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EDITORIALS

BOOST THE FIREMEN

Although the current drive for funds for the local Vollunteer Fire Department have met with considerable success, according to Fire Chief Henry Donat, more funds can be used for the Surchase of badly needed equipment.

Individuals and business groups of the city have contributed on a generous scale during the past few weeks, however, contributions from the rural areas near the city have lagged. Several farm owners have made sizeable contributions, especially those who have in the past called for the assistance of the local department and received prompt response.

It is well to remember that members making up the local fire squad receive no pay for their services. Their efforts are a contribution to the welfare and protection of the city and surrounding community. They serve day or night, in all kinds of weather, and under all conditions. In the past they have been instrumental in saving thousands of dollars for individuals who, without their services, would have suffered heavy losses. Make an effort this week to place a token of your appreciation of past services in the hands of Chief Donat, Clem Woster, or any member of the department. It will be appreciated and at the same time will contribute to your protection against fire losses during the years to come.

ROAD LEVY COULD CARRY

Many persons are lamenting the fact the proposed one-mill rural road special levy failed to carry at the recent election, due to the fact this special ballot.

disappointed over the outcome. First, the voters marking the ballot revealed their willingness to add to the road fund by a near two to one majority. This indicates to this writer that Cass Countians will go along on a sound road building • program

Second in talking to many who went to th polls April 13, a number were not sold on the levy being used for the specific purpose of constructing rural route roads. Many felt any money raised by general taxation should be used through the regular road and bridge fund and spent in the areas most in need of repair and rebuilding, regardless of its location or purpose.

Third, this newspaper does not believe a one mill levy adequate to make a dent in the present emergency. Raising only about \$35,000, the total amount under today's costs would add little to improving the tragic condition of Cass County's road system.

We still insist that what the county officers should do, and with little delay, is to map out a lanned road building program. Put at the head of this program a man qualified by education and deed to properly administer the project, estimate the long term cost and then place before the taxpayers of the county either a bond issue or a special road and bridge mill levy to cover the cost over a period of years.

It is going to take a few hundred thousand dollars to get Cass County into the good roads group and we had better face the facts now.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TEN YEARS AGO

John E. Turner filed for relection to office of County Treasurer . . . Dr. and Mrs. F. G. Burgess enroute to their home at Cedar Rapids, Neb. from a winter spent in Texas, were visitors at the home of Mrs. J. A. Donelan, sister of Mrs. Burgess Holy Rosary and St. John's parishes held marble tournament under auspices of CYO, with winner being Ivan Smith and Tommy Doody of St. Johns and E. Gradoville and Bill Reddie from Holy Rosary . . . Rain and windstorm caused some damage in this vicinity . . . M. W. A. spon-

sored a Modern Youth club TWENTY ONE YEARS AGO

Richard Avard, former resident and well known musician departed from Omaha with his family to make their home in Vancouver, British Colub-W. D. McMahon, local commercial department instructor was selected to teach summer school at Peru Grounds at Sattler Funeral home were being landscaped Senior, Junior Sophomore and Freshmen classes participated in tree-planting ceremony in parking at school as a feature in observance of Forestery Week Dr. G. L. Taylor, weel known Murray veterinarian received position at Columbus, Ohio IOOF Lodge observed 126th anniversary of order with H. P. Rankin of Lincoln as speaker Base Ball park east of the Burlington passenger station given much needed repairs.

A Kentucky Colonel always closed his eyes when he took a drink. When questioned concerning his habit, he explained: "The sight of good likah, suh," he said, "always makes my moutth watah, suh, an' I do not like to dilute my drink, suh."

Furse's Fresh Flashes

We suspect the "mad hatter" set the price on the missus new spring bonnet.

It won't be long now until the bathing beaches will begin looking like a flock of magazine covers.

A pshycologist suggests rubber heels to combat spring fever. Probably because they won't scratch the desk so easily.

Soon the college graduates will be hunting positions and finding jobs.

There is no place like home if the place is home-like.

Take a good look at people who tramp through the woods. No wonder the wild flowers are wild.

A pound of phosphorus will tip a million matches-just about enough to light a nickle ci-

A Kansas man made a flying machine out of an old auto. This frequently happens on Cass Coun-

onions right at love making season. The summer bugs will be coming in about the middle of June-and the rest of us will be bugs

It's thoughtless of nature to give us spring

Express trains hold the non-stop for an auto

about the middle of July.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON

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

REPUBLICANS HOLD LIVELY DEBATES AS SECRET CAUCUS: SPEAKER MARTIN PUTS DEFENSE EDUCATION AND POSTAL PAY RAISES: FOUR SENATORS WORKED TIRE-LESSLY TO PASS LOW-COST HOUSING was in full flare . . . "regular

WASHINGTON-Notes from the secret re- tempest calmed. publican house caucus-Big debate over federal aid to education, also salary raises for postal employees. Speaker Joe Martin was opposed to both. to go apart at the seams. The re-So was GOP leader Halleck of Indiana . . . "Dethat a large percentage of voters failed to mark fense come first," said the speaker. "After we ence of the people. I hope we All of the little red flowers are get that out of the way, there'll be plenty of time won't get into any wrangles to individually shaped by hand, left to take up aid to education and postal pay upset that confidence . . Other republicans didn't like this Fence Sitting after whispering with Joe Martin, Halleck finally lectured his flock: "Neither the Brown complaned that the Halleck finally lectured his flock: "Neither the speaker nor I have at any time indicated to anyone what he should or should not do. I reiterate one what he sh that position now. Vote your convictions." meanwhile the teachers' pay bill remains tightly Brown, "that my seat is getting blocked in committee by Rep. Fred Hartley of New sore

"TAFT'S A COMMUNIST"

hurry but not pay for teachers.

Loquacious Congressman Fred "Doc" Smith of provide low-cost public housing Ohio fired blast at the Taft-Ellender-Wagner housing bill. "It's a communist measure," sputter- GOP Senators Charles Tobey of

"Well, we're all entitled to our opinions," re- Taft of Ohio, Ralph Flanders of torted Ohio's George Bender. "But this is the Vermont and Democrat John first time I knew that Bob Taft (sponsor of the Sparkman of Alabama, bill) was a communist."

The caucus howled. GOP leader Charlie Halleck pleaded with Colleagues not to force bills out of committee by which he heads. Almost equal singing discharge petitions. (He had reference to credit belongs to Flanders who margarine) "These fellows who wo around chairmanned the sub-committee and promiscuously sign discharge petitions," and who teamed with Taft in moaned Halleck, "make it hard on the commit- Blocking last-minute efforts by tees" . . . "I suppose the gentleman is hinting at the real-estate lobby to gut the

me," interrupted Indiana's Ed Mitchell. He plead- legislation. ed guilty to circulating the petition to get the margarine tax bill out of the Agriculture com- So was South Carolina's Burnet mittee. But, snapped Mitchell: "I notice the very Maybank, who did Yeoman Serpeople who hollered about it were the very ones vice lining up democratic supwho jumped the gun and signed a petition with port both in committee and on the Democrats for boosting REA (rural electri- the floor, Democrats Alben Barkfication administration) appropriations." "Every ley of Kentucky, senate minorit member has the right to do what he pleases," leader, and Scott Lucas of Illinois soothed Halleck. "But I beleive in party organi- also struck some potent blows for zation. I would never sign a discharge petition

DISCOURAGING GOP ECONOMY

He had led the fight to keep margarine under carried by GOP senators Joe setting out trees for the further ing arranged. Mrs. Glayds Yost tax bondage, but he started off right away, not McCarthy of Wisconsin and beautification of their home or of Milford will be the speaker. knowing of Mitchell's remarks.

"Some of the Republicans are helping to put battled to the last against the Father Edward C. Tuchek, the over repeal of the margarine taxes," he grumbl- long-range public housing proed. "That will only help the southern cotton boys. gram. GOP senator James Kem The northern dairy boys have always been the land of Florida, democrat, gave republicans' friends, and here you are cutting them vigorous support. their throats.'

Mitchell started to get up, changed his mind,

sat tight. Wisconsin's Frank Keefe made an appeal for Wolcott of Michigan, who has economy, critized Colleagues who vote for local, persistently blocked hosue acspecial-interest projects at the expense of republican economy.

"It's mighty discouraging in the appropriations committee," complained Keefe, "to go over a matter and spend time on it and do what you think is right, then have some republicans come in and of Lincoln were in the city Sunknock the props out."

There was lively debate on the question of here with Mr. and Mrs. Louis salary raises for postal employees. Congressman Naeve, parents of Fred. Charles Vursell of Illinois spoke out against the the postal wage raise, contending that government costs and expenses were too great at the present time to warrant raises for any one department William H. Stevenson of Wiscon-

"It isn't our fault that the cost of living has gone up while the democrats were in control during the last 16 years. But we must face the fact that costs have gone up, and unless we pay these

sin replied blisteringly:



experienced and loyal postal employees more money. We're going to lose them to private industry" he reminded Vursell that he had voted for postal pay hikes him-

Missouri's Bill Cole chimed in . . . soon a heated 3-way battle order!" shouted someone and the

Warned Ross Rizley of Oklahoma: "We make a mistake when we wrangle. Vie just don't want publican party has the confid- which will be distributed here, of the city.

Connecticut's Horace Seely-"I have been sitting on the

fence so long," grumbled Seely-Jersey. He rushed the Taft-Hartley act out in a They Deserve Credit

Four men deserve chief credit for senate passage of the Taft-Ellender-Wagner bill, which will for an estimated 500,000 families in the next 5 years. They are New Hampshire, co-author Bob

lessly Tobey worked to get the housing measure out of the bank-

Sparkman was a pillar o strength on the Democratic side war vets and others affected b the housing shortage during the

Harry Cain of Washington. Both | buildings. of Missouri and Spessard Hol-

Note-Major house opponents of the housing bill are banking and currency chairman Jesse tion, together with Charles Fletcher of San Diego, Calif. who runs a real-estate lobby of

Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Naeve day to spend the day visiting

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American Legion Poppy Day, May 1

Disabled veterans at Lincoln Hospital are rushing completion of memorial poppies which will be worn throughout 1948 in honor of the war dead on Poppy Day, May 1, according to Mrs. Louie Baumgart, chairman of Hugh J. city. There are a large number Kearns unit of the American Le-

The local Auxiliary unit alerans unable to do other work.

Making poppies at the hospital is directed by Nebraska de- A neighborhood birthday parof both world wars are employ- hostesses were Mrs. George Lued, older veterans of World War shinsky and Mrs. G. A. Lager-I who have made poppies in pre- strom rious years working side by side | The afternoon was spent in with the younger disabled men visiting and playing games. Winof the second conflict, making ners were high score, Mrs. John the flowers for the first time.

The work is enjoyed by the Walton of Omaha, consolation men, who benefit from it in two prize went to Mrs. Hilda Joways." Mrs. Baumgart explain- hanns ed. First, making the poppies is Table decorations were an obpeneficial as occupational thera- long bowl of purple iris, surpy, providing interesting occu- rounded by lavendar creeping pation for hands and minds dur- phlox and pink flowering aling the long days of hospitaliza- mond. Yellow candles were used tion and convalescence. Second, and a beautiful large birthday the money earned enables the cake with lavendar and white veterans to help provide for frosting. The cake was made by themselves or their families and Mrs. Warren S. Bollmeier,

a powerful morale builder. "Because of the increased pub- ered around the dining room lic response to the Legion and table they all joined in singing Auxiliary Poppy Day appeal, "Happy Birthday" more veterans are being given Lugsch employment this year than ever After refreshments were servbefore," Mrs. Baumgart stated, ed the guest of honor was pre-Every person who wears a pop- sented with gifts in remembrance py, on Poppy Day," she said, "not of the occasion and wishing her only pays tribute to the war dead more Happy Birthdays. but helps the war's living vichabilitation."

Plant Trees Near Holy Rosary Church

year, many of the local people

Convention April 29

tims toward recovery and re- Legion Auxiliary

As the twelve neighbors gath-

pastor of the Holy Rosary church

on west Pearl street, has been

one of fthe busy tree planters of

the past week. In order to add

future beauty to the surround-

ings of this pleasant little church,

the pastor has had some fifty

small trees set out to provide

landscapes to that part of the

of the stately Lombardy Popu-

lars in the trees selected, as well

as the red maples and Cut Leaf

Birch that will make a very at-

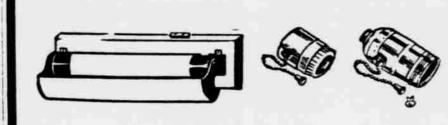
tractive setting for that section

Mrs. Fred Lugsch

Honored Guest

The American Legion Auxiliary of Cass county will hold their county convention at Eagle, In this Arbor Day time of the Thursday, April 29, at 8 p. m Members wishing to go should On the "debit" side, the colors have been busy in sewing grass contact Alpha Mauzy or Sophia August Andresen of Minnesota came in late, of the real-estate lobby were seed, planting their gardens and Wolever. A fine program is be-

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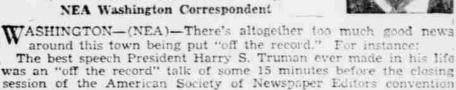
Plattsmouth

THE PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, JOURNAL Monday, April 26, 1948

★ WASHINGTON COLUMN ★

'Off-the-Record' Muzzles Truman's Best Speech

BY PETER EDSON



here in Washington. More than 200 editors were present, 100 Washington correspondents and 500 other guests. They all know about it and are telling their friends about it. But not one line of the subject matter has so far busted into print or on the air.

Truman had previously been on the record and on the air in a short, set speech to the editors about the need for his anti-inflation program. He read from a manuscript somebody else had written for him. It was cold headcheese without pickles or mustard-important, but flat, dull and nothing you could sink your teeth into.

When the President went "off the record" he dropped his lecturing attitude. He talked slowly and naturally. He had poise, pause and emphasis. He made sense. His audience applauded him wildly. THE silly part of this whole performance is that there wasn't any-

thing the President said "off the record" that couldn't have been put on the record. It would have done the American people good to hear it. It would have made perfect material for Voice of America broadcasts to Communist as well as non-Communist countries overseas. It would have made bigger headlines than the President got for his anti-inflation talk. It would have done Harry Truman a lot of good, personally and politically.

But under the unwritten rules of this newspaper and radio business. "off the record" remarks of an official are not printed or broadcast in any way. The real purpose of "off the record" statements is to keep writers or commentators from putting out incorrect information. "Off the record" press conferences are also called to brief correspondents on news coming up for future release. This provides back-

ground so that reporters can write intelligent pieces. "Off the record" remarks therefore do have a real usefulness at some times. Where the system goes wrong is that much of the material given "off the record" might just as well be put "on the record." In the first place, as in all other businesses, there are a few bad actors in press and radio work who make a specialty of breaking the rules by disclosing "off the record" information. In one form or another, most "off the record" dope gets printed eventually.

time censorship. It was never meant for that. PINALLY, the truth hurts only criminals, and if the tradition of a free press means anything, it is that there should be full access to

Secondly, the "off the record" practice operates as a kind of peace-

all sources of information and freedom to print it. President Truman's "off the record" speech to the newspaper editors was the perfect example of this system gone wrong. Dealing with American peace objectives, the defense program and relations with Russia, it was a frank statement of principles that the American public and the world is entitled to know about. It isn't too late yet to put such remarks on the record.

The editors had two other demonstrations of this same thing at their Washington convention. In luncheon meetings, they heard Secretary of Defense James V. Forrestal and Undersecretary of State Robert A. Lovett talk "off the record" on national defense policies and relations with Russia. There wasn't anything they said that couldn't have been put on the record, either. If most of the restrictions now placed on "off the record" material were completely done away with, the press, radio and the public

Dies in Montana Following Stroke

would be a lot better off.

Mrs. W. E. Hickey of this city received word of the death of her prother, Charles E. Kippinger, the flowers produced. Veterans of Mrs. Fred Lugsch. Assistant a stroke suffered a week ago. occurred the marriage of Joe E.

> with Mrs. Hickey, Mrs. Kippinger died in 1936 at Missoula and since that time E. Schutz, second, Mrs. Lydia the husband has continued to make his home in that city.

> > There is surviving his death one son and two daughters. Clarence Kippinger of Omaha, Miss Mary Alice Kippinger of San Jose, California, Mrs. John A. Swanson of Pendray, Montana

For the taste treat of the Get the SEALTEST flavor of the month Raspberry Royale Schreiner Drug

WED AT COURT HOUSE

Plattsmouth.

The funeral and

Mr. Kippinger spent most of his Crutsinger and Bertha J. Hall lifetime in Lincoln and is known | both of Omaha. The marriage to many of the Plattsmouth peo- lines were read by Judge Fauple as he visited here in 1946 quet and at the close of the wed ding the parties departed for

and the sister, Mrs. Hickey of

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