

The Plattsmouth Journal

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EDITORIALS

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Plattsmouth Journal this week joins with dozens of local business men and women, plus numerous wholesalers, in extending congratulations to Mr. H. M. Soennichsen on his 60th anniversary in the retail business in Plattsmouth.

Sixty years is a life's span for many individuals. But, to spend 60-years behind the counter dealing out merchandise and good will to your fellow man, is a record few can look forward to. Add to this a record of achievement and success through prosperity and distress, and still number your close friends by the hundreds points to a fact that few of us will ever equal the record.

From a very small beginning, Mr. Soennichsen, through a firm policy of honesty and fair dealing, has succeeded in building a business institution second to none in Eastern Nebraska. And, even today, following 60 years of untiring effort his influence continues to be a directing force throughout the entire organization. Each day, good weather and bad, "H. M." is nearly always the first to arrive and start preparations for another day's business.

There are hundreds of families, both here in Cass County and scattered over the Nation, deeply indebted to this man whose business sense is hard as steel, but whose heart is one of gold. In trying times it was H. M. Soennichsen who saw to it that many a child was fed and many a family clothed when the head of the household was unable to provide.

Our most sincere "Best Wishes" to you and hearty congratulations from all of us for many more years of good health and good living among your family and friends.

THINKERS TO RULE THE MASSES

Walter P. Pipkin, noted author of "Life Begins At Forty," believes that the United States in another hundred years will be a collection of a "stupendous number of stupid people, ruled by a small clique of clever people, with high I. Q.'s."

The gentleman may have something in his conclusion. It is apparent in the mania for organization and the mass pressure of groups, led by the nose by professional agitators and well-paid organizers.

The individual who thinks for himself is becoming something of a rarity. As a people, we are a nation of "joiners," and when the leaders of an organization speak, the rank and file supinely accept the views declared.

This is not only true in the matter of politics, but in the matter of religion, sociology, economics and philosophy. Rare indeed is the individual who thinks for himself, speaks his mind and lives his life on the basis of principles that satisfy his intelligence and his conscience. The nation needs more of these individuals but, unless the schools, homes and churches do a better job, there is not much prospect given to discerning individuals.

PRAISES POWER OF PRAYER

A woman, condemned to die for a "sex-lure" murder, has been acquitted in a second trial, following a reversal of the former conviction, and now alleges that the reason she has won comes from the "power of prayer."

The woman was accused of luring another man, while her husband shot and killed him. In the first trial, both were convicted and the man now serves a life sentence. The woman boasts that she "prayed every night" and that she knows that "the Lord answers prayer."

There may be room to doubt the accuracy of her conclusion, especially in her case. If her acquittal is the result of answered prayer, it is hard to understand how anybody is convicted of crime in this country.

Furse's Fresh Flashes

Newspapers are a great deal like women. They both have forms, back numbers are not in demand, they always have the last word, they are well worth looking over, they have a great deal of influence, you can't believe all they say, and there's small demand for the bold-faced type too, and every man should have one of his own and not borrow his neighbor's.

A man who talks in his sleep may ruin his wife's nerves—unless he talks distinctly.

A lot of spring cleaning will be prompted by seeing the hand writing on the wall.

Who remembers when wives used to apply irons to shirt fronts instead of golf links?

Living costs are certainly affecting men's styles—pockets are being worn much flatter this year.

A medical man advises to do as much walking as possible if you want to live long. Our advice is be sure to stay on the same side of the street.

People who break their word soon learn that it never again is as good as new.

Cheer up, you sinners. After you're all through shoveling coal and snow this winter, you can get out this spring and dig a garden.

Well, anyway we had the laugh on California until about January 2.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Lads and Dads mixer held as crowning feature of Boy Scout week; Clair Shallenbarger was made Eagle Scout. . . . University Alumni had reunion observing Charter Day, with banquet and program arranged by Cass County Alumni. W. G. Kieck was elected president, Mrs. John Foreman, Alvo, vice president and Mrs. Nelson Berger, Nehawka, secretary-treasurer. . . . Dr. and Mrs. R. P. Westover entertained at a Valentine bridge party at their home on High School Hill. . . . Attorney C. A. Rawls addressed the Rotarians at Nebraska City, speaking on the life of Abraham Lincoln.

TEN YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Cross returned from a motor trip and sojourn in the southland. . . . Miss Ruth Janda and Mr. Allan McClanahan were united in marriage in a pretty church wedding at Holy Rosary church February 16. . . . Scouting was theme of Rotary at their meeting; E. H. Wescott, Scout Executive leader, presented Cary Marshall and Thomas Solonow who explained phases of scout work. . . . Members of Plattsmouth Volunteer Fire Department were hosts at a "Dutch lunch" to Mayor and City Council in dedication of new club rooms. The lunch was in charge of Sam Arn, president of the department, Herb Schutz, Robert Wurl, Carl Keil and Bob Jacobs.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Copyright, 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)
DREW PEARSON SAYS:
LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES COOL ATLANTIC PACT; CONGRESSMEN STIFFEN LANGE'S DETERMINATION; TRUMAN PATS POLL DISSECTER; STATE DEPARTMENT HINT PUSHED FRANCO LOAN.

WASHINGTON.—It was kept very hush-hush, but Norwegian Foreign Minister Halvard Lange had a very significant secret luncheon with a group of Congressional leaders in House Speaker Sam Rayburn's office just before he returned to Oslo.

At the luncheon, the Norwegian diplomat shrewdly let his hair down to tell American Congressional leaders his nation's troubles resulting from its willingness to join the dynamite-laden Atlantic defense pact. Norway has been under terrific pressure from the Russians not to join the western powers in a mutual-defense agreement.

Lange told the Congressmen who met with him that Norway was not worried about whether or not to throw in its lot with the west. Rather Lange said, the thing that concerned the Norwegians, as well as the Danes, was what would happen in the event Russia began massing troops near the Norwegian border during the period while Congress debated and before American aid became effective. Lange showed a brilliant knowledge of the American legislative process.

He estimated it might be five months before American aid reached Norway in quantity. It was this lag, the foreign min-

A Quick Hatching Is Our Fervent Hope



ister said, that was causing the Norwegians so much concern.

House Speaker Rayburn and Majority Leader John McCormack of Massachusetts both expressed the conviction that America would back Norway to the hilt. But both also warned him that the American legislative processes would have to be followed before the aid could be sent. They assured him, however, that if the Russians began threatening Norway, Congress would only act more swiftly.

Upshot of the luncheon, which was also attended by Appropriations committee chairman Clarence Cannon of Missouri, Foreign Relations committee chairman Sol Bloom of New York, Senator Magnuson and Congressman Mitchell, both of Washington, was that Lange's determination to stick with the west was stiffened.

Note: The luncheon for the Norwegian foreign minister was arranged by his old friend, Congressman Henry M. Jackson of Washington.

TRUMAN ASKS AUTOGRAPH
President Truman is still getting a kick out of the mistake the pollsters, predictors and the newspapers made in the last election. He particularly enjoyed the recent book by Morris Ernst—"The People Know Best"—which dissects the mistakes of the press in the late campaign.

"If you hadn't written this book, I'd have written it myself," Truman told Ernst, when the latter called at the White House the other day. "It just had to be done."

Truman indicated he had read every word of the book and thoroughly enjoyed the way the press and the predictors were taken apart.

"Herbert Hoover," remarked Truman, "told me he had handed out autographs all his life but never asked for one. But I'm one president who is going to ask for an autograph. I want yours." Truman handed a copy of Ernst's book back to him while Ernst inscribed it.

HINT GOT FRANCO LOAN

Here is the inside story on why Franco Spain after so many years in the State department's doghouse has now been able to get a \$25,000,000 loan from the Chase National bank.

The man behind this loan is Paul Culbertson, American charge d'affaires in Madrid. He succeeded in convincing the State department that it is absolutely essential to give Franco some kind of economic help or else he will refuse to cooperate in the allied plans for defending western Europe. Culbertson sent scores of telegrams warning that Franco was heading for serious trouble unless he got dollars somewhere to buy American machinery and equipment needed to keep his factories running.

The problem stumped the State department for a while, because it could not risk giving Spain an American government loan without arousing a loud protest from many Americans



ACHESON MEET DIPLOMATS
... Dean Acheson, the new secretary of state, is shown with his lady as they arrived at Blair House to meet the Washington diplomatic corps for the first time since his appointment as the No. 1 cabinet member. The occasion was the president's annual reception for foreign diplomats.

who consider Franco very much a dictator. Finally it was decided to pass the word quietly to the Chase National bank that it was all right to give Franco a loan. Chase National jumped at the chance, because it's a good business deal that may lead to more loans of this kind.

The State department, meanwhile, is sitting back to watch how Franco spends this first loan so it can decide whether to open up the U. S. export-import bank to him for further help. Needless to say, Paul Culbertson is now aces high with dictator Franco for making all this possible.

AUSTRIAN TREATY KAPUT

Sam Reyber, the American representative at the discussions for an Austrian peace treaty, wants to come back home. Reyber has reported to the State department that, with the conference only three days old, it's already quite clear the Russians have no intention whatsoever of coming to any agreement on Austria.

Therefore, Reyber has suggested that rather than waste time

further, he let an understudy take over his position at the conference while he comes back to Washington to do some real work. The State department, however, is still convinced that the Austrian negotiations by the Big Four deputies to the foreign ministers now going on in London will result in enough concessions by the Russians to warrant a Big Four meeting in New York in April. Actually, the State department is convinced the Russians want to pit Molotov against Acheson to try out our new Secretary of State for size, weight, height and reach.

BUSINESS BIGGIES IN WASHINGTON

President Truman has been holding some highly important off-the-record meetings with business leaders because of his concern about a possible depression. The second meeting took place at Blair House secretly last Thursday and those present included Ward Canaday, head of the Willys-Overland, the motor-car company; Frank Baer, vice president of the Bank of America; Joe Love, president of Burlington Mills, and Vice President Alben Barkley.

Henry Ford II was invited but was prevented from coming by bad flying weather. Grave concern was expressed over Federal Reserve board limitations on installment buying which, it was said, were threatening increased unemployment.

The industrialists told the President and Barkley that the one element blocking continued production is the Federal Reserve board's limit on installment buying.

Canaday of Willys and Baer of the Bank of America pointed out that drastic cutbacks in auto production would mean a real softening of the entire steel market, including the shutdown of some marginal mills. Truman and Barkley seemed impressed by what they heard, promised to take the regulation up with Federal Reserve board chairman Thomas B. McCabe.

Use Journal Want Ads.



THE REPORT of the commission headed by former president Herbert Hoover on reorganization of the executive branch of the federal government likely will be filed piecemeal with Congress between now and March 1; when the commission will officially file its "several billion" dollars worth of report of the commission is carried out and more effective and efficient government would result, according to the report. President Truman is in full accord with the report of the commission.

In the meantime, of tremendous importance as the congress got down to the committee stage in legislation was a report made by Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug before the senate committee on interior and insular affairs headed by Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney of Wyoming. Secretary Krug's report was revealing in its scope both in the work being done with our natural resources and what is not being done but should be done to conserve the raw materials and energy required by the nation to produce the staggering amounts of goods and services necessary for our standard of living.

For instance, we consumed two billion barrels of oil, six hundred million tons of coal, 96 million tons of iron and steel and 300 billion kilowatt-hours of electric power last year. But what happened in addition to this tremendous output? For every two tons of coal mined, one was left in the ground and lost; more energy was wasted through flaring of natural gas in the fields than is produced by the entire series of TVA dams; weight of the average automobile increased in the face of declining iron ore and oil reserves; public range land was over-grazed at the cost of less meat and wool tomorrow; we waste more undeveloped electric power than we produce, and burn in the air a fifth of the natural gas we produce.

What we need to do is look for more mineral areas in the 90 per cent of our area which is not even geologically mapped; we need to add 17 million acres to farm land by irrigation and increase yields on 9 million more acres by supplemental water which can best be done by basin-wide development in the Columbia, Missouri, Colorado and other river valleys. Half the public range in the west needs more grass and other vegetation; 220,-

000,000 acres need re-seeding; we are using up saw timber at twice the rate of growth; we will need 80 million kilowatts of additional power by 1970 of which 30 million kw should be hydro-electrically provided by the federal government; we must extract oil from shale and coal; we must maintain the principle of the family-sized farm.

Said Secretary Krug: "The basic and traditional principles which assure the use, development and conservation of our natural resources for the benefit of the people as a whole, were seriously attacked during the 80th congress by those who would like to be able to exploit our resources for private gain. This attack came dangerously close to success, particularly insofar as it was directed at the public power program and the concept of the family-sized farm."

Testimony before the house and senate committees on labor and public welfare in hearings on the increase of the minimum wage in the wages and hours act, is enlightening. More testimony insofar as the larger cities and towns are concerned is that the raise from 40 to 75 cents an hour minimum will cause no hardship since that wage is already being paid. Not so, however, in many small business concerns in small towns and rural areas, mostly in the South. Some testimony was brought out that average wage of unskilled labor in many sections of the South is about 30 cents an hour and that a boost to 75 cents will put some small businesses out of business.

Probably never so adequately . . . without question never so succinctly or with such polish and finesse has a question been handled by our state department as Secretary of State Dean Acheson handled the Joe Stalin peace propaganda. Secretary Acheson punctured the phony propaganda with such finality that there could be no question in anyone's mind, least of all Mr. Stalin's, about where this country stands with regard to Russia and Russia's broken promises. President Truman was bombarded with questions in his press conference following the Acheson statement. The President wisely refrained from further comment other than to say Mr. Acheson had covered the question adequately and had said all there was to say on the subject.

Nebraska High in Reducing Traffic Fatality

Drivers in Nebraska have chalked up another record in safety, E. P. Tinker, Jr., executive director of the Nebraska State Safety Council, reported today.

In a report from the National Safety Council, the Cornhusker state placed second in the nation in traffic fatality reduction.

The state was topped only by Rhode Island who experienced a 41 per cent reduction, Nebraska,

meanwhile, lowered its rate by 18 per cent. In close pursuit came Kentucky and Massachusetts, tied for third place with a 16 per cent reduction.

Rhode Island reported 52 fatalities in 1948 as compared to 89 for 1947. Nebraska reported 269 against 331 for 1947.

"Nebraska drivers are to be congratulated upon this commendable record. It is gratifying that our state should come from last place in fatality increase in 1947 to second place in reductions in 1948. This proves that continued watchfulness on the part of the walking and driving public can pay dividends in human life," Tinker concluded.

Crossword Puzzle

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| 38 | 39 | | | | 40 | | | 41 | |
| 42 | | | | | 43 | | | 44 | |
| 45 | | 46 | | | 47 | | | 48 | 49 |
| 50 | 51 | | | 52 | 53 | | | 54 | |
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HORIZONTAL

- To taste
- Baby's bed
- Encore
- To be wrong
- To sharpen
- Participle
- Rowboat used on the Bosporus
- To place
- Note of scale
- Silent
- Period
- Distant
- Entreaty
- To mend
- Three-masted vessel
- Melody
- Tennis score
- Grass cured for fodder
- Archaic pronoun
- Egyptian ruler
- Colloquial father
- Month
- Malt beverage
- Resident of a convent
- Musical instrument
- Part of a play
- Engraved
- Conspiracy
- Wicket
- Yellow bugle
- Before
- Timely
- Snare

VERTICAL

- Dry, as wine
- Man's name
- Textbook
- Friend
- Fish eggs
- Noon
- Under
- Inlet
- Pronoun
- 10 Pertaining to the sun
- 14 Targ
- 16 In so far as
- 18 Elf
- 21 To withdraw
- 22 River
- 23 To remunerate
- 24 Fib
- 26 Ocean
- 28 Exclamation of disapproval
- 29 Timely
- 29 Garden tool
- 31 Name of clubs
- 32 Music: high
- 33 Young seal
- 34 Emmet
- 35 Earthen cup
- 37 Serviette
- 38 To plummet
- 39 Russian money
- 40 In honor of
- 41 Fabulous bird
- 43 Land measure
- 44 Hallowed
- 46 Devoured
- 47 Faint
- 48 Wife of Adam
- 49 To make lace
- 51 Conjunction
- 53 Six

Answer to Last Week's Puzzle

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| F | A | R | A | S | I | D | E | B | O | W | | | |
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| A | S | A | B | O | S | E | | | | | | | |
| S | T | A | R | M | O | B | A | T | E | | | | |
| R | H | E | A | N | D | O | B | E | L | I | C | A | L |
| E | M | B | R | A | S | S | A | B | A | N | E | | |
| O | R | E | Y | E | | | | | | | | | |
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| B | F | S | G | I | L | L | S | R | | | | | |
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