

The Plattsmouth Journal

ESTABLISHED 1881

Published semi-weekly, Mondays and Thursdays, at 409-413 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska.

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Entered at the Postoffice at Plattsmouth, Nebraska as second class mail matter in accordance with the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$3.50 per year in Cass and adjoining counties, \$4.00 per year elsewhere, in advance, by mail outside the city of Plattsmouth. By carrier in Plattsmouth, 15 cents for two weeks.

EDITORIALS

NOW, COME! COME! LINCOLN

Not that this newspaper is greatly interested, but the following taken from the Lincoln State Journal has greatly perturbed our Mayor Woster:

Plattsmouth Names Street Commissioner

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb.—Chauncey Woolhiser was appointed Plattsmouth street commissioner at a special meeting of the Village Board of Trustees.

He succeeds LaRue Williams who resigned to become manager of the Farmers elevator here.

We realize our esteemed Capitol City is suffering from "growing pains." In fact, the former saintly little metropolis is now contributing its share of drunks, robberies and murders along with its slightly bigger sister, Omaha, but please do not overlook the fact that Plattsmouth has long outgrown the village status, boasts a full-fledged Mayor and City Council, police department, and over 6,000 loyal citizens.

One thing of which we do not boast, however, is the lack of an elevator, Farmer's or otherwise. We discovered that one day last harvest time when we attempted to get the "markets."

CORN AND MAN

Man's dependence upon corn for food, feed for his cattle, and many products vital to his industries, is pretty well known. Less widely appreciated, outside of agricultural circles, is the fact that corn is absolutely dependent upon man.

Corn, as we know the grain today, cannot grow wild, for it is unable to reseed itself. If man should vanish from the earth, corn would follow him a couple of years later. Untended by man, the corn plant would drop its kernel-laden ear at the foot of its stalk. The next year perhaps several kernels would sprout from the half-buried ear, producing a clump of small corn plants so close together that no ears would grow. The following year the corn would have died out completely.

Corn's dependence upon man is a striking commentary on the extent of cultivation it has had in the centuries since it grew as a wild plant.

Botanically, corn is a grass—a very special grass, as special in its way as the creeping bent and Kentucky blues which carpet putting greens and fine lawns. According to Corn Industries Research Foundation, plant scientists estimate that corn's development, from a wild grass bearing rudimentary ears of small seeds to the plant we know today, has taken at least 20,000 years.

Research men, tracing corn's evolution backwards to its original ancestor, have found that one—and possibly only one—seed-bearing grass is related to the present-day corn. This grass, called teosinte, is a native of Guatemala. A clue to the relationship is the fact that corn will cross-pollinate with teosinte.

Many other domestic plants can revert to their wild state if man abandons them. But corn has come so far from its wild form that it is now dependent on man for its successive generations.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TEN YEARS AGO

New automatic telephone equipment replaced at Murray by new dial system. . . . Cass County Sportsman's club was formed with Milton Muncie president, Fred Lugsch vice-president and W. H. Mason secretary-treasurer. . . . Mrs. W. H. Puls returned home from six weeks spent in California. . . . Guests of Miss Olive Gass were Mr. and Mrs. Aron and Dr. H. Luella Carter of Doane College, Crete. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Merritt Kerr entertained the members of the Chess club. . . . Supt. L. S. DeVoe and Frank A. Clويد appeared on guest night program of Fremont Rotary club in that city. . . . Social Workers Flower club tendered farewell party to Mrs. E. B. Hutchison and Mrs. Ray Wiles who were leaving to make their home in Iowa, at the home of Mrs. J. L. Stamp. . . . Junior High School, under direction of Coach H. C. Bogges, presented fine program.

TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO

Residence of Earl Lancaster near Murray looted of \$400 while fire at barn was being fought. . . . Dr. George E. Condra of the University of Nebraska visited here making survey for state geological map. . . . Harry Johnson was possessor of a relic of the costumes of a half century ago—a vest of seal skin fur that was at one time a real part of the Sunday dress of the English gentlemen in the rural section. . . . S. R.

Furse's Fresh Flashes

Why do women who are dicting accept dinner invitations?

A local woman finding a half-filled bottle in the garage stuck it under her husband's nose with the curt inquiry, "Is this yours?" "No, honey," he replied, "if it was mine it would be empty."

Not having a million dollars, I cannot believe I would be miserable if I had a million dollars.

A young Plattsmouth husband is in the dog house because he took one of his new bride's pancakes for a chamois and polished the car with it.

A local lad who went to the city several years ago to seek his fortune certainly must have been successful. We see where the government has offered a \$20,000 reward for information about him.

When cornered by Massachusetts's state troopers, an escaped elephant was headed in the general direction of Maine. Elephants do remember.

Reading the other day where automobile manufacturers are preparing to buy huge quantities of scrap iron to step up the production of steel for the manufacture of new cars, reminds us of a similar circumstance a number of years ago. A farmer out in the central part of the state sent in a shipment of scrap iron and junk tin from the roof of an old shed. Several days later he received this message, "Although your car was in pretty bad condition, we shall be able to make it as good as new in a few days."

Suffering from a severe cold for the past ten days, everyone has advised us to go home and stay in bed. It's good advice, but a country editor has to work for a living. About the only person we know of that can take one of those bed-time recuperation periods is the President.

It seems that being a bartender isn't all joy and pleasure. They say the lip stick is hard to get off the beer glasses.

McKelvie was speaker at Scout Banquet at First Christian church. . . . Smith Service station at Weeping Water was destroyed by fire.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON

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DREW PEARSON SAYS: FRIENDSHIP FEVER SPREADS THROUGHOUT UNITED STATES: AMERICAN PEOPLE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT WELFARE OF FELLOW MEN: GOOD-WILL AMBASSADORS GO TO EUROPE.

WASHINGTON. — When the first Friendship Train finished its run across the country, Henry Kaiser, who acted as special conductor on the New York Central division, suggested that one way to solve European relief was to let the American people run a series of Friendship Trains from different parts of the country.

My reaction was that it couldn't be done. In the first place, the job seemed too tremendous. Second, I thought we had imposed enough on the railroads for free freight. Finally and selfishly, I told Henry that my office had been turned topsy-turvy by the job of running one Friendship Train, that I was a physical wreck from riding on it, and that I didn't see how any more trains could be organized.

However, Henry Kaiser was right. Even as we talked, the Wichita Eagle and other energetic citizens of the southwest had organized a special wheat section of the Friendship Train. Simultaneously patriotic New Englanders had started organizing a Friendship Ship carrying food and clothes to the British Isles, while today two Abraham Lincoln Friendship Trains leave from Lincoln, Nebraska, and Springfield, Illinois.

So it is appropriate and fitting on the birthday of the Great Emancipator to review the attempts of many Americans to carry out his advice: "It is for us the living . . . to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced."

So much of this work has been carried on by individual citizens and groups of citizens that it is hard for any newspaper to cover it all. But it illustrates the fact that the American people have a deep and almost religious concern for the welfare of their fellow men; also that they themselves want to play a part in American foreign policy, not leave it entirely to diplomats.

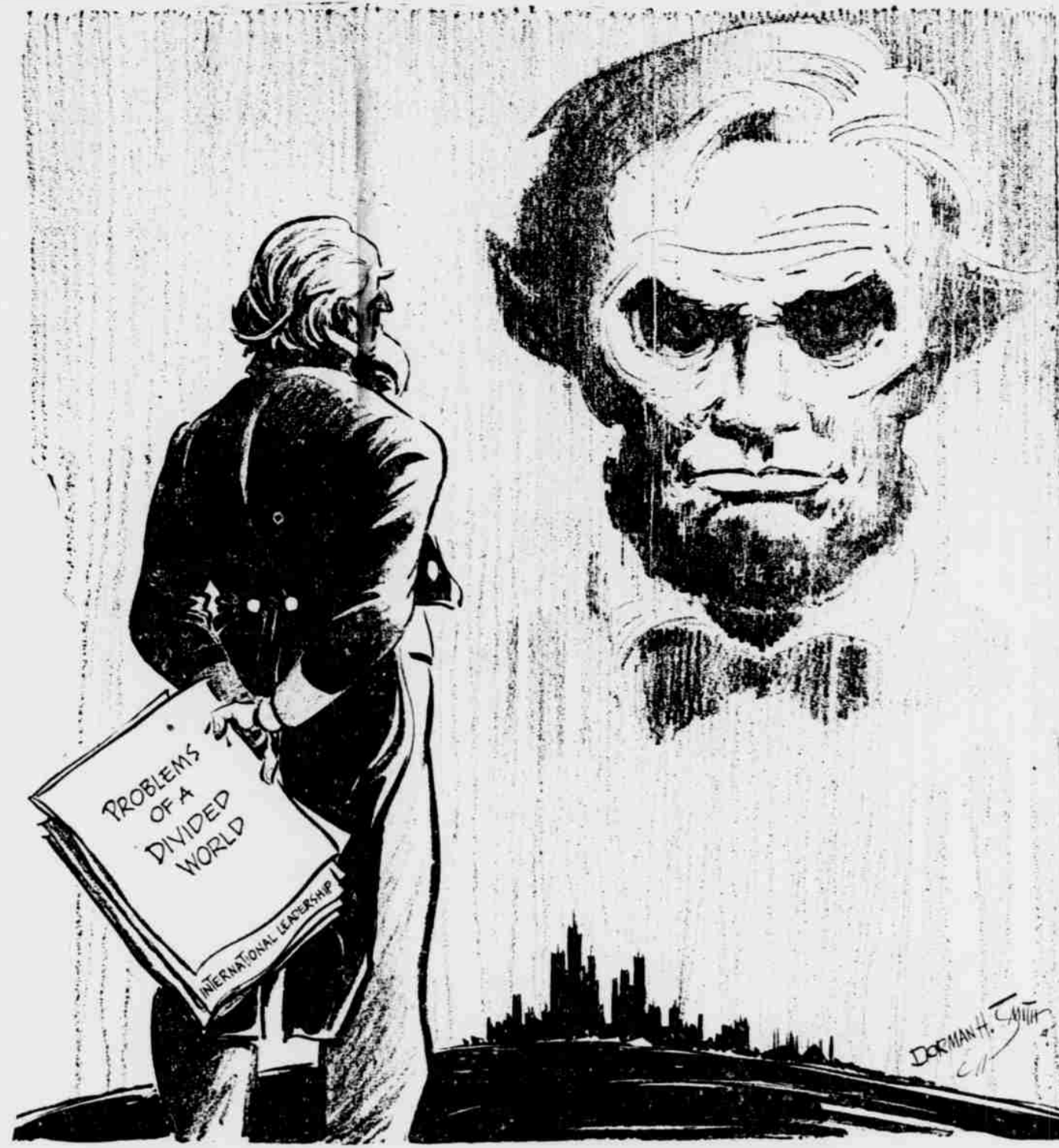
And if the Marshall Plan is able to harness this initiative, if it is able to use this healthy desire of the American citizen to be an active part of his own State Department—then the Marshall Plan will be a success.

Unquestionably, a central, coordinating agency such as that provided for under the Marshall Plan is necessary to direct European reconstruction. However, the wise Marshall Plan administrator will go out of his way to use the tremendous drive and desire of the American people to help their fellow men.

For instance, here are just a few of the things individual Americans, quite independent of their government, have done to carry on "the unfinished work" and build friendship abroad.

MAINE TO LOUISIANA

Up in Maine, a state which the Friendship Train could not visit, the Bath Iron Works received an order to build 30 fishing trawlers to



replace part of the French fishing fleet lost in the war. And instead of sending these ships to France empty, the 33 Rotary clubs of Maine undertook to fill the first trawler, "The St. Patrick" with food and clothing for the people of France.

And on the other side, the Rotary club of Nantes, France, has enthusiastically agreed to distribute this food and clothing in such a way as to build up French and American friendship.

In another New England city, the Eastport, Me., Sentinel carried an editorial suggesting that the sardine industry contribute a carload of sardines to the Friendship Train. Whereupon the Maine Sardine Packers association raised a carload and sent it to Europe through the Unitarian Service committee.

Meanwhile, down in New Orleans, which the Friendship Train had to bypass, various patriotic citizens got together and decided to adopt the city of Orleans, France.

"While the city of Orleans, France, was being bombed," says Mrs. Henry Labry, head of the Orleans foundation, "our own New Orleans gained 100,000 in population. We are prosperous. So we are giving a little of our surplus to the starving people from whence we came."

Accordingly, the SS Maid of Orleans is sailing from New Orleans the latter part of this month loaded with food.

Out in Detroit the other day, Jean Belliard of the French Embassy was addressing the Michigan Junior Chamber of Commerce which raised a Friendship caravan for France. Suddenly he got a phone call from Kalamazoo.

"This is Henry Ford speaking," said the voice on the other end of the line. "No, not Henry Ford, the auto man, but Henry Ford, the Mayor of Kalamazoo. We've adopted the city of Fougères in France, and we want you to come over and give us a brief talk."

Belliard went. He reported to his government later and he has never seen a group where enthusiasm was so contagious.

Friendship Seeds
Meanwhile the seed-growers of Minnesota have worked out a counter-part of the CARE program, whereby packages of seed can be sent to European families so they can grow their own food. Reducing prices from \$5.50 to \$3.95, the seed-growers have arranged so that anyone can walk into a seed store in any

Out Of Old Nebraska

By James C. Olson
Superintendent,
State Historical Society

This February 15th marks the 79th anniversary of the establishment of the University of Nebraska. On that day in 1869 the legislature passed an act providing, among other purposes, "for the location and erection of a State university, agricultural college, and State lunatic asylum."

In the original draft of the bill the words "State lunatic asylum" preceded the words "State university," but by an amendment the order was reversed.

The University had been located at Lincoln by the same act which designated the city as the state capital. Funds for the erection of the first building

part of the country and consign a package either to a friend in Europe or to an American relief agency which will distribute the seed. Enough seed to grow five tons of food is contained in each package.

Meanwhile several druggists in Camden, N. J., led by Sidney Zuckerman and Max Schwartz have been working on the plan of a drug Friendship Train; and in North Carolina, the council of churches has conducted a clothing drive under the slogan "Fill a Ship With Friendship."

Finally on the west coast there was the great job done by the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska in filling a special Friendship Ship; while from California, the state's Maritime training ship, "Golden Bear," is carrying a special cargo of canned milk along with 100 Marine cadets as special ambassadors to help deliver the food.

One of the most important phases of this whole spontaneous move toward American-European friendship is that most of the people who organized these drives are sending their own representatives to Europe as unofficial good-will ambassadors. And it was the experience of those of us who traveled on the first Friendship Train through France and Italy that the Americans took the trouble to visit them personally. We discovered in real fact that the "Gift without the giver is bare."

were provided by the proceeds from lot sales in the city of Lincoln.

The cornerstone for the first building—Old University Hall now about to be razed—was laid September 23, 1869. Members of the Masonic order took charge of the exercises, and, as the capital city did not boast a brass band, one was imported from Omaha to furnish music for the occasion. In the evening there was a banquet, and the day, according to contemporary newspaper accounts, was a red letter one in the history of Nebraska.

The University first opened its doors to students in September, 1871. Out of a total enrollment of 130 only 20 were college students. The remainder were in the Latin or preparatory school. For a number of years the preponderance of high school students in the University student body resulted in its frequently being referred to as the Lincoln High School. This condition, of course, was unavoidable until the state possessed sufficient number of high schools to prepare students for regular college work outside the University.

There was considerable fear among various elements of the state, that the University would come under the domination of

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Thursday, February 12, 1948. PAGE ONE

★ WASHINGTON COLUMN ★

Switch in Federal Reserve Creates Political Pickle

BY PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent



WASHINGTON—(NEA)—By shuffling chairmanship of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors from Marriner Eccles to Thomas B. McCabe of Philadelphia, reducing Eccles to the vice chairmanship President Truman has put the honorable Board in a political pickle. The President's refusal to explain his moves has only heightened speculation in congressional and banking circles. No one questions the President's right to appoint whom he chooses. But this is also public business. And with threats of more serious inflation still facing the country, the need for keeping the Federal Reserve Board on an even keel is now more necessary than ever. Congress can't act intelligently on Truman's appointments unless it knows all the background of what goes on here.

The desire to purge another New Dealer—meaning Eccles—has been suggested. Also the thought that the administration might like to have a Republican—McCabe—to work with the GOP Congress or to blame in case the country headed into economic distress. But to get a fuller understanding of this situation it becomes necessary to look over the membership of the full Board of Governors.

FIRST name that strikes the eye is that of Commodore James K. Vardaman Jr. It will be recalled that Vardaman—one of the Missouri boys—had been Truman's naval aide. He was appointed to Federal Reserve Board in January, 1946.

At that time, it was generally assumed Vardaman would be Truman's man on the Board and ultimately would become chairman. Shortly after taking his seat, Vardaman began feuding with Eccles. While it might therefore be assumed that Vardaman was the man who "got" Eccles, it ain't necessarily so. In the last two years, Vardaman has lost his former position as court favorite.

Eccles, an aggressive, fast-thinking and fast-acting personality, always dominated the Board. Lawrence Clayton, formerly assistant to Eccles, later a Boston banker, was named to the Board at Eccles' insistence a year ago.

There are three other members of the Board. Ernest G. Draper, Washington manufacturer, R. M. Evans, an Iowa farmer, and M. S. Szymczak, Chicago banker.

WHEN Eccles went to the White House in December to talk about his own reappointment as chairman, it was also to recommend that Szymczak be named vice chairman, succeeding the late Ronald Ransom.

Early last January, the President decided to name McCabe to the vacancy caused by Ransom's death, and make him chairman. Eccles' four-year term as chairman expired on Feb. 1, 1948. McCabe was apparently told he could pick his own vice chairman.

McCabe said he wanted Szymczak to be his vice chairman. The President crossed this up. There was a delay of a week or so in telling Eccles he was to be demoted. When he was told, he was thrown the sop of vice chairmanship. Eccles considered resigning. After talking the situation over with congressional leaders, he decided to stay on and stick it out.

But, as the Board lines up now, the period ahead is bound to be difficult. McCabe is an organizer. Vardaman is likely to side with him against Eccles. Eccles is a fiscal expert with pronounced views shared by Clayton. Draper and Evans are uncertain. The man caught square in the middle is Szymczak. There is little doubt about his confirmation. He becomes key man on the Board. His job will be to reconcile whatever differences may arise between McCabe and Eccles. If Eccles' leadership prevails, McCabe will be in an uncomfortable position. If McCabe turns out to be the strong man, Eccles may find it convenient to resign.

one religious group, to the detriment of others. In order to avoid this, care was taken in the beginning to insure that Professors were evenly distributed among the various faiths. The original curriculum provided no electives and students were limited in choice to one of three prescribed courses, the classical, the scientific and the Latin-scientific. The primary difference between the classical (Continued on Page Six)

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