman Mrs. L. W. Eggenberger graciously entertained the group at a one o'clock luncheon at St. Paul's church before the business session. Mrs. Plybon, accompanied the ladies, and spent the afternoon shopping and visiting.

Mrs. Minnie Rosenkoetter, Junior Oehlerking and Chucky Backemeyer attended the Milford Assembly several days this week and also visited at the Stolz home near there.

The closing meeting of the local W. C. T. U. for this year, was held Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. John Wood. Reports for the year were given, and plans for next year discussed. Mrs. Wood led devotions, and Minnie Kunz gave short lesson about Women's work at the U. N. O. The gathering was in the nature of a farewell party for Miss Amy Hoffman who will be moving to Plainview soon. Games and a covered dish luncheon were enjoyed at the social hour. Each member brought a letter to be read by the honor guest when she reaches her new home.

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THE DOGS WILL HAVE TO WAIT
"My grandpa notes the world's worn cogs, And says we're going to the dogs. His grand-dad in his house of logs, Swore things were going to the dogs.

The caveman in his queer skin togs, Said things were going to the dogs. But this is what I wish to state— The dogs have had an awful wait."

Mr. Chas. F. Johnson, Jr., of the Botany Mills, says: "Prosperity in this country has never been more general or so evenly distributed and prospects never have been brighter . . .

The only reliable guides to our future are now, and will continue to be, facts and figures on employment, wages, orders on hand, agricultural production and demand, and spending money in the hands of the public. These are now at an all-time high, with a national economy which exceeds war peak years, and the greatest total employment at the highest average wages in our history."

We may be headed "to the dogs"—but we think there is still a long wait before we arrive. Meanwhile—Come in and see us.

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