

EDITORIALS

WHY I LIKE AMERICA

I like America because: "I can go to any church I please, "I read, see and hear what I choose, "I can express my opinions openly, "My mail reaches me as soon as possible, "My telephone is untapped, "I can join any (American) political party I wish.

"I can vote for what and for whom I please, "I have a constitutional right to trial by jury, "I am protected against search and seizure, "Neither my life nor my property can be forfeited without due process of law."

There are 10 rights that we Americans—and you and I and our neighbors—have that are enjoyed in their entirety by few peoples outside the North American continent.

We in the United States have been in possession of these rights for so many generations that we have come to regard them as "natural" rights—rights that just naturally belong to every individual.—Exchange.

OUTLOOK FOR THE NEW YEAR

What is the business outlook for the year 1948? If a group of 20,000 executives surveyed by Fortune is correct, the boom will continue and it may get bigger. Nearly two-thirds of those replying said that.

By contrast, when a similar poll was conducted at the end of 1946, more than half of those answering expected a downturn in 1947. The downturn, as everyone knows, did not materialize.

This writer does not agree with the prediction that conditions will continue to spiral upward and upward during the remaining months of this year. We do believe that business will continue to be brisk and the demand for most commodities will be steady for many months to come. But, we are due to go through a leveling off period that will hurt some, especially those who have been too greedy.

As is always true, farm products will be the first to get it in the neck. We believe we have seen the first of this warning in the slump of wheat and corn during the past few days. We are not viewing these drops in prices with alarm, however, for the reason that surpluses of these commodities simply do not exist—there will continue to be a strong demand but it will be a long time before we see \$3.50 wheat and \$2.50 corn again. Perhaps not in this generation.

A good share of our population has been crying for lower prices and the end of inflation. Now, with the first indication that this is to come to pass, a good share of this group is ready to run for cover like scared rabbits, or throw up their hands in despair. Nothing at present or in the near future indicates any need for alarm at this time.

Prices are going to level off as they have done following every inflation period and the gamblers will take some heavy losses. But we little fellows who, more or less, go along from day to day need have no undue fears at present. At least, we won't start to run for our hole until we begin to see the streets lined with unemployed, stores jammed with surpluses at give-away prices and markets refusing to buy farm products. That day is still a long way off.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TEN YEARS AGO

E. C. Stimbart, scoutmaster and superintendent of Nehawka schools, was scoutmaster at Father and Son Banquet at Nehawka given by Boy Scouts. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Conis of Perry, Iowa were guests of the George Conis family. Miss Mathilde Soennichsen was hostess to Woman's Club honoring Girl Scouts. Library received installment of books given by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace to inter-act children in their friends in other lands. Lady of Lovetta Court No. 769 Catholic Daughters observed their 16th birthday at home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bergmann. Russel Reeder and J. Howard Davis given charge into Rotary club.

TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO

Mrs. J. E. Wiles appointed to serve as chairman of a committee to conduct a Better Homes campaign in Plattsmouth. Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Middleton entertained at party for their daughter's eighth birthday. Allison Flynn, former resident, as member of the Community Players, Omaha, was cast in the play "The Wishing Well." Frank Gebelman, state president of Master Painters and Decorators attended international meet at Milwaukee. L. H. Hervey assumed position as manager of sales department of Electric Company here. Herbert W. Johnson was installed as Master Councilor of DeMolay, Ralph Wehrlein Senior Councilor and Edward Patterson Junior Councilor.

Furse's Fresh Flashes

A Plattsmouth man has a new good looking hat, a present from his wife. He says he doesn't know what the occasion was, but he came home early the other night and there it was on the dining room table.

The old-fashioned man who never thought anything of walking eighteen or twenty miles in an afternoon, has a grandson who never thought of it either.

Don't worry about the future—you may never see it.

According to the story in Genesis, the first thing that Eve found out after eating the apple was that she was unclothed. Women noticed things like that in those days more than they do now.

It's well and good for this country to care for its mentally incompetent, but we shouldn't fall into the habit of doing so by electing and appointing them to office.

We have often wondered who is doing the farming, making the moonshine and keeping the funds going down in the hill countries since all the hillbillies have radio contracts.

We hate to see spring come. It has always been just my hard luck to live in a neighborhood where everybody keeps a nice looking lawn.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON

(Copyright, 1948, By The Bell Syndicate, Inc.) DREW PEARSON SAYS:

THOMAS OF OKLAHOMA ACTIVE IN STOCK MARKET DURING MOST OF HIS SENSATIONAL CAREER; OPPOSED COTTON CONTROLS TO OWN ADVANTAGE; SPECULATED IN SILVER WHILE ACTIVE MEMBER OF PITMAN'S SILVER BLOC.

(Ed. Note—Drew Pearson's column today takes the form of a memo to Senator Ferguson of Michigan chairman of the subcommittee investigating Senator Thomas and other grain speculators. Pearson was the first to expose Thomas's commodity speculation, two years ago, at which time he was called a liar by the Oklahoma senator.)

WASHINGTON—Memo to Senator Ferguson of Michigan:

Believing in your sincere desire to get to the bottom of Senator Thomas and his use of the Senate for private speculation, I am sending you the results of my own investigation. These may furnish you with additional leads for your own probe.

I think you will find that during most of Senator Thomas's career in the U. S. Senate, he has been active in the stock market and has not hesitated to use his position of trust to influence the market. I suggest that first you look into 128 shares of Cities Service stock held by the senator around 1928.

Following this, I suggest that you examine the senator's dealing in silver and cotton in 1933. At around this time his son, Wilfred, was employed by the old stock-brokerage firm of Fenner and Beane at its Oklahoma City office, while the senator traded through the firm's Washington office.

During the summer of 1933 you will find that Thomas was active in the silver market, in fact had bought considerable quantity of silver on margin, and when the silver bubble burst in July, Thomas was caught short. John Motherhead, then manager of Fenner and Beane's Washington office, called on him for more collateral which the senator did not put up. Accordingly, he was sold out, at a heavy loss.

I think you will find that the next day, July 19, 1933, Senator Thomas then sent two blistering telegrams to the presidents of the New York Stock Exchange and the Chicago Board of Trade demanding stricter regulation. The two telegrams read in part: "Today's activity in your exchange demonstrates absolute necessity for immediate adoption of a ruling limiting the amount of loss on any stock during any one session."

It is interesting that the senator did not reveal that he himself was caught short. He put his protest on the high moral plane of protecting the investing public. It is also interesting that some years later, in the spring of 1946 when the OPA urged stricter control of the cotton market, Thomas took an exactly opposite view and opposed those controls. At that time he and his wife were long on cotton and gambling on a continued rise in prices. The senator didn't want OPA controls to interfere with such a rise.

FATHER COUGHLIN'S ADVICE

Going back to 1933, 1934 and 1935, I believe you will find that at about the time Senator Thomas was speculating in silver, he was also making speeches calculated to increase the price of silver. He was, for instance, an active member of Senator Key Pitman's silver bloc, and also described himself as "silver adviser to Father Coughlin," in attacking the Federal Reserve Act. Coughlin later turned out to be the biggest individual buyer (through his secretary) of silver in the United States.

In speech after speech Thomas urged passage of his silver-buying bill, the remonetization of silver and the payment of soldier bonuses from silver. But he said nothing to the public about the fact that he himself had been buying up silver.

On Feb. 18, 1935 Thomas offered an amendment to the WPA-relief appropriation bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to buy silver at the rate of 50,000,000 ounces a month until one-fourth of our total metallic reserve was silver instead of gold.

To check on the senator's early commodity market transactions, look in an old warehouse at 818 Gravier street, New Orleans, La., where the records of Fenner and Beane are stored. To



COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Office of County Commissioners, Cass County Plattsmouth, Nebraska, February 3, 1948.

Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present: C. W. Stoehr, Parr Young and A. G. Reid, County Commissioners, Geo. R. Sayles, County Clerk.

Minutes of last session approved, when the following business was transacted in regular form:

Resolution

WHEREAS, a certificate of lien has been filed pursuant to the provisions of L.B. 546 Laws of 1947, against the following described property, to-wit:

Lot 4, Block 8, Village of Avoca; North One-half of Lot 1, Block 12, Village of Avoca; Recorded in Book 72 at page 562 and 563, and WHEREAS, the owners of said real estate have not received Assistant Benefits since the effective date of L.B. 546, and are no longer receiving such benefits.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County Treasurer of Cass County, Nebraska, be and hereby is directed to release and discharge the lien created by such certificate in the manner provided by law. Dated at Plattsmouth, Nebraska this 3rd day of February, 1948.

C. W. STOEHR, PARR YOUNG, A. G. REID, Board of County Commissioners, GEO. R. SAYLES, County Clerk.

CLAIMS as listed on the following funds were allowed:

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name and Amount. Includes Consumers Public Power Dist., Service to Court House & Jail, Board of Public Works, Water to Court House & Jail, Central Electric & Gas Co., Gas to County Jail, Central Electric & Gas Co., Gas to Court.

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name and Amount. Includes House, Central Electric & Gas Co., Gas to Court House, Drag Fund 1st District, Consumers Public Power Dist., Service to Plattsmouth patrol building, 2nd District, Consumers Public Power Dist., Service to Union & Nehawka patrols, Omaha Public Power Dist., Service to Manley patrol.

Miss Wilda Mitchell Will Sail for Hague

The many friends in this city will be interested in learning that Miss Wilda Mitchell, who was in the early part of World War II, secretary of the Cass County Selective Service board, located at Plattsmouth, is leaving in the next ten days for The Hague, Holland. She will be employed with the State department at the American embassy. Miss Mitchell has been in Washington, D. C. for the past several weeks.

While here Miss Mitchell enlisted in the WAVES and served, later serving at Washington and Honolulu. At the end of the war, she accepted a Civil Service position and was stationed in Tokyo, Japan, with General MacArthur's headquarters and remained there for over a year. Miss Mitchell is taking her car with her. Mr. and Mrs. M. N. Tucker are driving the car to Washington, D. C., and left last Sunday morning. They made a

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Special Notice! We are informed by our tailoring houses that owing to the shortage of expert tailors it will be impossible to tailor a suit to order for EASTER unless the order is in their hands by February 28th. Easter is March 28. Order your suit now and avoid disappointment. Wescott's SINCE 1879

EDSON'S WASHINGTON COLUMN

BY PETER EDSON NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—A Russian ex-newspaperman named Jacob M. Lomakin—now in New York as delegate to the United Nations Subcommittee on Freedom of Information—is currently kicking up quite a fuss over what he calls the "sensationalism" of the U. S. press.



Edson

He is bothered particularly by sex stories, like the Black Dahlia murder case in Los Angeles.

But Comrade Lomakin also wants the UN to adopt a covenant guaranteeing freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom of artistic expression. The last sentence of his resolution reads: "It shall be intolerable that this freedom of information be used to permit propaganda for fascism and aggression, or to disseminate false reports, dishonest information, or reports likely to incite unfriendly relations between nations."

The sounds pretty good, until you hold it up against some of the stuff that the Russian press and radio have been putting out. Then you get the feel of what U. S. life is really like, according to the Russian funny papers.

Ever since the Marshall Plan was conceived, Russian propaganda has been going all out against it. Every day, Radio Moscow picks up long articles from the Russian press, and rebroadcasts them.

HERE in Washington these broadcasts are monitored and translated, and this daily report makes the zaniest reading in town.

Ever since Defense Secretary James V. Forrestal, GOP foreign policy expert John Foster Dulles and Bernard Baruch testified on the Marshall Plan, Moscow has had a field day. It began with a long article in Pravda by Zhukov—Russia's leading commentator, though no relation to the general. This Zhukov covered the San Francisco UN charter conference in 1945, so he thinks he knows all about the U. S.

According to him, Secretary Forrestal has announced bluntly that in exchange for reconstruction aid, "the western European countries are to grant to the United States military bases." Also, that "the task of unifying the military forces of the 16 countries would be handed over to the U. S. Department of Defense."

The Pravda piece then goes on to paint the picture of "British, French, Italian, Belgian and other soldiers marching at the command of U. S. officers armed with U. S. tommy guns and singing the Yankee Doodle, with U. S. governors in command all over the place."

Ex-Governor Griswold of Nebraska, supervising the Greek recovery program, is presented as having "replaced Ministers at his own discretion." It is reported that "he rules this unfortunate country like a colonial official engaged in his job in some sort of a Puerto Rico."

BRITAIN, Sweden, the Danes and the Dutch, Pravda finds, are discovering that, "while dispatching to Europe state cigars, nylon stockings and similar goods of far-from-first necessity, the Americans ask for the right to interfere in the domestic affairs of western Europe. Sovereignty is to be exchanged against an emerald—made from dried eggs," as recently remarked the British Evening Standard.

But this seems to be the least of it. According to Pravda, the U. S. is threatening to use the atomic bomb, if Europe doesn't accept Marshall Plan aid. Proof is offered by reference to a speech made before the Swedish Chamber of Commerce by Freeman Matthews, new U. S. ambassador to Stockholm.

Reports on the speech as received in Washington show that Matthews never even mentioned the atomic bomb. What he did say was that the European recovery program was vital to the U. S. because, when Europe is threatened, the U. S. has found that it, too, was threatened and must take whatever measures were found necessary.

What happened then was that the Swedish Communist paper NY DAG (New Day) picked up this remark and interpreted it by saying that the atomic bomb was "the measure found necessary."

This is the picture of America that Russia is now telling the world, day after day. That's the way the Russian funny papers work.

stop over at Kansas City, Mo., to visit Mr. and Mrs. Clark Kuppinger and son. The Tuckers expect to be away about a week.

Word from them state they got tied up in a Virginia snow storm and were delayed in making the trip.

K-B Club Has Fine Meeting

The K-B card club was entertained on Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. Frank Bestor in the Coronado apartments.

The winners of the games were Mrs. Frank Bestor high score, and Mrs. Kenneth R. Schmitt, the second honors.

Guests of the club for the evening were Mrs. W. E. Hickey, Mrs. Kenneth Schmitt and Mrs. Fred P. Busch.

The ladies enjoyed delicious refreshments at the homegoing hour.

We have CASH to advance. Just inquire at MUTAUL FINANCE!

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GAMES PARTIES Every Wednesday Evening 8 o'clock at 40 and 8 Club Rooms PUBLIC INVITED Sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary