

The Plattsmouth Journal

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RONALD R. FURSE, Publisher
FRANK H. SMITH, Editor

O. C. Osterholm, Plant Superintendent
Harry Wilcoxon, Manager Job Department
Helen E. Heinrich, News Editor



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EDITORIALS

JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH

This month, as Nebraska farmers turn their cows out onto the long, lush pastures milk production figures shoot skyward; for June is the most important month to an industry which annually brings more than \$50,000,000 in revenue to about 98,000 Nebraska farms.

Because June is so important to the state's vast dairying industry, it has been set aside as Dairy Month to emphasize the growing place of the milk cow in Nebraska's economy—and the contribution milk and its many products make to the good health of Nebraskans.

The importance of the dairy cow, both from the standpoint of sound nutrition and practical economics, will continue to grow in Nebraska as soil conservation programs develop and the erosion-scarred land, following the peak crop demands of the war years, is turned back to grass and legumes.

The dairy cow must play a much greater part than ever before, not only in providing Nebraska and large consuming states with "nature's most nearly-perfect food", but also as a means of marketing the grass and the legumes from the lands which have become too tired to produce grain any longer.

Directly or indirectly, almost every county in Nebraska benefits from the state's dairy industry, and all Nebraskans should feel it a duty to help boost it along in the interest of raising the state's general level of prosperity.

PRaises PAPER ADVERTISING

The newspaper, with its printed word, in the view of Joseph W. Fraser, Vice-Chairman of the Kaiser-Frazer Corporation, is still the backbone, not only of automobile advertising, but of all products.

While nearly every newspaper man will agree with the conclusions voiced by Mr. Fraser, there is no harm, from the journalistic viewpoint, in passing his words along.

"The printed word has more authenticity than the spoken word of radio," declares Mr. Fraser, who, in a brief sentence, gives the explanation for the continual growth of newspaper circulation despite radio competition.

The reader of the printed word, whether it appears in newspapers, magazines, pamphlets or books, understands very readily that when one puts words in print, there is no saying, "I didn't say it." Consequently, those who write for the record are more apt to be careful and exact in their statements. This, of itself, is worth something to the discriminating reader.

WHAT ABOUT COLLEGE?

Schools are beginning to close and a number of young people will go into the business of making money. Too many will stop their scholastic training at the end of high school days without realizing the tremendous advantages that will come to them by pursuing their way through college.

The Journal does not recommend a college course for every boy and girl. There was a time when people thought this was a good idea, but undoubtedly, there are some boys and girls who will not take advantage of the educational opportunities that can be obtained. These might as well go to work, whether they are the sons and daughters of rich or poor parents.

At the same time, let us urge all students who will complete their high school courses this summer, to give serious thought to the possibility of attending college. The right institution, and the right personal application, will make a difference in life.

Furse's Fresh Flashes

Just because somebody's harping all the time doesn't make him an angel.

Some troubles are like bee stings; they're only .03125 of an inch long and the rest is imagination.

Inflation makes us do without a lot of the necessities so we can buy the luxuries we can't live without.

A good way to give your car a lasting finish is to try to beat a train to a crossing.

Doing business without advertising is like winking at your girl in the dark; you know what you're doing but no one else does.

Taxes could be a lot worse. Suppose we had to pay on what we think we're worth?

The book that has the most unhappy ending we have ever looked at is the family check book.

It depends upon the length of a fisherman's arms how far he will stretch the truth.

Keeping up with the Jones's isn't nearly as dangerous as trying to pass them on a hill.

Two Scotchmen were playing golf under a brooding sun recently when one of them had a stroke. His partner made him count it.

Pretending to be rich keeps a lot of us poor.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TEN YEARS AGO

James Robertson, II, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Robertson was first Plattsmouth youth to be graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Godwin arrived from Fernley, Nevada to spend the summer with relatives here. Stuart Porter, Plattsmouth student, placed second in class of forty graduated from Tarkio, Missouri. The Norfolk Packing company was busy with the sea back at local plant. Mrs. Thomas Kriskey and Misses Jane Rehal and Veda Camps entertained at a miscellaneous shower honoring Mrs. Vincent Kelley Jr. and Mrs. Robert Slavicek. American Legion Troop No. 364 Boy Scouts acted as host troop at Second Annual Camporee to Boy Scouts of Arbor Lodge District at Camp Wheeler.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Elks Band under direction of W. R. Holly, completed plans to furnish band concerts at Garfield Park during the summer. Emil J. Hild was made manager of the clothing department of the Sears Roebuck retail store at Council Bluffs, Iowa. Edward Patterson arrived for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Patterson. Edward was engaged with the Pacific Telephone company at San Francisco. W. D. McMahon, head of the commercial department of local high school, resigned to accept a position in Grand Island schools. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Brantner entertained a group of out of town relatives over Memorial Day; they were the Charles Reed family of St. Joseph, Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Jake Amons of Lincoln, Mrs. John Mortensen and daughter, Irene, and Mr. and Mrs. Monte Franks of Omaha. Miss Martha Gorder departed for a summer at Yellowstone National Park where she was to be employed during the tourist season.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Copyright, 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)
DREW PEARSON SAYS: OIL COMPANIES' UNREASONABLE PRICE BOOSTS NEED EXPLANATION; ACHESON SAYS NEXT WEEK IS CRITICAL PERIOD IN BIG FOUR CONFERENCE; NEW MEXICAN PUBLISHER WRITES LETTER RE FORRESTAL SUICIDE.
WASHINGTON.—What is described as highway robbery in the price of gasoline has just been made the subject of a sizzling senate report, hitherto unpublished.

On the basis of this report, Senator Maybank of South Carolina will call the major oil companies before his Banking and Currency committee and ask them to explain unreasonable price boosts.

What senate investigators found was that the average motorist must pay an extra \$40 a year for the same amount of gasoline that he purchased in 1946. Yet the oil companies justify higher prices on the grounds that they are losing profits.

Regarding this, senate investigators

BIG HOLLER FROM THE LITTLE MAN



state in their so-far-confidential report.

ZOOMING PROFITS
The oil company profits for 1948 were so high as to exert a disproportionate influence on the general level of profits.

"Thus the Standard and Poor's corporation reported that for 1548 industrial companies, profits for 1948 were 23.2 per cent above 1947. However, if oil companies were eliminated from the sample 1948 profits were only 16 per cent above 1947. In other words, so great was the oil industry's increase in 1948 profits that for a large sample of all industrial corporations, the 1948 profits increase was about 50 per cent greater as a result of including the oil companies.

From 1946 to 1948, oil profits shot up more than 2 1/2 times, the investigators report. The oil companies justified this on the grounds that they were expanding to meet the unprecedented demand for petroleum products. Now the expansion has stopped, as evidenced by cutbacks in production and imports. Yet the oil companies turn around and boost prices even higher because these inflated profits are settling back to earth again.

Senator Maybank will call the big oil companies before his committee around June 15.

CAPITAL NEWS CAPSULES
Paris Conference.—Secretary of State Dean Acheson has cabled the State department that next week will be the critical period in the Big Four foreign minister's conference. Both sides have been sparring up until now and no secret sessions have taken place to date. However, next week several secret sessions will take place and Acheson thinks they'll give an opportunity to find out whether the Russians want to fish or cut bait. If there is no action next week, Acheson will be home around June 10.

Talks with Vishinsky.—Secretary Acheson has held two off-the-record meetings with Vishinsky—one short and one long—to talk over the Austrian peace treaty. And for the first time since 1947 Acheson believes an agreement can be reached to get Russian troops out of Austria. Vishinsky has shown a surprisingly mild attitude in these talks, and Acheson has indicated the United States may consent to let the Russians have \$150,000,000 in Austrian reparations in return for an Austrian peace treaty.

Czech Underground.—A powerful underground movement has sprung up in Czechoslovakia that has the communists worried. At least three well-organized guerrilla bands have been attacking communist officials and police in the vicinity of Bratislava. After each attack, they retreat into the hills and can't be located. Five thousand army troops have been assigned to track down the guerrillas, but this hasn't worked out because many of the soldiers have deserted to join the guerrillas.

MAIL BAG
Robert McKinley, owner and publisher of the Santa Fe New Mexican, writes as follows:

"Dear Mr. Pearson:
The shocking death by suicide of Mr. James Forrestal, late Secretary of Defense, will grieve all who ever knew and served with

him. I had the privilege of a tour of duty, in a minor capacity, on Mr. Forrestal's staff, and came to respect him as an American of consummate ability and patriotism.

"His suicide, however, means more than a personal loss to his friends. It must be taken to the nation's heart as glaring proof of the need for fearless news reporting in the nation's capital.

When your dispatch came out some weeks ago describing the advanced state of deterioration of Mr. Forrestal's mental health, it came as more of a surprise to me than did the subsequent news that Mr. Forrestal has now taken his life. I happened to be in Washington at the time you broke the story, and heard among my friends and many government officials the almost unanimous opinion that the Forrestal story was the last straw—that Drew Pearson should now be shut up for irresponsible reporting.

"Had the officials of the Naval medical center been as alert and diligent about their business as you were about yours, perhaps Mr. Forrestal might have eventually recovered and lived a long and useful life. American newspapermen should paste on their walls the headlines of this minor Pearl Harbor at Bethesda, to guide them whenever there is pressure to withhold the news."

SABOTAGING PUBLIC HOUSING
Inside fact is that courteous Chairman Sabath could have squelched the Rules committee filibuster against the Public Housing bill and railroaded the bill to the House floor—if the benign gentleman from Illinois used the same strong-arm tactics that his foes use against him.

At one closed-door session last week, only one of the committee's four Republicans—New York's Jim Wadsworth—showed up. This put filibustering Gene Cox of Georgia, the Dixiecrat, in a frenzy. Because Sabath had the votes to vote the Housing bill over his head with three Republicans absent.

Cox, who almost always votes with the Republicans, immediately began demanding that the committee postpone action until "all the members are here to express themselves." Sabath, however, stopped him.

"I could take advantage of the various notes, a bank could be started by five men, and could open its doors for business as soon as half of the initial capital was—not paid, but subscribed. Currency could be issued without the necessity of a legal reserve against it.

It is not strange, therefore, that such currency came quite soon to be known as "wildcat money," and that prudent business men came to distrust it completely. Bank notes fluctuated in value with great rapidity, and a standard requirement for doing business was a frequently revised guide to the values of the various notes.

these gentlemen who are absent and call for a vote, but I don't intend to. I don't believe in doing business that way. I try to be considerate of my colleagues who are against me as well as those who are with me.

"However, I expect the same treatment myself in the future," he added, looking squarely at the gentleman from Georgia.

Note.—Last summer, when Cox faced a tough re-election primary he wrote a newspaper in his district indicating that he favored the Housing bill, though later he ducked the vote. Today, safely re-elected, he is showing his true colors and is actively leading the opposition.

OUT OF OLD NEBRASKA

by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Nebraska probably never has enjoyed a boom quite like that experienced by the earliest territorial pioneers. New towns were being platted, lots were commanding high prices, railroads and other industries were being projected, and above all, money was plentiful.

An important reason why money was plentiful was that the territorial legislature, in common with similar bodies elsewhere during the 1850s, created banks of issue on terms so easy that almost anyone could set himself up in the banking business, including the issuance of currency.

According to this procedure, a bank could be started by five men, and could open its doors for business as soon as half of the initial capital was—not paid, but subscribed. Currency could be issued without the necessity of a legal reserve against it.

It is not strange, therefore, that such currency came quite soon to be known as "wildcat money," and that prudent business men came to distrust it completely. Bank notes fluctuated in value with great rapidity, and a standard requirement for doing business was a frequently revised guide to the values of the various notes.

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THE HOOVER COMMISSION on reorganization of the executive branch of the federal government has made its report to the congress. It has been on the congressional desks, some of it, for a matter of months. Yet there has been done exactly nothing to bring to fulfillment the monumental task of the commission. The answer as to why is obvious: (1) many agencies with important support from those with whom they do business don't want to be reorganized and, (2) the question of how a particular governmental function should be carried out frequently collides with the policy question of whether it should be carried out at all.

A case in point is the postoffice department. Everyone agrees that there should be no deficit in the postoffice department, but there agreement ends. Nobody agrees on how to get rid of that deficit.

In the past, attempts to reorganize the executive agencies has resulted in exemptions for some in the bill, which open the door for exemptions for all. President Truman and ex-president Herbert Hoover stoutly oppose any exemption status for any agency. But the log-rollers will get their work in. The house has passed a bill which would give the president broad powers to reorganize by executive order, but gives the congress power to overrule him within 60 days after submission of his reorganization plan. The senate has a similar bill, which would permit either house to overrule the president.

Various groups are seeking exemption for their pet agencies, various individuals and organizations want the army engineers left out of any reorganization plan; the Railroad Labor Executives' association wants railroad regulatory agencies exempted; American Bankers' association wants special status for banking agencies, etc.

The Hoover commission would reduce the number of executive agencies reporting to the president from 65 to 23; it would give the president authority to name heads of units in his department without Senate confirmation.

In the department of the treasury, the reorganization would set up nine agencies, transfer the Reconstruction Finance corporation, Export-Import Bank and Federal Deposit Insurance corporation to the treasury and establish an accountant general and monetary and credit council to coordinate the national domestic credit policies.

In agriculture, reorganization would result in seven major units, provide for an assistant secretary and an administrative assistant; authorize the secretary to develop home lending services to farmers through Farm Credit administration and land banks; the loans guaranteed \$4,000; loans to the Farmers' Home administration; transfer bureau of land management from interior to agriculture, also the food activities of the Food and Drug administration and overhaul the state and county field organization of the department.

For instance, in the interior department there would be important changes which would include transferring to interior the rivers and harbors and flood control functions of the corps of army engineers, the commodity service and public building functions of the Federal Works agency and investigation of natural gas resources and power planning functions of the Federal Power commission.

The Hoover report would transfer to the labor department, the selective service system, the bureau of employees' compensation, the employees compensation appeals board and the bureau of employment security all from Federal Security administration.

A new executive department would be created to administer the social security laws, education and Indian affairs, the latter being transferred from interior.

A new health department would be set up to which would be transferred the public health service, drug functions of the Food and Drug administration, the continental general and station hospitals of the armed forces and the hospital functions of the Veterans' administration.

There are many other functional changes. But the experts here in the field of governmental reorganization declare that the president cannot do this job. It remains for congress to take charge and spell out the changes for an over-all legislative policy on this question.

Besides the two general bills mentioned which puts the reorganization job on the president, there are about two dozen bills now in the mill providing for some reorganization of a specific agency.

Most of the notes were entirely worthless outside the territory. There is a story to the effect that a Missouri River wood merchant once offered to trade his wood for the notes of the new Platte Valley Bank at the rate of cord for cord.

His scepticism, viewed in perspective, seems to have been eminently sound. When the great depression that engulfed the country in 1857 hit Nebraska, the wildcat banks were among the first business institutions to fail. And as they failed, their utter worthlessness was brought into full view.

Illustrative of their situation, were the conditions found at the two banks operating in the settlement of DeSota. One had a safe and a cashier; but all the other had to show for its existence was its name engraved upon its bills.

As another example, a sheriff's writ of execution against the closed bank of Nebraska at Omaha showed as assets: "Thirteen sacks of flour, one large iron safe, one counter, one desk, one stove drum and pipe, three arm chairs, and one map of Douglas County."

Paducah Ky., home of Vice-President Albert W. Barkley, was named in honor of Chief Paducah, who reigned over a small tribe of Chickasaw Indians known around the mouth of the Tennessee River as "Paducahs."

The United States released 30 different issues of postage stamps in 1948, a record year.

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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ANSWERS

1. (b) United States Secretary of State John Hay in 1899.
2. (c) Jack Spratt.
3. (a) congress of the Second Socialist International, meeting in Paris in 1889, picked May 1 as the day on which labor should demonstrate.
4. (a) James Forrestal, (he was moved up to the position of secretary of defense in September, 1947.)