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NEWSpaper

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The Plattsmouth Journal

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A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

And what he greatly thought he nobly dared. —Pope

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EDITORIALS

PARKING METER TROUBLES

Plattsmouth is not the only city in the state that is having its discussion concerning the installation of parking meters, or so it seems from articles and editorials taken from community newspapers.

Some two weeks ago the city council of Blair ordered the purchase of 294 parking meters. The action brought a flood of aroused opposition and a special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was called when a majority of business men expressed their opposition to the installation of the meters on Blair streets, according to a verified report of the meeting.

A previous poll by the Pilot-Tribune had revealed that persons questioned were 3½ to 1 against the meters.

"Since the contract has already been signed it appears evident that the only way to stop delivery of the meters would be by a special referendum vote by the citizens of Blair," stated the Pilot-Tribune last week.

Plattsmouth's mayor and city council have been approached by salesmen for parking meter companies. They present a good sales talk and under some conditions there is considerable to be said in favor of them. However, this newspaper honestly believes there are better ways of solving the parking problem in Plattsmouth than by using parking meters, and the opposition encountered at Blair seems to substantiate our views.

Blair, like Plattsmouth, is a progressive community of good people. Its citizens are "champing at the bit" in efforts to improve their community and their city officials, like in Plattsmouth, have been taking considerable abuse from overenthusiastic though, perhaps, well-meaning citizens who want to go forward.

It would be wise for Plattsmouth not to take too hasty action in the installation of meters. They should be a last resort. Every other method of solving our parking problems should be investigated thoroughly before we "jump off the cliff."

* * *

URGES COMPETITION

It is always interesting to hear a business man speak in favor of competition because of the custom of so many leaders of business to seek, in various ways, to secure something of a monopoly.

Edgar G. Burton, a business man of Toronto, Canada, says that "there are all too many in the business community who think they should be protected from competition by using various devices of their own of monopoly, cartelization, price-fixing and the power of the state to establish restrictive standards."

This is a statement that is worth remembering. Everyone of the devices named by Mr. Burton has been used, from time to time, by business men to eliminate competition and thus stifle the mainspring of private enterprise. The practice is not confined to the leaders of big business but can be exemplified in the operations of many whose business is confined to the smaller towns and cities of the nation.

* * *

KNOW YOUR FUTURE MATE

A Chicago widow recently put police on the trail of a prospective husband, whom she accused of swindling her out of a substantial sum of money.

Police described the man as a veteran operator, who has preyed on women for half a century. They related other instances where, under assumed names, he paid court to wealthy women and eventually disappeared with their money or jewels. According to the authorities, the man has an international reputation as a swindler.

The publicity given the experiences of these women may serve a useful purpose if it warns other women and teaches them to investigate the character and credentials of ardent suitors, who, despite avowals of love, require ready cash.

* * *

Furse's Fresh Flashes

Arrest of that elderly man in Chicago for fleecing hundreds of women over the nation just shows how old a man must get before he can deceive a woman.

* * *

June is the month for girls with a lot of "bride" ideas.

* * *

We go along with a lot of other men—a dimple is one depression we ail enjoy.

* * *

Remember the fly that buzzes the loudest is the first to be swatted.

* * *

A Plattsmouth wife uses a neat trick to get money out of her husband. She tells him she is "going back to mother" and he immediately hands her the fare.

* * *

One consolation—if Plattsmouth gets parking meters they will be most helpful as handholds as you stumble over our curbs.

* * *

Europe, to us, is just a great big jigsaw puzzle with a "peace" missing.

* * *

A bank is where fountain pens are kept on a leash.

* * *

A local high school girl says a drizzle is two drips going steady.

* * *

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says her new boy friend is a man of rare gifts—he hasn't given her one since they started going steady.

* * *

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TEN YEARS AGO

Three inch rain swept city as holiday climax; streets were filled with water in torrential rainfall, culminating a heated Fourth of July and electric storm . . . Large group gathered at Calumet Bend, at the Beil home at Kenosha to celebrate birthday anniversary of Greeley Beil . . . Mr. and Mrs. Wm. F. Evers and family departed for a trip to the Pacific coast and to attend the meeting of the Masonic Home officers at Portland, Oregon . . . Independence Day was observed at Methodist church with fine program arranged to make the start of campaign to make church independent of debt. Rev. J. C. Lowson was the pastor . . . Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Patton celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with family gathering at their home in the south part of town, July 4 . . . Miss Helen Smetana, secretary for the Egenberger agency departed for a vacation trip to California.

* * *

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Clement Woster, clerk at the Fetzer Shoe Co., departed for Chicago where he took special courses of study at the Dr. Scholl's school on the care and treatment of the feet . . . Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Short and children, Sanford and James, arrived from Peoria, Illinois for a visit at the Hans Seiver home . . . Sattler Funeral Home installed ambulance service of latest type to care for emergency cases . . . A. L. Tidd presented the park board with a collection of some 1,200 iris, to be planted in various parks of the city . . . Miss Irma Mayfield was added as clerk at the Farmers State Bank . . . Editor Lee J. Mayfield of the Louisville Courier with Mrs. Mayfield departed on trip to the west coast. They were accompanied by Dr. and Mrs. E. H. Worthman and two daughters, making the trip by auto.

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The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

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DREW PEARSON SAYS:

MEDICAL LOBBY PRESSURES CONGRESSMEN AGAINST FEDERAL HEALTH INSURANCE; NATIONAL SOLDIERS' HOME SHOULD BE EXPANDED! BENDIX STRIKE OFFERED SERIOUS THREAT TO BERLIN AIRLIFT.

WASHINGTON.—Latest gadget the Americal Medical Association lobby is using in the pressure campaign against federal health insurance is a post card, distributed from doctors' offices, which threatens vote retaliations against members of Congress who support the health program.

The card reads: "As for myself and family, which consists of ——— votes, we are unalterably opposed to compulsory health insurance or any other legislation which tends to regiment our population and socialize our government."

The sender fills in the blank with the number of votes in his family. Senator Claude Pepper of Florida, a leading sponsor of health insurance, reports he has received hundreds of the sterotyped cards. Some have also been mailed to President Truman.

One sender, whose wife recently underwent an operation, wrote Pepper that he was "compelled" by the doctor performing the operation to fill out and sign the card. Another reported that he feared he would "antagonize my doctor and nurse" if he didn't comply with their wishes.

Both these individuals informed Senator Pepper that they strongly supported the health-insurance program. Similar cards also are being distributed by Florida insurance salesmen.

OLD SOLDIERS

Five hundred forgotten soldiers, who survived past wars but are victims of old age, are awaiting to get into the National Soldiers' home at Washington, D. C.

But there's no room.

Those on the inside would like to make room by building new quarters. They have plenty of money—$33,000,000, every cent contributed through the years by enlisted men. But the money is held in trust by the Treasury department, and the ex-soldiers can't get it out without an act of Congress.

Though this money belongs to the soldiers and not the taxpayers, the Budget bureau has turned down a request to release $16,700,000 to expand the soldiers' home. The bureau's recommendation has influenced the Congress to refuse use of the funds—despite the fact that the soldiers' home hasn't been expanded since 1911.

Meanwhile, the waiting list of aged, lonely ex-soldiers is growing longer.

THREAT TO BERLIN AIRLIFT

The public was never told how the Bendix strike at South Bend, Ind., involving fewer than 6,000 workers, came closer to grounding the Berlin airlift than the Russians ever did. That was the reason the Air Force urgently summoned both sides to the Pentagon last week to settle the strike at a dramatic, all-night session.

Here, for the first time, is the inside story:

After negotiations broke down at South Bend, Secretary of the Air Force Stuart Symington personally invited Bendix-boss Malcolm Ferguson to Washington. Simultaneously he sent an Air Force plane to Detroit to pick up Walter Reuther, chief of the United Auto Workers.

The two men were brought in to see Symington separately. The Secretary of the Air Force warned both that plane production would be crippled, the Berlin lift forced down for lack of key parts—if the strike continued.

It was Reuther who suggested they sit down on the spot and settle the strike.

"With all this talent from both labor and management," he declared, "if we can't settle this strike, then it just plain can't be settled. And I'm willing to sweat it out."

Ferguson was brought in, and the two men met face to face.

"I am convinced that by using the Democratic processes," Reuther offered, "we can settle this strike, and by doing it in that way, we will enable the Air Force to continue to defend the Democratic processes we are using."

Ferguson promptly agreed.

Assistant Secretary of Labor John Gibson also was called in, offered to serve as arbitrator.

For several hours the two sides haggled behind closed doors, took time out only for quick snacks. Symington kept a Pentagon kitchen open all night to accommodate them.

By 3 a. m. the negotiators were still deadlocked. Finally Reuther blurted out: "The thing that bewilders me is how a situation that has dragged out ten weeks and should have been settled at the outset, yet has been handled with good faith and good will and intelligence, could have gotten so 'snarled' up as it is tonight."

Reuther used one word that can't be repeated here which caused the tense, solemn group to burst out in laughter. This broke the ice and started the negotiators on the road to settlement. By 11 a. m., almost 24 hours after they started negotiating, an agreement was reached, ending one of the most critical strikes since V-J Day—another triumph for the Democratic processes.

KEY CONGRESSMAN

The president paid high praise to Democratic Representative Mike Kirwan of Ohio, militant battler for public power legislation, in a chat with another Mike the other day—Representative Mansfield of Montana.

Mansfield reported that the Interior department's public power and reclamation program, which Kirwan navigated through the House, faced a "very tough" battle in the Senate.

"I'm for you all the way," commented Truman. "You know, the Interior bill was the best we've ever got through the House. Mike Kirwan deserves the major credit. He fought it through the appropriations subcommittee, through the full committee and finally through the House over the protests of the private power lobby.

"I think the world of Mike," added the President. "In my opinion, he's one of the most outstanding and ablest legislators we have in Congress."

CLOAK AND DAGGER DRAMA

CAPITOL NEWS

(Compiled by Nebraska Press Association)

Lincoln—Avery Batson, regional reclamation director at Denver this week is studying the conclusions reached by State Engineer F. H. Klietsch after a survey of the reclamation bureau's plan for developing the Lower Platte river basin.

Klietcsh's findings were made in a report to Governor Val Peterson, who forwarded them to Batson.

Klietsch said that future irrigation in Nebraska will be greatly under the irrigable potential unless the state anti-diversion law is interpreted liberally.

He also called for a modification of the extensive bureau plan, to show the projects and areas which could be served under all kinds of circumstances, ranging from the present stage of development to full realization of the bureau's program. The proposed undertakings should be set forth in chronological order, the state engineer said.

Both Klietsch and the governor agreed development should proceed in downstream order, but this will depend upon organization of districts acceptable to the reclamation bureau.

In his letter of transmittal, Gov. Peterson said he joined with others in his eagerness to get contrauction going as soon as possible.

* * *

Meanwhile, the battle of the petitions went on.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars reported progress in their campaign to block rent decontrol and the Nebraska Farm Council said signatures were coming in "very satisfactorily" on petitions to remove the one-cent-a-gallon additional gasoline tax voted by the last legislature.

But, the opposition was unlimbering some pretty heavy artillery at the same time.

The Better Nebraska Association, formed to back the governor's highway program, carried its fight to save the revenue measures into rural Nebraska, recruiting county and city officials to join in the scrap.

H. G. Greenamyre, Lincoln, executive secretary of the association said he believes the highway carrier interests are "silent partners" of the Farm Bureau, the Farmers Union and the State Grange in the campaign to undo the work of the legislature.

Lincoln Mayor Clarence G. Miles said he could not understand why farm organizations have "lined up with these utterly selfish interests."

The petroleum industry got into the act as John Ainlay of Lincoln, Nebraska Petroleum Industries committee director, attacked the gas tax boost with the prediction the state would loose heavily in revenue from tourists who fill up on the Iowa border and make "one tank do across Nebraska."

And Gov. Peterson, father of the highway improvement campaign, took exception to a statement by Grange Master Byron Holmes, of Milburn, that 400 engineers are employed in the state engineer's office. Holmes had suggested three-fourths of them should leave their desks and mount road graders.

The governor said there were only 191 engineers, including 89 trainees in the highway department.

"I am certain," he said, "that Mr. Holmes would not want to make a mis-statement of fact."

* * *

The governor this week is vacationing at Lake Okoboji, Ia., but it won't be all loafing. The chief executive took along an armload of reports on Missouri basin development, and the Brannan agriculture report.

He has to bone up on the river studies before the July 21 interagency committee in Helena, Mont.

* * *

These were other state house developments:

Agriculture Director Rufus Howard predicted Nebraska's farm income this year will fall off $175,000,000 to around a billion dollars. He pointed out no conclusive picture can be drawn until the outcome of the corn crop is known.

The board of control reported that meat and butter prices have dropped considerably under last year's level and the cost of serving 30,000 meals a day to inmates and workers at the State's 16 institutions has gone along downward.

The state game commission will set the dates of the migratory water fowl season at its meeting July 11, Secretary Paul Gilbert said. A 45-day season appears likely.

Gov. Peterson sent his secretary, Christ Petrow to the state health department to represent him there until a successor is named for Director W. S. Petty who has resigned effective Aug. 1. Petrow will conduct a personnel survey in the meantime.

Figures showed the cigaret tax yielded $22,000 more in June than for the same month last year. The liquor control commission said its income for the year ending May 31, was $312,504 less than for the previous year.

THIS WEEK IN Washington

THIS WEEK IN BOTH house and senate, political fortunes are being made. Especially are lines being drawn for the 1950 elections, for observers point out that the senate debate on the Taft-Hartley bill has marked certain men in that body for Labor's enmity just as house debate on the housing measure has put its stamp on some members in the lower body.

As a matter of fact the 1950 campaign already is under way, with the Democrats recently holding a midwest conference at Des Moines to sell middle-west farmers on the Brannan farm program and to forge a link between the farmer and labor organizations. Republicans, too, were getting ready to pitch in for the campaign. The house congressional committee has finally obtained a publicity man to handle its program, in the person of Robert Humphreys, former Newsweek editor and International News Service staff man in Washington.

Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio, not content to wait for action by the senate campaign committee, has become a columnist in his own right and is sending out weekly columns to some 148 newspapers in his native Ohio.

It already appears that on the Taft-Hartley bill the administration must necessarily be satisfied with some poor makeshift amendments if they get anything at all in the way of a new labor law. Observers here point out that in the senate there are probably eight doubtful Democratic seats and four doubtful Republican seats up for election in the coming campaign. There are 47 Democratic seats and 37 Republican seats which possibly will not change.

Doubtful Democratic seats are considered to be: Senator Sheridan Downey of California; Senator Brien McMahon, of Connecticut; the successor of Republican Senator Raymond Baldwin, who will be a Democrat named by Governor Bowles to serve from the end of 1949 to the 1950 elections; Senator Glen H. Taylor of Idaho, who became a vice-presidential nominee on the Wallace ticket; Sen. Scott W. Lucas of Illinois; Sen. Robert F. Wagner of New York, who will not run to succeed himself. (It is thought maybe that his son, Robert Wagner Jr., may get the nod, but former Gov. Herbert F. Lehman, and the new congressman, Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr., have been mentioned in connection with the post); Sen. Francis Myers of Pennsylvania, and Sen. Warren Magnuson of Washington.

On the Republican side the four doubtful seats, according to the politically wise here, include Senator Eugene Millikan, of Colorado; Homer E. Capehart, of Indiana; Sen. Forrest C. Donnell, of Missouri, and Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio.

According to the political dopesters here, Taft may see action against Gov. Frank Lausche, the winner in the 1948 election. It also is rumored that in Indiana, Gov. Henry F. Schricker may decide to contest the 1950 election with Senator Capehart.

Capehart is seeking his second term, and when he was elected in 1944 by 22,000 votes, Indiana went for Dewey for president by 94,000 votes, then went on to elect Republican Sen. William E. Jenner in 1946 by 155,000 votes. But in 1948 the state went for Dewey by 14,000 votes but elected seven out of 11 congressmen and also Democratic Gov. Henry F. Schricker.

In the meantime, both parties are planning regional meetings this summer, and the Republicans already have held party caucuses in Los Angeles, Omaha and Boston. Also coming into the national picture is a name well known to Republicans, one Philip Wilkie. He is the 29-year-old son of the late Wendell Wilkie and has been offered the post of assistant to Senator Owen Brewster of Maine, recently named chairman of the GOP senatorial campaign committee.

The Democratic senatorial campaign committee is headed by Sen. Clinton Anderson of New Mexico, former secretary of agriculture. Also on the Democratic committee are Senators Kefauver of Tennessee, Kilgore of West Virginia and O'Mahoney of Wyoming.

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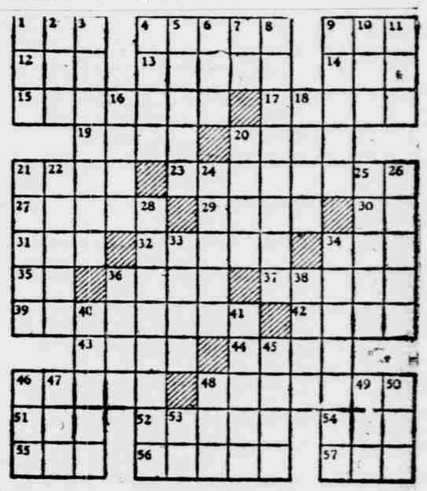
Apparently there was something of a paradox at the recent governor's conference at Colorado Springs, for according to observers here, those states'-rights governors who yell loudest in national campaign years about federal domination, yelled loudest at Colorado Springs for more federal grand-in-aid funds. According to newspaper reports of the conferences, Gov. J. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, the states' rights-ers presidential candidate; Gov. Herman Talmadge, of Georgia, and Gov. Earl Long of Louisiana, led the demand for more federal grants to help states meet social security needs.

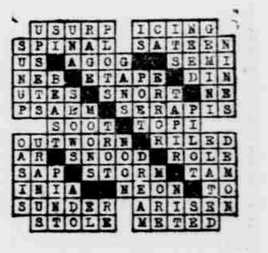
Crossword Puzzle



HORIZONTAL

1 Airlike fluid
4 Glowing coal
9 Exclamation of disapproval
12 Venomous snake
13 Fine, thin dress material
14 Silkworm
15 Slayer of the Minotaur
17 Waited
19 Penny
20 Withered
21 To reproach
23 In a muffled manner
27 Toward the stern
29 Large oven
30 Butterfly
31 Friend
32 Halting place
34 Scoundrel
35 Pronoun
36 Snare
37 Idler
39 Infirm
42 Spoken
43 Garment
44 Nimbus
46 Malice
48 Unites firmly
51 Son of Noah
52 Mother-in-law of Ruth
54 Female sheep
55 Seeing organ
56 Chemical compound
57 Child

VERTICAL

1 Ship channel
2 Timber tree
3 Particular
4 Uniform
5 Entrance
6 Encore!
7 Colloquial: elevated railway
8 Was insubordinate
9 To sprinkle with moisture
10 Part of "to be"
11 Cached
16 One's own person
18 To press
20 To slide
21 Swift
22 To subside
24 Animal related to the giraffe
26 Climbing plant
28 Swiss song
29 Disinfectant
33 Finish line
34 Small crown
36 To jog
38 Part
40 Offense against the law
41 Topic
45 Moslem noble
46 That lady
47 To compensate
48 Folding bed
49 Number
50 To place
53 Since

Answer to Last Week's Puzzle