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A THOUGHT FOR TODAY: I think, therefore, I am. —Descartes

EDITORIALS

"DON'TS" FOR SWIMMERS

Something like 6,000 American citizens were drowned last year, many of them because they thought they were perfectly safe.

With the Summer bathing season in full swing, it might be a good idea to remind all persons, including good swimmers, that the water can be dangerous.

There are certain rules to be followed if one wishes to exercise caution in the water. The "don'ts" that might save your life include an admonition against swimming alone, swimming in unpatrolled waters or too quickly after eating.

These simple rules might save the life of some boy and girl in Cass County this Summer if parents will take the time to call them to the attention of their children. In addition, good swimmers should be cautioned against over-confidence which might lead them to over-exertion.

"PRIVATE ENTERPRISE" BOASTS

The American Airlines, Inc., in a public advertisement, says that in this country "air transportation is operated as a private enterprise." In other countries, says the airline, it is conducted "by the government."

The company then claims, with accuracy, that the United States leads the other countries in the development and utilization of air transportation. It has some ideas as to what is necessary "if private enterprise is to retain the spirit of initiative which makes for progress."

The interesting fact, in connection with this advertisement, is that while air transportation is operated "as a private enterprise," the United States Government throws out a considerable sum each year as a subsidy to the airlines. In return, the Government, and the people, acquire no interest whatever in the stock of the companies. The subsidies, paid for carrying the mail, are required by law to be sufficient to guarantee the airlines an operating profit.

If this constitutes "private enterprise," it is a rather new type and one which should not encourage much bragging on the part of those who invest some of their money and their talent in the operation of an airline.

WHY READ?

Why learn to read? This sounds like a silly question but there are so many people who seldom seek to expand their mental vision through the simple process of reading a book.

With public libraries available, there is no need for an individual to go to any unnecessary expense to become informed. For a few cents, or less, a volume can be secured upon almost any subject that interests the individual.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TEN YEARS AGO

Miss Evelyn Wolph spoke at Kansas City conference on Education for Democracy. Group of local people who were engaged with the Western Waterways departed for Mondamin, Iowa, to work on river improvement program. Those going from here were Jack Chadwick, Harry Newman, Chester Taylor, Gerald Cady, Walter Eledge, Merle Winters, Lester Curtis, and Frank Strough. Recreation band, and delegation attended southeastern Nebraska Day at Ak-Sar-Ben races; opportunity given to publicize King Korn Carnival. Joe Lotz, will know figure in Omaha baseball visited this city. Dr. and Mrs. P. T. Heinemann entertained at a 6:30 dinner honoring Mr. and Mrs.

Furse's Fresh Flashes

A local young fellow got rid of his saxophone—he heard that their neighbor had bought a gun.

A Plattsmouth man, suffering from headache, approached his doctor for a diagnosis. Questioned, he replied, "I am a bachelor, live with my maiden sister, and am always in bed by nine. I don't smoke, drink, keep late hours or associate with fast women." His doctor took a long look and said, "I guess it must be your halo pinching."

A farmer friend of ours has developed a breed of lambs that can run 40 miles per hour. In a few years he expects to have them fast enough to keep up with Mary.

Our wife tells us that our neighbor's husband is the most gentlemanly, considerate and tender man she's met. All we can say is that he ought to be—he's been in hot water for 20 years.

Nobody seems to testify in so-called communist trials but liars and ex-liars.

One thing about the Democratic form of government: If you dislike the men in office, you can run for their jobs.

The year 1949 is a good year to save some money even if no depression develops.

Theodore Hadraba of Prague, Czechoslovakia.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

George Schmidtman, former resident, employe of a large dental supply company of New York City was sent to Alaska on a business trip. Edward Patterson departed for San Francisco after a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Patterson. Miss Marie Hiber, teacher in Omaha, departed for Berkeley, California, where she entered the University of California for summer work. Jack North, daring stepple jack, placed lightning rods for protection on the large smokestack of the Burlington railroad shops, at a height of 200 feet. Sam Moye, local poultry dealer, departed for a visit in his old home in Posey county, Indiana. Bernard Exposition shows were here under auspices of the American Legion. Werner Jarl, Donald Warner, Weldon Stoehr were initiated into order of De Molay.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

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DREW PEARSON SAYS:

TRUMAN CALLS EX-SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE ANDERSON ON CARPET; BRANNAN PLAN TO BE TESTED ON POTATOES, HOGS AND WOOL; AAA BELIEVES TOURISTS CAN BE U. S. AMBASSADORS

WASHINGTON.—It isn't often that two men who have held the same cabinet job are summoned before the President to settle the question of whether one is supporting the other. However, that is what happened to ex-Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson and his successor Secretary, Charles Brannan. Both faced each other last week in front of Mr Truman.

Anderson, once a pillar in the Truman cabinet, now an A-1 senator from New Mexico, slipped in the side door of the White House unnoticed to newsmen. Truman promptly challenged him regarding reports that he was blocking parts of the Brannan farm plan. Anderson vigorously denied the charge; then, to convince the doubting President, he asked that Brannan himself be questioned.

So Truman picked up the phone and asked Brannan to hustle over to the White House. A few minutes later, all three sat down and ironed out their differences. The results of that talk will probably be felt on every farm in America.

Anderson denied that he wanted to extend the present, G. O. P.-written laws, insisted that he saw eye-to-eye with Brannan on the basic needs for new farm legislation. Except for a few technical points, Anderson showed that he was 99 per cent behind the Brannan plan. Brannan in turn told the President that his old friend and former boss was helping, not hampering, the plan in the senate.

THREE-CROP EXPERIMENT

Anderson, warned, however, that the program might be too costly to adopt all at once.

Brannan agreed, said the best approach would be to take one commodity at a time. His plan would call for "production payments" to the farmers to maintain a minimum selling price. Then, instead of having the government buy up the surplus as it does with potatoes and let them rot, Brannan would let the price drop and give the consumer the benefit. The "production payments" would make up the difference between what the farmer gets and what the housewife pays.

Brannan agreed to try out his plan on two or three commodities, and Anderson in return promised to push the program in the senate. Immediately after this conference, word was passed to the House which then approved the Brannan plan for

DES MOINES DISINFLATION!



three commodities to be selected by the Secretary of Agriculture. The three have not been designated yet, but they will probably be potatoes, hogs and wool.

The senate is still dragging its feet—but not through any fault of ex-Secretary of Agriculture Anderson, who is a member of the Agriculture committee. The truth is that Senator Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma, chairman of the committee, is sluggish about passing the bill. And the ranking Republican, Vermont's able Senator George Aiken, is holding it up by asking critical questions. He claims the Brannan plan is nothing but a revamped version of his own program, adopted by the 80th congress, and he sees no reason for substituting.

400,000 U. S. AMBASSADORS The live-wire American automobile association has launched a unique campaign to educate American tourists on how to be good-will ambassadors.

Last week this column published a suggestion to Undersecretary of State James Webb that the State department issue with each passport a reminder—as the Army did to G. I.'s landing in England during the war—that great good will can be accomplished by the careful American tourist while great ill will can be stirred up by the opposite type.

The American automobile association has now taken up this idea and is reminding its members that every tourist can be a diplomat. The average man-in-the-street in Europe never meets an American ambassador. He gets his ideas about the U.S.A. from a confusing hodgepodge of propaganda—some of it communist—or from the 400,000 Americans going abroad this summer.

The communists have been waging an astute campaign to sour world opinion on free-spending, loud-talking Americans. So the best way to counteract that propaganda is by improved behavior on the part of those Americans.

To make every tourist a diplomat, the AAA has set up the following ten commandments of good travel manners:

- 1. Conform with the local customs.
2. Avoid bragging, loudness and arrogance.
3. Try to pick up at least a few words of the language. This is always flattering to the natives.
4. Learn something about the countries you will visit. You will get more out of your trip, and at the same time pay a compliment to the local people.
5. Don't flaunt your money. Throwing money around only offends the natives who don't earn as much as Americans.
6. Don't haggle. Excessive haggling may save a few cents, but it leaves bad feeling.
7. Be moderate. It is rare to find drunkenness outside of the United States in any but the lowest specimens.
8. Be friendly. Treat all people you meet with decency and courtesy.
9. Avoid arguments. Short of defending your honor, keep out of arguments and fights.
10. Be careful with women. This is for men only. What may seem to be innocuous pleasantries in America may be downright taboo in other lands.

Boiling down all this advice into one sentence, the AAA declares: "When abroad, you are a guest; act like one."

Note—Virtually all U. S. efforts to win over Europe so far are on the basis of government-to-government. Yet governments can change overnight. People don't. That is one reason why the roots of lasting friendship must be planted in people.

First flying time between Miami and Buenos Aires was 11 days. Today it is less than 22 hours.

CAPITOL NEWS

(Compiled by Nebraska Press Association) LINCOLN.—It was a quiet week at the statehouse. Summer arrived and with it, stenographers shed their stockings to display sun-tanned legs and there was the usual quota of vacation-vacant desks.

Even Gov. Val Peterson's massive, carved desk was cleared, as he attended the governors' conference in Colorado Springs' swank Broadmoor hotel.

There, the chief executive held forth on his favorite topic: highways.

"Boxcars on rubber tires," he told fellow governors are not paying their share of highway maintenance and construction costs. He waxed warm as he blasted the lobby opposed to higher highway taxes.

"There seems to be a national pattern of petroleum and trucking interests to fight gasoline tax increases," he said.

In his own state there is a counter weapon to the petroleum and carriers lobby. It's the Better Nebraska Association, formed to sponsor Peterson's highway program.

At least one busy place in the capitol was high in the tower, where the state headquarters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars pushed the campaign to suspend rent control.

Attorney General James Anderson last week approved the form of the petition to be circulated by the VFW and that set the wheels spinning. A kickoff meeting at Omaha last week end was called to coordinate the strategy to secure 47,634 valid signatures before 5 p. m. Aug. 24.

Earlier reports said the deadline was Aug. 27, but the secretary of state's office pointed to attorney general's opinions that Aug. 24 will be 90 calendar days after adjournment of the legislature.

One aspect of the decontrol referendum that appears to have been generally overlooked is the question of what will happen if the VFW gets less than 47,634 signatures, but more than 23,817. The smaller figure is enough to set the issue on the November, 1950 ballot, but not to suspend the law in the meantime.

This is the situation now, unless congress should act again on rent decontrol.

The legislature has ordered the governor to notify the federal housing expediter that controls are unnecessary in Nebraska after Nov. 1 of this year.

The controls are scheduled to expire nationally July 1, 1950. So, even if the VFW gets the issue on next year's ballot, there will apparently be nothing to vote on; controls will have been lifted by congress, July 1.

Obviously, the VFW is not interested in anything short of enough signatures to suspend the law.

Secretary of State Frank Marsh said that if valid petitions with enough signatures are filed with him, he'll have to put it on the ballot. He said, too, that once filed the petitions could not be withdrawn.

But that's only a part of the referendum story.

The Nebraska Farm Council this week was hard at it distributing petitions to suspend the increased vehicle registration fee law and to force a vote on the gas tax boost.

The Council (made up of the Farm Bureau, the Grange and the Farmers Union) sent out 20,000 petition forms. Observers predicted little trouble for the three groups in getting enough

TAWANKA GROUP MEETS

The members of the Tawanka group met Thursday at the home of Mary Lou McCarthy. The business was talked about and was followed by First Aid lessons. Later games were played and refreshments were served by Mary Lou McCarthy, Joan Mason and Joann Koubek.

The next meeting will be July 14th.—Patty Janda, Scribe.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Osterholm and son, were in Glenwood for the Sunday outing and to visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Osterholm and other relatives.

Annual Estimate City of Plattsmouth Sec. 17-707, R. S. N. 1943

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska: Section 1. Budget Fixed. The following shall be and is hereby declared to be the "Annual Estimate" of the probable amount of money necessary for all purposes to be raised in the City of Plattsmouth for the fiscal year ending May 1, 1950:

Table with columns for FUND, Item, and Amount. Includes categories like Salaries of City Officials, Police, Streets, Libraries, Fire Hydrant Rental, etc.

Section 2. Entire Revenue: The Entire Revenue for the previous fiscal year amounted to \$221,165.62 (Includes \$79,109.72 from sale of paving bonds).

Section 3. This estimate passed and approved this 13th day of June 1949. A. B. ROGERS Mayor

Attest: ALBERT OLSON City Clerk No. 1049—June 20, 27; July 4, 11, 1949.

Advertisement for Brubacher Store featuring 'Celebrate JULY the FOURTH WITH FIRE WORKS' and 'OPEN EVENINGS BRUBACHER STORE'.

Advertisement for Ammonium Nitrate Fertilizer, 33.5 Per Cent, priced at \$78.00 Per Ton, from Brubacher Store.