

The Plattsmouth Journal

Official County and City Paper
— ESTABLISHED IN 1881 —

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RONALD R. FURSE Publisher
FRANK H. SMITH Editor
BERNARD A. WOOD Advertising Mgr.

Helen E. Heinrich, News Editor



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A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Experience is the mother of science.

—H. G. Bohn

EDITORIALS

A PUBLIC SERVICE, NOT A BUSINESS

The economy move of the post office department, largely based up on reduced delivery of mail, created something of a stir throughout the country, with labor leaders and congressmen attacking the order vigorously for obvious reasons.

The details of the reduced schedule of deliveries does not suggest any undue hardship upon recipients of mail. Unfortunately, the order will seriously affect a number of postal employees. Justification for the retrenchment is found by the postmaster-general in the action of a house committee which shaved \$24,921,000 off the budget of \$1,786,000,000.

Postmaster-General Jesse M. Donaldson explains the action was essential to curtail a mounting deficit and asserts that it comes "after constant pressure from many sources for reductions in the cost of the postal service in order to bring relief to the taxpayers who are called upon to make up from general taxation the difference" between revenues and expenses.

The fallacy in Mr. Donaldson's position is that he apparently considers the post office a business enterprise, to be guided by the rules which govern those operated for profit. The postal service, as operated by the United States government, is not a business but represents a distinct service to the public. It should not necessarily be a profit-making operation. Nobody in a city, for example, expects a fire department or a police department to make money, but, just the same, nobody suggests that either public service should be eliminated by municipalities.

The possibility is that the retrenchment goes too far rather than not far enough. There was a time, in some of our larger cities, when postal deliveries were much more frequent than today. The number of deliveries was reduced generally, not only for reasons of economy but because they were "unnecessary." In connection with the present order, one high official of the department says that eighty per cent of the mail, business and residential, is distributed on the first delivery of the morning.

The other day nearly two score men and women picketed the home of the welfare commissioner for the City of New York because they were dissatisfied with his decision in regard to some individuals receiving relief.

We thoroughly support the right of Americans to petition their government but this business of picketing public officials is something else again. The picketers are mass-directed and thoroughly organized and their plain effort seeks to intimidate officials.

It seems to us that such action amounts to a threat against the public order and those who engage in it are guilty of disorderly conduct. The same observation applies to the picketing of foreign embassies by those who dislike some policy adopted by a foreign country.

A mass-organized-and-directed protest staged in an auditorium may be entirely proper, but when the same demonstration is set before a man's home, it creates a different problem. In time, the government of the United States will have to meet this problem and take action to prevent hoodlums and hooligans from running roughshod over the forces of law and order.

DISORDERLY DEMONSTRATIONS

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A SURE TEST FOR CANCER?

The fight against cancer is making progress, if we are to accept at face value the new blood test developed by four research workers, which, they assert, is 98.6 per cent accurate.

There is great need for the early discovery of a cancerous growth inside the human body. If a blood test will indicate cancer, there is the hope that prompt

Furse's Fresh Flashes

An irritating menace is the Omaha driver tooting his car horn at your rear when the traffic light changes to green. After a look at the record we doubt any of those drivers have anything to toot their horn over.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says many a girl's negative personality has been developed in a dark room.

The kid out in California who ran away with a married woman at 14 and another at 16, is now 21 and out of work. Which should prove there is no future in it.

Civic-mindedness is that spirit of mind that helps you to go right on voting for new schoolhouses after the kids are grown.

When a Cass county man was caught operating a still recently, he protested he was not making moonshine but developing a new explosive. It's the first we knew there was a difference.

That tired, meek, quiet-looking little man is usually the one who signs the checks for the more important looking members of the family.

Those who bemoan the money spent for defense ought to try to estimate the cost of another war.

It is said that every minute two houses are being built in the United States—and of course mortgaged.

There's one product where the supply is always larger than the demand and that's trouble.

treatment will save the individual.

The next step in the process is to determine whether the test will be reasonably accurate in the examinations of apparently healthy persons. It is not necessary that the test be perfect, because if it manages to disclose some of the undiscovered cancers, it will cut down the death rate that much.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TEN YEARS AGO

The Cass County Chorus composed of a large group of talented ladies of the county gave a program at the Baptist church at Union. The chorus was directed by Mrs. J. Russell Reeder. . . Mrs. C. O. Zasler, well-known Avoca lady, was re-elected president of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women at their ninth annual convention held at Douglas. . . Many local fans attended the John Pesek-Singa Singa wrestling match at Omaha. . . Hugh Stander, Jr., Mrs. C. R. Todd, George Stander, Jr., Clifton Gooding and Wesley Kratochvil departed for Orange, California. . . A group of friends honored Mrs. Augusta Haupt, sister of Mrs. John Woest, at a birthday party surprise at the Woest home. . . A kitchen shower was held for equipping the newly re-decorated Holy Rosary parish kitchen. Miss Theresa DeMuth was hostess.

20 YEARS AGO

In the track meet between Peru State Teachers' College and Tarkio College at Peru Bernard Galloway, sophomore at the normal school and former P. H. S. athlete, was one of the featured men for the Peru team. He won the half mile in easy fashion, distancing the Missouri schools two mile man. . . Two students in the normal training department of local high school secured schools for the coming year. They were Mary Swatek, District 97, east of Cedar Creek, and Bernice Hogue, District 60, southwest of Murray. . . Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cappell and daughter departed for San Diego, California, to visit at the home of the William Bells. . . With the coming of workers on the paving projects south of the city a call for listing of rooms was being made, to house the newcomers.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

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DREW PEARSON SAYS:
EX - MISSIONARY CONGRESSMAN JUDD GIVES MCCARTHY GOOD ADVICE; THE REAL MARAGON STORY GOES BACK TO HARRY VAUGHAN; TRUMAN URGES CONGRESSMAN CELLER TO EXPOSE MORE MONOPOLIES.

WASHINGTON.—Wisconsin's "Huey Long" got an earful of advice the other day from one of his informants, GOP Congressman Walter Judd of Minnesota, a former China missionary and an outspoken friend of the China lobby.

Judd gave McCarthy the names of some whom the China lobby had branded as Communists, but warned: "Joe, I'll be glad to give you what I've got, but I don't have any proof. If I had any proof, I would have tried to convict them myself."

Then Congressman Judd further urged: "You've got to stop making so many speeches and extravagant charges, Joe. A judge doesn't issue verdicts until he has heard the witnesses. Quit issuing ver-



dicts until the witnesses have been on.

"You marines think any beach can be taken," added the Minnesota congressman. "You think all you've got to do is just wade in."

Senator McCarthy hasn't been taking his Republican colleague's advice.

BEHIND JOHN MARAGON

The real story of the John Maragon conviction is not about the ex-Kansas City bootblack who became the friend of the president and now goes to jail, but about Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan who remained in the background and doesn't go to jail. Working together they raised campaign contributions, influenced Greek politics, and thwarted building regulations to rebuild race tracks.

None of this violated any laws, but a lot of it violated the sense of propriety of the American people.

John Maragon, once cocky and confident, is now a pathetic figure. A few short years ago he was able to demote generals, get airplane priorities to Europe, escape a conviction for smuggling, ride on the president's special trains and stand beside Mr. Truman as he reviewed the fleet.

So the most interesting question about the Maragon conviction is whether the senate committee will now probe further into the Maragon-Vaughan-White House axis.

For that axis, right up until the time Maragon went to trial, appeared to continue.

Even last month, when Maragon was under indictment he pulled powerful wires inside the Truman administration—powerful enough to cause the FBI to work all night investigating a crackpot rumor that a member of my staff had evaded the draft during the war. That type of investigation, five years after the war is over, is not made by a busy FBI unless on orders from the top. Yet, after a tip from Maragon, the FBI worked all night to finish the probe, so anxious was the White House to "get the goods" on this columnist.

The rumor turned out to be pure bunk. There is no draft-dodger on my staff.

MARAGON'S POWER

Also illustrative of Maragon's power was his demand three years ago that I be indicted for criminal libel. The District of Columbia criminal libel statute has not been enforced for 75 years. But after I reported that Maragon had pled guilty to illegally transporting liquor in 1920, both he and General Vaughan called the justice de-

partment to demand my criminal prosecution.

The White House reinforced Vaughan's demand—and so vigorously that the FBI took out precious time for a thorough investigation—which in the end proved that Maragon had been guilty of transporting liquor. So no criminal libel case could be brought.

Last summer, Maragon went to Senator Mundt of South Dakota, demanded that he be permitted to testify before the committee in answer to a charge in this column that he was not a "five percent" but a "fifty percent."

The committee promptly called him, and here is part of the testimony: "In 1946 I went to work seven months because of Drew Pearson. . . I was terminated, senator, because Drew Pearson started writing. . . These past two years have been the worst in my life because of this commentator. . . On July 20 he accused me—said I am not only a five percent but a fifty percent. I think it is only fair that the committee summon this gentleman here. . ."

Last week Maragon was more philosophical.

"If I hadn't got so mad at Drew Pearson about all this," he told newsmen, "I wouldn'ta got in all this trouble."

There is no question that John Maragon lied. But I for one hate to see him go to jail, because he was only an inconsequential pawn in a very fast-moving, very big game where the stakes were skyhigh and the players knew what it was all about. Someday, perhaps, the rest of the Maragon story will come out.

TRUST-BUSTER TRUMAN

President Truman had a significant talk with Chairman Celler of the house judiciary during which he urged Celler to continue his bangup job exposing monopolies. The president seemed particularly gleeful about the New Yorker's probe of the steel trust.

"Keep it up," urged Truman. "You're doing a great job for the country, and, incidentally, providing me with some red meat for campaign speeches. I'll tell my staff to be on the lookout for any good material that you dig up."

"Thanks, but I may need some more money to continue our investigation," replied Celler.

"Let me know and I'll see that you get the money," Truman promised. "Now that the American people have discovered your efforts to help little business, they won't permit any interference."

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Nehawka

By Mrs. F. O. Sand

Mr. Wm. Brandt and son, Raymond, were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Whipple.

Callers Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bucholz were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gangel, Otoc, and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Johnson, Nebraska City, and on Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Dickman, Mary Jane and David of Nebraska City.

Mrs. Ralph Snively, Alvo, accompanied Mrs. John Chandler and Barbara and W. A. Stoll to Nebraska City, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. John Chandler and daughter had dinner in Nebraska City Sunday. In the afternoon the men played golf and the women attended the show.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Lundberg accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dodson and children to Lincoln where they visited Verne Lundberg at the Veterans hospital. Mr. Lundberg is making satisfactory recovery from a serious illness.

Lela Edmonds, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Ackley, Omaha, were week end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Edmonds. On Sunday the Edmonds family and their guests spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. Harley Fassnacht and family at McCool Junction.

The high school students and the teachers held a roller skating party at Nebraska City Friday evening.

Mrs. Harold Dodson is working part time at the bank since the resignation of Walter Kluteman, who with his family, moved to Columbus, Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Ross were dinner guests Sunday of her mother, Mrs. Floy Buell at Murdock.

Lowell Banks, Council Bluffs, spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Banks. His parents drove him to Council Bluffs, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hulle Banks, Grand Round, Oregon, are visiting his brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Banks, Nehawka, and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Banks, Talmage. They visited at the Gene Banks home Thursday evening.

Allen and Arthur Hansen, Lincoln, and Howard Hansen, Howells, spent the week end with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hansen.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Getches and Mr. and Mrs. Don Davis fished at Louisville, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Cappen, Lincoln, called at the Getches home Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Kent Balfour and family, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Balfour and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ross were among the dinner guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Balfour at Union. The dinner observed Ivan Balfour's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hild, Leonard and Shirley, Plattsmouth, were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Hall Pollard.

Members of the Methodist church held a covered dish supper at the church dining hall Sunday evening and spent the time socially.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Anderson and Sonja were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Romans and son, Lincoln, were supper guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Kent Balfour and family called at the Clark Balfour home at Union Sunday afternoon and also visited Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Redden and daughter at the Balfour home.

Nelson Berger, Marion Tucker, Will Ost, Carl Balfour and Henry Ross attended the spring ceremonial of the Shrine at Lincoln Friday.

Mrs. Nelson Berger spent the past week with her mother, Mrs. L. W. Wilkens, at Lincoln. On Friday, Mrs. Berger, her mother, Mrs. Carl Wilkens, DeWitt, were guests for dinner of Mrs. Wm. Damkroeger. Mrs. Berger returned with Mr. Berger, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Vance Balfour and daughters spent the day Sunday with her grandmother, Mrs. F. H. Walker; her sister, Mrs. John Chalmers and family and her father, A. W. Bedson and Mrs. Bedson at Lincoln. In the evening they were guests at dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wood.

Michael Leon Moore stayed with his grandmother, Mrs. Matt Midkiff Saturday while his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Moore, Murray, shopped in Nebraska City. Mr. and Mrs. Matt Midkiff called at the home of

"Listen, Mr. President, I've only started," said Celler. "My committee also plans to turn the searchlight on monopoly in air transportation, newsprint, the big distilleries and soap interests."

"Go to it," Truman enthused. "You're right down my alley. I was something of a trust-buster myself when I was a member of the senate."

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford O'Conner at Murray, Sunday evening.

R. H. Ingwersen, Weeping Water, was a dinner guest Sunday of his daughter, Mrs. Sheldon Mitchell and family. In the afternoon they called at the Sterling-Ingwersen home at Plattsmouth.

M. N. Tucker of Nehawka was in the city today to spend a short time and while here called at the Journal to renew his subscription to the paper.

Out County People Enjoy Peterson Talk

A number from out in the county attended to enjoy the address of Governor Val Peterson before the Chamber of Commerce on Friday evening. Among these were Howard Philpot, president of the Cass County Livestock Feeders association, from near Nehawka; Edwin T. McHugh, cashier of the Corn Growers State bank of Murdock; George Stites of Union; Elmer Hallstrom, Avoca banker, and Mrs. Hallstrom, who were also guests here of Attorney and Mrs. Raymond Case.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dietl and children of Louisville were in the city Saturday to look after some matters of business and while here called at the Journal to enroll as readers of the paper for the ensuing year.

Leaves on Flight To the West Coast

Captain Vincent Braun, of this city, stationed at Offutt Field air base, departed this (Monday) on a flight for the west coast as a part of his routine tour. He has just recently returned home from an extended flight to the south.

LOANS

\$20 to \$1000
\$50 Cash Loan Repay . . . \$5.21
\$100 Cash Loan Repay . . . \$7.13
\$300 Cash Loan Repay . . . \$14.17
\$500 Cash Loan Repay . . . \$21.01
\$500 Cash Loan Repay . . . \$33.38

Other Amounts in Same Proportion

Group all your bills. Have one small payment instead of several

LOANS MADE ANYWHERE
Write or Come in

AMERICAN LOAN PLAN
112 No. 5th St. Ph. 3213
DON J. ARUNDEL, Manager
Plattsmouth

Be Thrifty

DOUBLE STAMP DAY

Wednesday MAY 3

SHOP AND SAVE THE GREEN STAMP WAY

Double Stamps on All Purchases of \$1.00 and Over

FELDBOUSEN DRUGS

"Your Friendly Drug Store"

DISPERSION SALE

At the farm two miles north and three-fourths mile west of Eagle, Nebraska, on

FRIDAY, MAY 5th

At 1:00 o'Clock P. M.

29 HEAD OF LIVESTOCK 29

Including

20 Head of Holstein Cows
7 Head of Holstein Heifers

This is an exceptionally fine offering of Grade A Holstein Dairy Cattle from a Grade A Dairy Farm

One Excellent Team Sorrel Mares
5 and 8 Years Old — Well Broke

1947 Ford-Ferguson Tractor
With Complete Line of Ford Implements

Nearly New Surge Milking Machine

Six Can Electric International Milk Cooler

This machinery and equipment is the finest offering we have made for a long time. All of it was new in 1947

L. K. Swartz

OWNER

Ellis Lacy, Avoca, Auctioneer
K. D. Glover, Nebraska City, Ring Man