

The Plattsmouth Journal

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EDITORIALS

JOURNAL HITS A PEAK

Thanks to the splendid co-operation of the people of Cass County, The Plattsmouth Journal today has reached the highest point in its paid circulation history. More papers are being delivered to Cass County bonafide subscribers each issue than ever before.
Using the newspaper's yard stick in readers per copy, we believe we are safe in saying that over 12,000 people read each issue of this newspaper and more are being added to the list each passing week.
The publisher of The Journal expresses his thanks to the hundreds of readers that enable us to make this statement. We will endeavor to make your Journal larger, better and more complete as time goes on.

WANT AN AUDITORIUM?

Recently there has been considerable agitation for an auditorium or other municipal building in Plattsmouth. That there is a need for such a structure in the city leaves little room for argument. Not a day passes but what the community is crated from the list of cities being selected for conventions or entertainment due to the lack of proper facilities.
Right now is an opportune time to secure that needed building. A little prodding on the part of the women folks of the community and some effort on the part of hubby, Plattsmouth is in line for a structure to cost up to \$300,000 to be known as an armory. When completed the building can be used for community affairs as well as the Plattsmouth National Guard unit.
Wishful thinking and taking it easy will not get the job done. According to our information appropriations have been made and the money allocated. Actual construction hinges on the organization of the unit within the city and its activities.
Why delay? Enlistment in a local National Guard Unit here would be but a matter of minutes according to good authority. Let's get this project underway without further discussion. Plattsmouth needs this unit and the unit needs Plattsmouth.

DON'T VOTE FOR A 'PIG IN THE POKE'

Not one person in a thousand now a resident of Plattsmouth would cast a blank ballot in the coming city election and allow others to mark the square to indicate who should serve him in the next two years, but that is exactly what could happen if the movement started last week on a write-in campaign were to succeed.
With Mayor Clement Woster emphatic in his statement that he would not accept the office even if their was a remote possibility that a write-in campaign could succeed, it would be up to the members of the city council to name an acting mayor until the next city election one year from this date.
Plattsmouth voters are too well versed in their city politics to give even the lightest hope to any backers of such a movement. It is well the matter has been dropped.

Consumption of canned baby food has jumped annually from 13 pounds per child under three years of age to 45 pounds in the past seven years, Cornell University farm economists estimate.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TEN YEARS AGO

J. M. Quackenbush, formerly of Nuckolls County, was named to succeed D. D. Wainscott as county agent. Plans were being formulated for start of Junior Baseball program to be sponsored by the American Legion, with Fred Herber, chairman. Local Bethel No. 24 of Jobs Daughters were honored by presentation of traveling gavel to reigning queen, Miss Frances Clouet. Everett Pickens opened new rock quarries at Gayer farm south of the city. Iowa-Nebraska Light and Power employees held sales meeting and dinner at Stewart Cafe. Major General Stanley Ford, commander of the Seventh Corps area was received as a Master Mason at Omaha by Grand Master W. A. Robertson of the local lodge.

TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO

Judge Allen J. Beeson was honored on his birthday with a dinner planned by his family to which were invited Charles E. Martin, Judge A. H. Duxbury, L. L. Wiles, Dr. F. L. Cummins, A. H. Duxbury, L. L. Wiles, Dr. F. L. Cummins, berton and William Baird. G. E. DeWolf, former superintendent of schools here was re-elected to head the schools at Creston, Iowa.

Furse's Fresh Flashes

The elderly treasurer of a local Ladies Aid society entered the bank the other day to "deposit the aid money." Henry thought she said egg money and remarked, "Wonderful how well the old hens are doing these days." He still can't understand why the lady left in a huff.

A local high school girl can figure out only one reason her grandmother studies the Bible so much. She thinks the little old lady is cramming her finals.

Some people will do anything for money—except work.

It's Tunny how you never get too old to learn some new way to be foolish.

The man who hits the ball over the fence can take it easy around the bases.

Just read the other day where gas exploded in a man's lungs killing him while undergoing an operation. Maybe it's unwarranted uneasiness, but it's got us worried about the gas on our stomach.

A guy applied for the life guard position at Merritt's Beach the other day who is six feet eight inches tall. He said he couldn't swim, but he could wade to beat the devil.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says it used to be bad enough walking back from motor car rides, but this business of parachute jumping is getting on her nerves.

Our washer woman says she ain't seen her neighbor girl's fiance, says it ain't been in the wash yet.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

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

IMPOVERISHED NAVAJOS OWN URANIUM TREASURE; LEWIS SEEKS SHOW-DOWN; CENSORSHIP BEFRIENDED MACARTHUR.

WASHINGTON—It now looks as if the poverty-stricken Navajo Indians, trying to scratch a precarious living from the wastelands of Arizona and New Mexico, may own one of the most priceless pieces of property in the USA.
For some time our chief worry in the production of atomic energy was the fact that all uranium deposits lay outside the United States. However, it now appears that the Navajos have been tending their pitiful flocks above a hidden atomic treasure. For, upon the Navajo reservation in the upper corner of Arizona and New Mexico, the Vanadium Corporation of America has been quietly extracting uranium.
Further details regarding this operation must remain a military secret. However, one amazing fact can be revealed. So far, the Navajos haven't received one penny for the uranium taken from their land. Instead, the profits have been raked in by the Vanadium Corporation.
The price which the Atomic Energy commission is paying the Vanadium Corporation for uranium is also secret, but a member of the joint Congressional committee on atomic energy predicted that the metal may become almost as precious as diamonds. Since the richest deposits are all outside the United States and could be cut off in case of war, this domestic supply becomes all the more valuable.
But the Navajos, sitting on one of nature's jackpots, so far haven't been able to collect a cent. Reason for this again is largely obscured by secrecy, and only part of the story can be told within the limits of national security.
For one thing, uranium does not exist in its pure form on the reservation but must be extracted as a by-product from vanadium. The only leases to dig for vanadium on Navajo territory—six in all—are held by the Vanadium Corporation. These leases specify that the Indians will be paid 10 per cent royalty on all mineral compounds—except vanadium compounds. In the latter case, the royalty is stipulated as 10 per cent of the vanadium oxide, a metal used to toughen steel. Since uranium is part of the raw vanadium ore until processed, the company conceivably might get away with paying royalty only on the comparatively valueless vanadium oxide, not on the other raw vanadium out of which uranium comes.
However, the Indian service takes the view that uranium is a separate metal apart from vanadium, therefore is subject to the full 10 per cent royalty fee. But the amount of uranium taken from the reservation is unknown to the Indian service which hasn't any record of a single royalty payment to the Navajos for uranium. Yet the Vanadium Corporation is known to have been extracting it for several years.
The Vanadium Corporation declined all comment on the grounds that its uranium project is top secret. But the Atomic Energy commission informed this columnist that on the amount of royalty payments no secrecy is involved.

LEWIS WILL FIGHT
John L. Lewis has told close friends that he is set to go to the Supreme Court to test the constitutionality of the Taft-Hartley Labor Act. Lewis firmly believes that the Taft-Hartley provision compelling workers to return to their jobs by injunction—if a strike endangers the nation's welfare—is unconstitutional.
Therefore, if an injunction is obtained against



WASHINGTON COLUMN New Report Gives Finger-Tip Picture of U. S. Business

BY PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent



WASHINGTON—(NEA)—A quick picture of U. S. business conditions is revealed in a new series of some 30 charts and supporting statistical tables prepared by the President's Council of Economic Advisers. First of the series, ready April 1, will be issued under the title, "Economic Indicators."
It is a strictly limited circulation affair. Only 100 copies of the first issue are being printed. Copy number one will go to the President's desk. Other copies will go to the heads of government agencies, their top economists and planners, and the Joint Congressional Committee on the Economic Report. No use for any private citizen to try to buy, beg, borrow or steal one, because they aren't for sale, says Chairman Edwin G. Nourse of the Council of Economic Advisers.
But the value of "Indicators" will probably create some demand for their wider circulation. They put together in one 10-by-15-inch booklet all the basic but scattered data every well-informed business expert wants at his finger-tips.
The Council's intention is to revise the charts monthly and on a faster schedule than is possible for the more detailed Commerce, Labor, Agriculture or Interior data. In January and June the report will be issued as part of the President's semi-annual report on economic conditions to Congress. The other 10 months of the year, "Economic Indicators" will be issued separately.

WHAT the first set of charts reveals factually and without interpretation is a still expanding economy. Consumer prices—the cost of living index—are still going up, though wholesale prices leveled off in February.
Personal income of individuals is approaching an all-time high of over \$210,000,000,000. Installment buying, charge accounts and other consumer credits have risen above \$13,000,000,000. This is 50 per cent above a year ago, a third greater than prewar.
Industrial production has been rising since January, 1947, to an index number above 190, as compared with 100 in 1939 and 247 in November, 1943. Construction continues its usual winter decline, but is higher than mid-summer, 1946.
Other charts cover production in various industries, expenditures for new plants and equipment, strikes and lockouts, bank deposits, purchasing power, corporate profits, consumer income and spending, savings, average earnings, stock prices, cash farm income, prices received and paid by farmers and the parity ratio.

Circulation of "Economic Indicators" is being held down to 100 copies because Council of Economic Advisers has no money to go into the publishing business. In spite of the limited edition, this is not the most exclusive of the government's publications. That honor is reserved for a series of hand-made, colored charts called "The Budget in Operation." Only six copies of this work are in existence.

THE President keeps copy number one in his top desk drawer. This is the book which Mr. Truman held up for reporters to see at a recent press conference when he wanted to show how the cost of living had been rising steadily since the end of the war.
Other copies are held by Budget Director James E. Webb, Nourse, Treasury Secretary Snyder, Acting Chairman Marriner S. Eccles of Federal Reserve Board.

The sixth copy is a "floater." Charts in the book are revised monthly. While one copy is being brought up to date the floater is substituted so no holder will ever be without his book.
"The Budget in Operation" was originally prepared by Bureau of the Budget to deal with government finances only. Then a few charts on general business conditions were included. Then Budget Bureau began duplicating a cheap reprint of the general economic charts for wider circulation.

Lewis's striking United Mine Workers members, the mine labor boss intends to fight it right up to the Supreme Court.
"This is not so much a fight against mine operators," Lewis told an intimate. "It's a fight against the Taft-Hartley Act. I want a showdown and I won't give up until I get one."

MacArthur's Censorship
When Harry Truman was chairman of the Senate War Investigating committee he came near blasting one piece of wartime censorship. If he had, it would have cast a somewhat different light on one of his present political opponents—Douglas MacArthur. But he didn't.
Wartime censorship sometimes operated in a peculiar manner. The manner in which U. S. planes were caught napping and burned on the ground at Pearl Harbor was known to the world

committee members, when three Senators—Hatch of New Mexico and Connally of Texas, democrats; with Ball of Minnesota, republican—objected. Truman yielded to their objection and withdrew the criticism of MacArthur.
The two censored paragraphs read:
"Censorship is an insult to the patriotism and intelligence of the American people. In the past, it has led to many unwise acts, such as the concealing of facts known to the enemy, and even the dissemination of distorted information. For example, the Japanese knew perfectly well the destruction they had wrecked upon our airplanes in the Philippines, but for two years the War Department requested that it be kept secret from the public that 300 planes were destroyed on Philippine airfields a number of hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor was known."
"The loss was only recently made public and there is at least a suspicion that part of the reason for requesting the committee to consider the information 'secret' as the desire to avoid resentment by the public of the loss of 300 planes which would have been so valuable to the defense of the Philippines."

Merry-Go-Round
Quoth ex-Congressman Maury Maverick after returning to San Antonio following several months in Los Angeles: "I love my worst Texas enemy more than my best California friend."
Payne Ratner, ex-Governor of Kansas recently dropped in to see Capt. Howard Yeager, efficient aide to the Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Louis Denfield, asked Yeager to use his influence with his father-in-law, Roy Bailey, publisher of the Salina, Kansas, Journal, in favor of Sen. Arthur Capper. Ratner admitted Kansas didn't have much of a choice between Capper and his G.O.P. primary opponent, Andy Schoepel, but claimed Capper was the lesser of two evils. He replied Captain Yeager: "My job is the Navy, not running my father-in-law's politics."

and the military commanders responsible were severely reprimanded. But the manner in which General MacArthur's bombers were also caught napping at Manila and burned on the ground was censored.
Three hundred planes, sent to Manila at great sacrifice to U. S. air forces in other areas, were lost as a result. MacArthur had been demanding that planes be sent him instead of going to be "quartered" England, at that time unmercifully pounded by Nazi air attacks.
But though MacArthur had a special warning that the Japs were attacking, while Pearl Harbor didn't, he left his 300 planes helpless on the ground.
The Truman committee, discovering this fact, devoted two paragraphs to it in a quarterly report dated March 4, 1944. The copies of the report were in type and circulated confidentially to

THE PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, JOURNAL
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DEMOCRATIC COLUMN

Prepared by
ATTY. FRANCIS M. CASEY
Democratic County Chairman
Plattsmouth, Nebraska

Our Republican opponent (identity unknown) wants the public to think back only a few years ago, and recall the many luxuries they enjoyed, and the many freedoms of activity to which they were privileged, and compare them with the present. He particularly refers to the past 14 years. This brings to the writers mind one thought, namely that May, 1948, marks the 15th anniversary of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. During these 15 years of the FDIC, 404 banks failed, 3 of which were merged and reopened without any help. The remaining 401 banks had depositors numbering 1,319,427 and their loss was less than one-eighth of one per cent. Now, compare this with the good old times that the Republicans want to recall, particularly the so called prosperous GOP year of 1926 when 1,000 banks folded in one year with the result—actual wiping out of the life savings of thousands of families. Now he has the audacity to talk about bankruptcy and swift bankruptcy? Is that Now it appears from where I sit that you will go bankrupt sooner when you lose a thousand banks a year than you will when you lose 404 banks in 15 years. What do you think about that Mr. Republican? Do you want George to answer that one too?

We all know the Republican propaganda for having claimed big reductions in government, but let us take a peek behind the propaganda curtain and see what actually happened in the 80th Congress. The House of Representatives adopted a resolution promising to cut the President's budget by six billion dollars. When the matter went to the Senate, the Republican majority frankly admitted that they could not cut the budget six billion but said they would cut it by four and one-half billion dollars and adopted a resolution as such. But what happened? Did they reduce the budget by six billion dollars? No. Did they reduce the budget four and one-half billion dollars? No. They went through the form of reducing the budget by phony deductions. Now I am not going to stop my argument here as a Republican would with generosity, but I will cite an instance which shows that they increased the costs of government rather than decreased. The Republican Congress voted to reduce the appropriation for the Bureau of Internal Revenue by eight hundred million dollars. Was this a reduction? No. This was the amount of money that had been over paid by taxpayers and was due the taxpayers in the form of refund. So what they actually did was to postpone payment of an honest obligation. The law makes it clear that if these tax refunds are not paid they draw interest at the rate of 6 per cent. As a result of this bit of trickery to make the public feel that they had actually reduced the budget, you and I as taxpayers must pay the interest penalty.
There is nothing in the world that will bankrupt anyone quicker than high interest rates; and after pulling this little trick, they now want to condemn the Democrats for squandering. I'll say this, the Democrats did spend a lot of money, but it was spent for useful purposes. It was not spent in the form of interest in an attempt to make phony cuts look real. Of course this all happened in 1947, but what about 1948? The Republican Congress makes a current boast that they will pare the President's budget two billion five hundred million, but what have they done to date about keeping their promise. I'll tell you. The Republicans have to date passed bills which would add five hundred million dollars to the President's estimated expenditures; and that is exclusive of the recent request by the War Department.

Well here we go again folks we are still being taken for a ride on the Democrat Merry-Go-Round. In typical Democrat style the spokesman for the Cass County Democrats attempts to answer some of the propositions put to him in the Republican column two weeks ago, and has failed to clinch any of his points. We also note that there were several he felt were better left unanswered.
In his attempt to answer the question of the withholding of the data on the loyalty investigations, he begs the question by trying to make it appear that we are accusing President Truman of being a Communist. He has no answer to the point we made that it is refused to members of a Congressional committee—yes even Democrat members. If the men who make our laws and shape our destinies are refused information, how can they arrive at judicious conclusions—protect our interests? Answer the question Mr. Casey.
In answering my point on the Democrats taking credit for the inflation—for he did take credit for the three dollar coin, he attempts to slip around the edge and try to justify it on the basis that the price of farm machinery was higher. Why was it higher? BECAUSE THE SAME INFLATION, FOR WHICH THEY TAKE CREDIT, WAS THE REASON WHY THE PRICE OF FARM MACHINERY WENT HIGHER. As the cost of living went up to the working man, due to higher prices for corn and other farm products, the working man sought and got wage increases which caused the prices of manufactured goods, farm machinery, radios, etc., to go higher—so you see it is still your hot potato.
It is also interesting to note that he does not quote from the "World-Herald" or any poison propaganda sheet" placing the World-Herald in the same category as a propaganda organ—a newspaper that has been known as a Democrat paper since the days it was established by the late Democratic Senator Gilbert M. Hitchcock. Don't you fellows even trust your own Democrat newspaper?
To lend credence to his remarks he quotes from the Congressional Record, and accuses the Republicans of too much talk and too little action. He tells us that the Republicans have been in power in Congress since January 3, 1947 and haven't done much to remedy the situations they have talked about. Does he recall that a number of years ago—sixteen to be exact, Franklin Delano Roosevelt told the American people that ONE-THIRD OF THE NATION WAS ILL FED, ILL CLOTHED AND ILL HOUSED. The inflation of the Democrats has not alleviated these circumstances, and today MORE than one-third of the nation is ill housed—now who has been talking for some time and doing little—I say that if in sixteen years the Democrats have been unable to do something about the situation HERE is conclusive proof of MUCH TALK AND LITTLE ACTION.

REPUBLICAN COLUMN

Prepared by
A REPUBLICAN
Desiring a Continuation of
This Column



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The Democrats like to pose as the saviour of the Farmer. In 1933 they passed a processing tax under the triple A. The farmer paid this tax. It was later declared unconstitutional and should

(Continued on Page Three)



Site of the Northwest Airlines DC-4 crash that cost the lives of 30 persons on a chartered plane flight from Shanghai, China. It was carrying 24 members of an oil tanker crew.