

THE PLATTSMOUTH JOURNAL

The Plattsmouth Journal Official County and City Paper

Published semi-weekly, Mondays and Thursdays, at 408-412 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska.

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

Helen E. Heinrich, News Editor



SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$3.50 per year in Cass and adjoining counties, \$4.00 per year elsewhere, in advance, by mail outside the city of Plattsmouth. By carrier in Plattsmouth, 15 cents for two weeks.

Entered at the Postoffice at Plattsmouth, Nebraska as second class mail matter in accordance with the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY Science is organized knowledge.

—Herbert Spencer

EDITORIALS

ALL THAT THE EDITOR ASKS

The editor of this newspaper, as you may have already discovered, is neither saint nor sage, philosopher or professor.

There is no secret about the matter. We get a moderate amount of pay for exposing our views to the gaze and perusal of the enlightened readers of this gazette.

Our opinions, written in haste and poor English, may amuse, baffle or befuddle, but so long as nobody else will do the job worse for less money, we will probably continue to collect our salary.

We find it rather difficult to work up a rich lather of perspiration over any of the issues that face the nation, or the world. There have been issues for many years and there will be issues long after we have passed into the world where nobody writes editorials.

The human race is an ancient institution. It has been bedeviled by wiser writers than we are. It has gone its way. So be it. All that we ask is the privilege of going our own way, with those who may choose to come along and without those who prefer to go some other way.

We are so modest that we really appreciate the compliment that anybody pays us by reading our writings and we never worry whether they agree with us or not.

TO REDUCE TRAFFIC DEATHS

The best way to save the lives of some of the American citizens who are killed in highway accidents is by enforcing the laws regulating the movement of vehicles.

The highway regulations, including the rules for parking, are little matters that spell life or death at times. No one knows when a minor violation may cause a major tragedy. Consequently, the minor violators should be punished promptly.

The enforcement of traffic rules should proceed without recognition of "big shots." Nobody in any community ought to have prestige or power enough to escape punishment for violations of the regulations. Enforcement officers should not "know" anybody; neither should juries and judges.

FOR REAL AMAZEMENT

From London, England, comes the news that Dr. Edith Summerskill, British Minister of Insurance, is astonished at learning "of the pornographic rubbish it is possible" for British young people to buy and that she is amazed, when she goes to the cinema, to endure thirty minutes of "shooting, stabbing and choking scenes presented as if they were the normal British way of life."

We are not surprised to hear of the lady's astonishment and amazement but if she wants to get to the top level in this regard, she should come to the United States and take a look at the "pornographic rubbish" offered for sale to our young people and go to the moving pictures and see a full hour of what passes for a presentation of normal life in the United States.

FACTS ARE CONCEALED

Senator Millard E. Tydings, of Maryland, who heads the Senate Communist Investigating Sub-Committee, suggests that new evidence might make immediate conclusions as to the inquiry premature. He admits that he has been investigating and that he has "accumulated a vast amount of valuable material."

Suggesting that it might be well for everyone "to be a little careful on reach-

Furse's Fresh Flashes

A local family was not perturbed over the loss in a recently burglary at their home. The burglar got in through a window they hadn't been able to open in eight years.

Back seat drivers, to us, are no worse than men who try to cook from the dining room table.

A Plattsmouth man complains because his wife talks to herself. So does ours, but she doesn't realize it. She thinks we're listening.

Sometimes even we have to pull out our driver's license and examine it closely to reassure ourselves we are competent to drive an automobile.

It's tough to find, For love or money. A joke that's clean And also funny.

It's not too hard to live on a small income as long as you don't spend too much trying to keep it a secret.

A farmer friend of ours told us recently that bureaucrats who spend and spend and tax reminded him of the sheepman who decided to skin instead of shear.

When you have trouble getting to sleep try sipping a large glassful of rum. It won't put you to sleep, but it will make you satisfied to stay awake.

Dogs get affection because they give it. That ought to be lesson enough to most of us.

If most of us weren't well pleased with ourselves we would do something about it.

ing any ultimate conclusion about what is involved in this whole matter," the Marylander says that there are some things that he happens to know "that have never fully come out to the people and to the senate and even to the committee."

DOWN MEMORY LANE

TEN YEARS AGO Mrs. Josephine Janda entertained at her home honoring the birthday of Mrs. Rose Bookmeyer and also for Mrs. Mary Koehnke, visitor from Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The ladies are sisters... 1940 senior class of P. H. S. went to Horkey's park, situated on the Blue river, north of Crete for their sneak day... Plattsmouth Garden club scheduled their flower show for May 22 and 23... Bill Fox of Wahoo, Nebraska, came to Plattsmouth as manager of Joe's New Way store... Miss Mildred Hall was elected noble grand of the local Rebekah lodge... Job's Daughters honored their mothers at a banquet at Masonic hall with over 85 in attendance.

20 YEARS AGO Five thousand witnessed dedication on May 19, 1930 of the new \$700,000 traffic bridge across the Missouri; formal opening saw distinguished guests present, among them being Governor Arthur J. Weaver, who was making his first official visit for this occasion. Total length of bridge structure from east to west abutment was 1,421 ft., 4 in.; the concrete bridge floor measured 20 ft. inside curbs; was under construction an entire year; work was delayed by high water... The 1930 final census returns gave Plattsmouth as 3,730... The Plattsmouth Loan and Building Association, with forty years of service to the community, was living up to its slogan "Building for the Future."

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

STATE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS FLOATING PROPAGANDA BALLOONS OVER RUSSIA; NORTH CAROLINA CANDIDATE TRIES TO FORGET HIS OPPOSITION TO MINIMUM WAGE; SOVIET READIES AIR BASES AIMED AT OKINAWA.

WASHINGTON. — One of the most carefully guarded secrets of the war was the fact that Japan was floating balloons across the Pacific ocean to Oregon, Washington and even as far east as Illinois and Texas.

U. S. censors gave strict orders to suppress all news of these balloons; and even when an Oregon family climbed into a tree to examine a balloon and was blown to bits, censors suppressed the information.

Reason for the strict censorship was that American commanders didn't want the Japs to know how successful their balloon campaign was. If the Japs realized their balloons were getting across, it was believed they would launch many more

EARLY SPADE WORK



thousands. After the war ended, cross-examination of the Jap military revealed that 60,000 of these balloons had been launched from the Kurile islands and Formosa. They crossed the Pacific at an altitude of over 17,000 feet at a speed of over 100 miles an hour and were equipped with gadgets which made them descend after a certain distance. The prevailing winds across the Pacific made the flight relatively simple—despite the fact that the Pacific is the widest of all oceans.

The balloons were equipped as incendiary carriers to set fire to northwest forests, and later they were to be equipped as carriers of bacteriological warfare. BALLOONS TO RUSSIA Use of these same type balloons to carry propaganda into Russia was proposed in this column two years ago. The wind currents from Germany, France, Austria, Turkey or even England make it easy to float balloons into Russia. In fact, they could be inflated so as to come down in certain planned areas, carrying not only propaganda, but bars of soap, candy, shortwave radio sets, etc.

The weather bureau, with whom I conferred at the time, confirmed the fact that floating the balloons into Russia would be fairly easy. Secretary of Air Stuart Symington and Chief of Staff Omar Bradley gave their enthusiastic approval. But at that time the state department said no.

However, with increasing Soviet jamming of the Voice of America, and with the increasing urgency of getting American ideas across to the Russian people, the state department under live-wire Assistant Secretary Ed Barrett is re-examining the matter. A sincere effort is being made to put across the Acheson idea of "total diplomacy."

A CANDIDATE FORGETS Willis Smith, one of North Carolina's candidates for the senate, has been stumping the state telling folks that he is the great friend of the working man. One of his full-page advertisements reads: "I believe in high wage scales for the American working man."

What Lawyer Smith has forgotten, however — or at least what he wants the people of North Carolina to forget — is that he actually opposed a 40-cent minimum wage for the working man as late as 1947. Despite the fact that the federal minimum wage is now fixed at 75 cents, Smith informed the North Carolina general assembly that the 40-cent minimum was "harsh, unreasonable and unnecessary."

Note—In contrast, candidate Smith last year received a fee of \$23,137.77 for liquidating the Madix Asphalt Roofing Co., of Raleigh. Since the job took him only 98 days, he was paid at the rate of \$219.28 a day in contrast to the \$16 a week minimum which he told the general assembly was too high for North Carolina workmen. While liquidating the firm, incidentally, Smith lived at the beach resort of Morehead City and charged his client 10 cents a mile ex-

pense for riding back and forth to the beach. SOVIET EYES OKINAWA A Soviet plot to force the United States off its Pacific island bases is revealed in recent reports to the joint chiefs of staff. The clue to Soviet plans is the massing of thousands of Chinese forced laborers to build giant airports within bombing range of Okinawa. The airports are in China's Fukien province fronting on the East China sea, and will have wide, long airstrips for planes much larger than anything operated by the Chinese Communists.

U. S. intelligence reports say that Soviet officers are directing the construction of these airfields. The Communists are also planning jet bases, one of them at Ningpo. This information fits into the joint chiefs' estimate of Soviet plans — diversionary moves in Europe to distract our attention, but with the main punch aimed at southeast Asia and the Pacific. The Kremlin appears ready to take a chance that the American public would let Okinawa and even the Philippines fall rather than go to war.

LOUEY AND HARRY Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson's penchant for talking off the cuff is getting him in trouble with President Truman—who also talks off the cuff. The president complained to an old friend the other day, "Louey talks to Bernie Baruch and tells him things he doesn't tell me. I have to learn about them third hand."

The White House also learned that Secretary Johnson gave a Pentagon visitor some secrets regarding the navy plane shot down over the Baltic. The visitor was J. Arthur Rank, the British film magnate. Note—Mr. Truman has no love for the elderly Baruch since Baruch refused to serve on a Democratic committee in the 1948 campaign.

MERRY-GO-ROUND Oklahoma's state CIO council has secretly voted to take no sides in the bitter battle between Sen. Elmer Thomas and Congressman Mike Monroney. This means that Senator Thomas, who usually gets the labor vote in Oklahoma, will be strictly on his own against Monroney, the man who received the Collier's award several years back for out-

standing congressional service. Trygve Lie, U. N. secretary-general, got a rough introduction to the iron curtain in Prague. At a so-called press conference, the Communist news stogoes harangued him about the "western warmonger capitalists." When Lie protested he was not an agent of the western powers, he was given the horse laugh... Egypt is quietly re-creating an army and navy of international rovers to do battle again with Israel. Armed frigates for the Egyptian navy are being bought privately from U. S. companies... Life is now so hot behind the iron curtain that a German citizen, Brumbach and Barley (not Barnum and Bailey), slipped across the border into western Europe the other night. The Brumbach citizen included 90 wagons, various elephants, tigers, monkeys, and clowns, but they got across the border just the same.

50c Upturn on Fat Cattle at Omaha Market

A rip-roaring fat cattle market highlighted Omaha livestock trade Monday. Slaughter steers yearlings and heifers sold 50c higher readily bulk \$26.50-\$29.00 best steers \$30.25, highest since February, quotable top \$33.50. Heifers scored \$28.50 highest for them since last November. Plain shortfeds sold down to \$23.00 but few under \$25.50. Cows sold strong to 50c higher. Beef cows up most, those to \$23.50, young, light cows to \$24.00, and canners and cutters at \$16.50-\$19.00. Vealers brought \$24.00-\$26.00. Stockers and feeders sold strong to 50c higher, bulk \$26.00-\$28.50, feeder steers to a new season's high of \$28.75. Hogs sold steady to a quarter lower, butchers weighing 180-360, \$17.50-\$20.00. Sows weighing up to 550 brought \$15.00-\$18.00, stags \$9.00-\$13.00.

Among recent sales at Omaha from this area: Ray Eveland 14 steers wt. 1341 \$29.00. E. G. Steckley 103 hogs, wt. 233, \$19.25. Joseph J. Safarik 19 steers, wt. 1102, \$29.00. Victor Meisinger, 23 hogs, wt. 200, \$19.75.

THE PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL Thursday, May 18, 1950 PAGE ONE

THIS WEEK IN Washington

WITH MOST MEMBERS of congress back home in the "grass roots" building up political fences, only a few remained in Washington to hold previously announced committee hearings. Then there were a score or more senators and congressmen on world junkets, ostensibly to gather personal information concerning the United States foreign policy.

Chief subject of comment here in Washington was based on reaction to the President's statement that increased taxes would be needed next year to meet government deficits and to his fighting speech at St. Paul, where he lambasted "reactionaries" on both the right and left fronts in opposition to his Fair Deal program.

In contradiction to the President's plea for a tax increase, the staff of the house ways and means committee is now working on a tax revision measure to be presented to congress in January under the direction of Chairman Robert Doughton of North Carolina. Congressman Doughton has predicted that some changes would be made in the tax program in 1950, but with indications to a downward revision.

Since 1950 is an election year, the political experts here are predicting there will be no increase in taxes. There however is likely to be a sizeable reduction in spending for foreign nations which might take up the slack in the federal budget. President Truman has predicted that the federal deficit likely will be about \$5.5 billion dollars.

Congressman Joseph W. Martin of Massachusetts, the Republican leader in the house, has issued a blast at proposed tax increases and has had printed in the congressional record a table showing that the federal government collected \$41.8 billion in fiscal 1948 from the states and returned only about \$3.8 billion in federal aids and grants. What Congressman Martin did not mention were other types of federal activity.

For instance, about \$10 billion is spent in salaries, most of which goes back to the states; another \$10 billion goes back in purchase of goods and commodities. Another \$6 billion goes back in interest on loans and for services and in-

vestments. There are other millions which go back in farm price supports.

Except for the actual expense of running the government in Washington, which amounts to only about \$6 billion, and money spent in the foreign aid program, a large part of which finds its way back into the hands of American business men, all money collected by the federal government eventually finds its way back into the states.

Rep. Walter A. Lynch of New York has announced that his subcommittee of the house ways and means committee has reached agreement with insurance companies whereby they pay back tax to the government for years 1947 through 1949 amounting to approximately \$90 million. The insurance companies refused to pay this tax on investment income due to a loophole in the law. The committee is working on a change in the law.

Sen. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire this week issued a denial that as a trustee of the miners' welfare and retirement fund he had dissipated the money as charged by Ezra Van Horn, another trustee, recently resigned. Senator Bridges has been criticized for drawing \$35,000 a year as a trustee of the miners' fund while drawing pay as a United States senator.

Congressman J. Parnell Thomas of New Jersey, former chairman of the house un-American activities committee, is on trial here in federal district court on charges of conspiring to pad his official office payroll, taking "kickbacks" from employees and of falsifying pay vouchers. He had escaped trial this far on pleas of ill health. He was discharged, however, from the army's Walter Reed general hospital last June as "completely cured." Judge Alexander Holtzoff of the federal court ordered a physical examination in a ruling denying Thomas another postponement.

In a recent speech, Sen. Roert A. Taft of Ohio pointed to the stand the Republicans likely will take in fighting the administration's foreign policy. At Toledo, Taft charged that the United Nations charter is "founded primarily on power and expediency rather than on justice."

John Joachim, 21 steers, wt. 1065 \$28.65. Siemonett & Schmidt, 39 heifers, wt. 705, \$27.00. Lod Tejrad, 20 steers and heifers, wt. 775, \$26.50. Arthur Johnson, 18 hogs, wt. 266, \$18.50.

Bullet Just Stings NEW BEDFORD, Mass. (UP)—Forty-eight hours after 9-year-old Richard Peckham felt a sting in his arm while walking through the woods, hospital surgeons removed a bullet from the arm. Until then, the boy hadn't realized he had been shot.

Papyrus Prized BUZZARDS BAY, Mass. (UP)—A prized possession of John Christopoulos is a piece of papyrus, smaller than a postage stamp and inscribed with the Ten Commandments. Believed at least 650 years old, the Papyrus was handed down to Christopoulos by his ancestors.

Batavia is the capitol of Java.

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15		16				17		18		
			19			20				
21	22		23			24	25	26		
27			28			29				
30		31				32		33		
34	35					36		37		
38						39		40		
			41	42			43			
44	45					46		47	48	
49						50	51		52	
53						54			55	

1. Dry, as wine
2. Chalice
3. To supply
4. Tip
5. To triumph
6. Chopping tool
7. Body of water
8. To encase
9. Young cat
10. Wrath
11. Impost
12. Cat's cry
13. Unyielding
14. Particle

21 Country of Asia
22 Crosslike bird
23 Pedal digit
24 A state
25 High note
26 Anesthetic
27 By birth
28 Son of Odin
29 Posed
30 To evade
31 Unit and Clark
32 Hockey team
33 Springlike
34 Nothing
37 Weasel
38 Island in the Mediterranean
39 Hindu
40 Hindu
41 Hindu
42 To shift
43 Time long since past
44 Golfer's mound
45 Sick
46 Footlike part
47 Football team

ANSWERS
1.—(b) Observe the capital's 150th anniversary.
2.—(a) Marlene and Alice Bauer.
3.—(a) Child or descendant.
4.—(c) Show.
5.—(c) Cancer.