

## The Plattsmouth Journal

ESTABLISHED 1881

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

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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.

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

## EDITORIALS

### ALL OVER BUT THE SHOUTING?

Neither presidential convention produced any important surprises. Governor Dewey moved to the top of the GOP list when he beat Stassen in Oregon. His organization made those of the other hopefuls look woefully amateurish, and he was clearly the logical choice. The stop-Truman movement within the Democratic party was noisy, but it never controlled many votes, and when Eisenhower refused unequivocally to run it promptly died.

The vice-presidential selections came pretty close to being non-controversial. Governor Warren is a magnetic figure, with a remarkable record of vote-getting in the important state of California. Senator Barkley has performed arduous and faithful service, and the delegates obviously wished to honor him.

The platforms, like the keynote and nominating speeches, were exactly what were to be expected. They were designed to offer something to everybody and, so far as is humanly possible, to offend nobody. Couched in general terms for the most part, they are subject to practically any interpretation. In this connection, it would be interesting to know just how many voters pay attention to the platforms anyway. Certainly, they are completely overshadowed by the statements and personalities of the contenders.

All of the commentators reported that a pall of gloom overhung the Democratic conclave. The party leaders were going through the motions out of necessity. Delegates wandered out while the speeches were going on. The spectators' seats were only partly filled. More important, the machine leaders—the men who run the vital state and city organizations and get the vote out—were conspicuous by their absence. They were always present, certain of victory, in Roosevelt's day.

The Republicans, on the other hand, were jubilant when they met in the same hall. They were obviously convinced that after 16 years of starvation they were at last in sight of the promised land. All the polls bear them out in this so far—though it's a long time until November. And most of the commentators are writing as if the election were over, and Dewey is about to enter the White House.

### WHY TOLERATE COMPULSION?

The last Congress did not act on the proposal to saddle the country with compulsory sickness insurance—a project which would add five or six billion dollars a year to the social security bill of the American people through more deductions from payroll checks. But that does not mean the scheme is dead. The forces behind it are vocal and well organized, and it is to be expected that they will work harder in the future than in the past.

There might be some justification for political domination of medicine if it were the only way to safeguard our national health. But every objective survey yet made shows that the health standards of our people are among the best on earth, and are steadily improving. Again, compulsory sickness insurance might be justifiable if there were no other way to prepare ourselves for meeting unexpected doctor and hospital bills. But the voluntary plans—of which the largest now has more than 30,000,000 members—have brought this protection within the reach of almost all workers and their families at a remarkably moderate cost. And the fact that the various plans are competing for clients assures that the widest range of benefits at the lowest price is provided.

We must realize that the next logical step beyond compulsory health insurance would be socialized medicine. That view has been expressed by Senator Morse and others in high positions who have made a study of it. And every country which has tried socialized medicine has run into the same trouble. The overall cost of medical care has gone up—while the standards of medical service have gone down. What else can be expected when the doctor is subjected to the politician and the bureaucrat? The examples of other nations should alone be sufficient to block every scheme that would endanger free medicine in this country.

## DOWN MEMORY LANE

### TEN YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Barkus and daughter Bonnie Jean of San Bernardino, California were guests at the Frank L. Barkus home . . . Viva Palmer entertained at a miscellaneous shower for Miss Lucille Case . . . Mr. and Mrs. Frank A.

## Furse's Fresh Flashes

One way to put a lasting finish on your car is try to beat the train to the crossing.

Right now the average man is boss in his own home—the wife is away on vacation.

Columbus sailed from Europe 456 years ago. Smart man.

Some of the summer styles are so sensible we don't expect them to last long.

When all the people who don't vote in the coming elections are placed in one group, they'll start criticizing the candidate elected.

It's twice as easy to start doing nothing as it is to stop.

Among the other good reasons for keeping your temper is that nobody else wants any part of it.

Gardens are swell examples—if you expect to make anything out of them you have to get out and dig.

Heard this one the other day: Mama Skunk was worried because she could never keep track of her two children. They were named In and Out. And whenever In was in, Out was out. One day she called Out in and told him to go out and bring In in. So Out went out and in no time at all brought In in. "How," said Mama Skunk, "in all this great forest, could you find In in so short a time?" "It was easy," said Out. "In stinct."

Cloidt and daughters returned from a trip to Canada and the Pacific Northwest . . . Ruth Chauman, head of the children's home in Chicago was a guest of her parents Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Chapman of Nehavka . . . John Rishel and Bill Rosencrans returned from a vacation at Estes Park.

### TWENTY ONE YEARS AGO

Kenneth Katterson, well known clerk at Plattsmouth State Bank, resigned to accept position as assistant cashier at First State Bank in Gothenburg . . . Neighborhood in section of city on Marble and Rock streets stirred up by visit of a "Peep" . . . Sheriff Bert Reed reported recovery of an expensive four passenger Studebaker coupe found abandoned near South Bend, with no clues to ownership . . . Fire Chief Sandin submitted flattering report to city council of local fire fighters work for year . . . Miss Mathilde Soennichsen accompanied by Miss Martha Jepson of Omaha visited in the east on a combined pleasure and business trip . . . Mrs. C. A. Young and Billy returned to Dayton, Ohio following a visit with Mrs. Young's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Seybert.

## The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON

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DREW PEARSON SAYS:

U. S. WITHDRAWAL FROM BERLIN WOULD RUIN CHANCE OF REBUILDING WESTERN GERMANY. BUSINESS ENTERPRISE THERE DISCOURAGED BY RUSSIANS, SAYS AMB. ROBERT MURPHY; U. S. PUBLIC FAVORS GETTING INFORMATION TO RUSSIAN PEOPLE VIA BALLOONS OR ANY OTHER WAY.

WASHINGTON. — When General Lucius Clay testified before a closed-door session of the house foreign affairs committee regarding Berlin, he was asked a question about the reconstruction of Germany. Before Clay could reply, Ambassador Robert Murphy, state department representative in Germany, interrupted to answer for him.

Unfortunately, Murphy said, it was impossible to get private capital interested in Germany. Though the banks are full of money, everyone in Europe fears that when the United States moves out of Western Germany the Russians will move in, Murphy said. That would mean the confiscation of all private property.

Ambassador Murphy gave this as one of the chief reasons why the United States could not leave Berlin now.

"If we pull out of Berlin," Murphy told the congressmen, "People will say 'that is exactly what will happen in Western Germany later.' It would undermine all confidence in us."

When a German sets up a business enterprise in the American zone of Germany even today, Murphy told the congressmen, a Russian agent is certain to come around and discreetly warn that if he continues his operation he will be put down in the Soviet Black Book. And when American troops move out and Russia moves in, he is told that he will be liquidated.

General Clay concurred with Murphy that this psychological factor was one of the biggest reasons why the United States had to stay in Berlin. To withdraw would mean the end of whatever confidence the U.S.A. had built up in Western Germany.

### HOW TO PENETRATE IRON CURTAIN

General public reaction to the idea of going over the head of the Kremlin by floating weather balloons from France and Germany over Russia with messages and gifts to the Russian people has been favorable. Government reaction has been reasonable favorable—though slow.

Both government and private meteorological experts agree that the wind currents make the floating of such balloons entirely feasible. In

### EVIDENTLY THEY DON'T BELIEVE IN SIGNS



fact, the Japs floated them all the way across the Pacific to Washington and Oregon. Their balloons, however, carried missiles of death, these would carry messages of friendship.

This columnist holds no brief for any particular means of reaching the Russian people. If any other way is better than balloons, fine. But I do maintain that as a nation we are doing almost nothing to get behind the Iron Curtain and show the Russian people that we are not what the Moscow propagandists say we are. Until we have some brake on the Kremlin to prevent it from declaring war overnight there will always be danger of war. That brake must be the Russian people.

Anyway here is a cross section of mail showing how the American people feel about it.

### BALLOONS TO RUSSIA

Arthur B. Borden, Borden Mills, Inc., New York—Thanks for your open letter to Secretary for Air Symington re information to Russian people. Having had the honor of serving under General Le May both in India and Guam believe his boys could really do the job you suggest. The Borden Mills, Inc., of 90 Worth Street, New York City, would like to make a cloth contribution . . . Mrs. Herman H. Hardison, Bat Cave, N. C.—at last here is a powerful suggestion of how we may perhaps prevent another war. Showing our strength, but with that strength getting to the Russian people with messages containing facts about our country, and letting them know of our latent friendship . . . Emerson Rupert, consultant, Bradenton, Fla.—I agree heartily with your ideas on reaching the Russian people directly. Your current suggestion can be followed up with a dynamic program to sell peace, democracy and freedom to all men. We've got to exert every possible effort to avoid war . . . Edward Nielsen, Cozad, Neb.—Your letter to Stuart Symington is best suggestion for peace I have yet heard. I am sure if the Russian people understood us, they would not fight us. If I can help in any way, I will . . . H. A. Smith, 226 S. W. 5th Ave., Miami, Fla.—A good big crowd of us have just finished reading your piece in Tuesday night's "Miami Herald" and it's a corker. If our fellows have got enough guts, they will pronto supply those "free" gifts from those swell firms that offered them, load those planes and do exactly as you described . . . Robert B. Flanders, North Attleboro, Mass.—very rarely do I feel as much moved as I was by your recent column in the form of an open letter to Secretary Symington. You might just possibly be interested in the fact that I read it in Joe Martin's own newspaper—The North Attleboro Chronicle. It is most heartwarming to have it publicized that the so-called "warmonger industrialists" are willing to be so generous for the cause of peace. Keep pounding on that theme. . . Arnold J. Nelson, Washington, D. C.—I

have been reading newspaper columns for years, but yours today, suggesting using our B-29s to carry leaflets to the Russian people so impressed me that I am writing my first letter to a columnist . . . L. R. Dillingham, Portland, Ore.—Your suggestion relative to the friendship balloons is a grand idea, especially if they were carrying such articles as you mention. It's these simple, convincing things that reach the heart of most people. The general tendency of all peoples is friendliness . . . M. S. Ruckett, Richmond, Va.—This letter is being written simply to say that I approve most heartily of the line you are taking. Far from thinking you are "a terrible bore on the subject," I for one thrill with enthusiasm when you come out with these admirably constructive ideas. . . Roy B. Muskegon, Mich.—To me this is a wonderful idea and one that our government should get behind. I am just an average citizen, neither a pacifist nor a warmonger, perfectly willing to fight if it is necessary, but hoping and praying for peace.

Would Ban Unlocked Cars

NEW YORK (UP)—Instances of teen-age children stealing unlocked automobiles increased to a point where Justice I. Montefiore Levy of the Bronx children's court asked the city council to pass an ordinance making it a traffic violation for a motorist to leave an unoccupied car with the ignition key in the dashboard.

## LETTER BOX

The Journal welcomes letters from readers for this column on any subject. Your name must be signed to all articles intended for publication, however, by request, it can be omitted from the letter appearing in print. (Contents do not necessarily express the opinions of this newspaper.)

TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
U. S. Savings Bonds Division  
July 26, 1948

Mr. R. R. Furse  
Plattsmouth Journal  
Plattsmouth, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Furse:  
During the past seven years, since the Savings Bond Program was first started in Nebraska, it has been my pleasant duty as Deputy Director to work closely with your newspaper and with other members of the newspaper fraternity in Nebraska.

On August 1, I am resigning my position with the Treasury Department's U. S. Savings Bonds Division to accept a position in civil life as Field Director of Te Deum International, with headquarters in Springfield, Ill.

I would be remiss if I did not thank you personally and your entire staff for the very excellent publicity in your news and advertising columns which you extended to the Treasury's Savings Bonds Division not only during the war years, but in the three peace-time years that have followed.



## I DO TOO DRINK ROBERTS

Certainly they drink ROBERTS. Their mothers insist on the very best when these children drink milk. Youngsters prefer ROBERTS HOMOGENIZED MILK because of its creamy, rich flavor. It's the ROBERTS flavor . . . carefully guarded during eighteen tests for purity, richness, and flavor . . . from the time the farmer's milk reaches the ROBERTS DAIRY . . . until it leaves the coolers to be delivered to your favorite store.



THE PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL  
Thursday, July 29, 1948  
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### ★ WASHINGTON COLUMN ★

## Third Parties Usually Collapse As Others Adopt Their Planks

BY PETER EDSON  
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—What comes out of the Third Party convention at Philadelphia will be worth watching. Not that there is any danger of a "Stop Henry Wallace" or a "Stop Glen Taylor" movement developing. The ticket of the agriculturist and the guitar player—or is it a banjo?—is sure to win.

The things worth listening to will be the voices of protest—what the delegates and the witnesses before the third party's platform committee will be crying about.

Third parties aren't anything novel, although Henry Wallace's movement is treated like something brand new. There have been half a dozen third parties since the Civil War. Their histories have been remarkably the same. All were born out of protest over existing conditions. All were started by theorists or reformers. They made their complaints heard. Then the things they were shouting for were absorbed or adapted by one or the other of the major parties. Then the third parties died.

The Greenback party of the 1870's was built around bankrupt farmers who wanted monetary relief. The party reached its peak in 1880, when its platform called for women's suffrage and federal income taxes. Both were adopted in Woodrow Wilson's time. The Populist Party of the 1890's advocated, among other things, the establishment of government crop loans. They were realized by the AAA and the CCC of the New Deal.

DOMESTIC policies that the Wallace party spellbinders have been complaining about thus far in their campaign include civil rights, high prices, housing, the Taft-Hartley act.

It is noteworthy that both Democratic and Republican platforms, adopted recently at Philadelphia, include civil rights planks, with the GOP being much more specific. The Democratic platform also called for repeal of the Taft-Hartley act, increased minimum wage standard and social security, better housing legislation and the return of controls over inflation.

To the extent that the coming special session of Congress takes action on all these issues, it will be adopting or adapting Wallace party objectives. The effect will be to cut down the third party vote.

The Third Party platform planks on foreign policy are apt to be a queer confusion. Wallace's rallying cry is "Peace." But his appeal is to the pacifists who are opposing universal military training, the Jews who don't like Truman's record on Palestine, and the Communists who don't like the present bi-partisan policy on Soviet Russia.

LAST May, CIO President Phil Murray charged that the U. S. Communist Party was directly responsible for starting the Third Party movement. This charge has never been denied. It has been substantiated by statements in the New York Daily Worker, which is supporting the Wallace candidacy. And, according to short wave broadcasts in English to the U. S. from Moscow, the Third Party is sweeping the country in protest against the two older parties.

Actually, political leaders are now far less afraid of the Third Party movement than they were several months ago. At that time, there was some prospect that the Wallace movement was supported by 10 per cent of the 50,000,000 voters expected to go to the polls this year. But new estimates put his following at about 5 per cent, or 2,500,000 votes. That's still enough to swing the election.

But, as of July 1, the Third Party had been certified on the ballot in only eight states. It has been barred in three and is awaiting certification in six more. Wallace and Taylor may not be on the ballot in half the states, although at the Third Party convention in Philadelphia, all of the 48 states will be entitled to seat up to eight delegates and one alternate for each of the 531 U. S. electoral votes. That's to fill up the hall and make it look like a big show.

In bidding you farewell, may I express the hope that you will continue to support the U. S. Savings Bonds program in the fine way which you have during the past seven years. I also hope that the fine relationships which have existed between your news-

paper and our office will continue in the years that lie ahead. Sincerely yours,  
STEVE SPITZNAGLE  
Deputy Director for Nebraska

Use Journal Want Ads

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