

EDITORIALS

SIZE ALONE NOT WISE GOAL

Cities and towns, all over the United States, compete in a feverish race for size and the goal of every community, it seems, is to persuade industry to settle within its gates.

Civic organizations give most of their thought to the concoction of "dope," which they hope will persuade somebody to come in and build up their municipality for them. Much effort along this line is inevitably wasted.

It may be a startling idea, but we wonder if the people of any sizeable city ever have tried giving their time and attention to the development of the best place in the world for a family to live in? There are, in Plattsmouth, enough people to get together and make it attractive to the homebuilder and family-maker. Properly coordinated, local effort can make Plattsmouth ideal in appointments for the proper education and development of children, which, we submit, ought to be an asset.

Frankly, we realize that no one will take up this idea and that the "people" will continue to pursue dreams of a greater Plattsmouth with its sky black from the smoke of industry and the streets packed with the families of workers. Thus, they reason, will prosperity and plenty arrive for all.

INFLATION CAN HURT EVERYBODY

The people of the United States are beginning to wonder whether the expenditures necessitated by the defense program will result in inflationary prices and thus carry us to another pinnacle from which we will inevitably descend into another depression.

It may be said at the beginning that the first requisite for another depression is a period of inflation. Consequently, responsible economic experts, in and out of the government, are agreed that steps should be taken to prevent advancing prices which will culminate in a wild orgy of buying.

With the increased tempo of defense spending, the people of the United States will have more money to spend. It is also certain that, as industrial plants turn from normal production into the production of defense materials, the shortage of goods may become pronounced.

Given more money and fewer goods, it is certain that prices will go up as prospective buyers bid against each other for decreasing supplies. This will be the case in any free economy. Consequently, the Government is almost compelled to take steps to limit the buying power of the public.

As we understand it, and we admit that we do not know too much about it, this can be done in several ways. One is to set a price upon goods and commodities. Another is to provide heavy taxation in order to drain off excess purchasing power. This end can also be accomplished if the people of the country invest in Government bonds for defense financing.

We hope the people of the United States will be smart enough to encourage the Government to take whatever steps are necessary to prevent a repetition of the inflationary orgy which developed in the United States after the first World War. The remedy may seem to be harsh now but it will be easy if it enables the nation to avoid a disastrous depression after the defense effort is unnecessary.

FORECASTS USUALLY RIGHT

Official weather forecasts, believe it or not, are right most of the time.

A survey, made some years ago, reveals that the weather reports are correct eighty-five to ninety times out of a hundred and that the ratio is improving with the development of improved methods.

It is human nature for people to recall the day which was rainy, although the weather forecast was for "fair" weather, and to forget the numerous occasions when the forecaster called the turn correctly.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

A woman absent is a woman dead. — Ambrose Bierce

The Plattsmouth Journal Official County and City Paper

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Published semi-weekly, Mondays and Thursdays, at 409-413 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebr.

RONALD R. FURSE Publisher HARRY J. CANE Editor FRANK H. SMITH News Reporter BERNARD A. WOOD Advertising Mgr. Helen E. Heinrich & Donna L. Meisinger Society - Bookkeeping & Circulation



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

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, 20 cents for two weeks.

THE PLATTSMOUTH JOURNAL

Serving Plattsmouth and Cass County for Over Seventy Years

SECTION B CASS COUNTY'S NEWSpaper

THE PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL Thursday, March 8, 1951 Section B PAGE ONE

Furse's Fresh Flashes

We wonder if there are grounds for the present price of coffee?

Perhaps some of the Korean veterans can answer—Can a Chinaman understand another Chinaman?

When a man starts going to the devil because of matrimonial problems at home he usually hunts up a devil with blond hair, a shapely figure and seductive lips.

A lot of bars don't serve women—you have to bring your own.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little court twister, has a lot of imitators. Fanny says you can get her beautiful school-girl complexion at any drug store, but you can't buy her giggle or her wiggle.

People who generally go nuts over some new religion are those who never have tried any of the old.

While Congress is investigating, we hope they will look into all those "V's" in television.

Sometimes we wish the facilities were better for kicking our ourselves.

The cost of living has gone up ever since people quit eating each other.

We see where coffins took another advance in price and with taxes what they are a man can't afford to either live or die.

Lady Godiva with a crew haircut would have looked more modest than the way some gals dress today.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

10 YEARS AGO The Rhythm Band of Wintersteen Hill school, Margaret Bauer, teacher, performed at the Presbyterian Federation meeting... News of the death of Gutzon Borglum, noted sculptor of the famous "Rushmore Faces" was regretfully received by E. J. Weyrich local druggist and photographic enthusiast. Mr. Weyrich met the sculptor on a vacation trip to the Black Hills and Rushmore. He was invited by Mr. Borglum to ride to the top of the work in progress in a trolley car which was used to carry workmen and materials... Mrs. Clement Woster was named president of Chapter F P.E.O.

20 YEARS AGO Father Jerry Hancik, pastor of Holy Rosary church here, planned a trip to the Old World following the Easter observances... George E. DeWolf, who since serving as Superintendent of the local public schools served in like capacity at Creston, Ia., accepted a call to the schools of Downer's Grove, Ill... Cass County spelling contest held at the court house resulted in Lois Troop of Nehawka and Margaret Young of Avoca sharing honors in both oral and written tests... Nehawka ladies organized Legion Auxiliary Unit, becoming the third unit in the county with Plattsmouth and Louisville already organized.

THE WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Copyright, 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.) DREW PEARSON SAYS: IMPOVERISHED ALBANIANS FIGURE THEY HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE TRYING NEW EXPERIMENTS—SERIES OF WARS MADE THEM EASY MARK FOR COMMUNISM; YUGOSLAVS BITTERLY DENOUNCE RUSSIA.

(Ed. Note: Drew Pearson is on a flying tour of Europe and the Middle East, surveying the world situation.)

Pec, Yugoslavia.—For most of one day I have driven along what is sometimes called "The Little Iron Curtain"—the border where Yugoslavia and Albania meet, for Yugoslavia enjoys the unenviable distinction of being squeezed between two sections of the Iron Curtain with Bulgaria and Hungary on one side and Albania on the other.

How tiny, primitive Albania—chiefly a Mohammedan country—happened to fall for Russian Communism has always been a mystery to me. I lived on the Albanian border for two years after the first world war, once crossed it on horseback, and its people at that time were rugged individualists who hated all governments, including their own, with the passion of Pennsylvania's high-tariff Joe Grundy. Perhaps the explanation is that Albania is a nation of extreme poverty where the people have nothing to lose by

I LIKE TO FEEL IMPORTANT, DO YOU?



trying new experiments plus the fact that any nation torn by a never-ending series of wars is an easy mark for communism.

At any rate, the border between Ruzzianized Albania and anti-Russian Yugoslavia now is studded with armed guards, and strangers are not permitted within 20 kilometers (about 12 1/2 miles).

I managed to remember enough of the local language to talk my way past the first guard in the restricted zone and thereafter managed to talk my way past guards who stopped me to keep every half hour until we had passed through the old Turkish Albanian city of Prizrend, the border town of Jakovitzva, and Deceny Monastery—one of the oldest in Serbia, but it now bristles with armament. The Iron Curtain here is not of barbed wire as it is around most satellite countries, but consists of a steep mountain range, its base studded with troops.

Denounce Double-Crossing Russians

My purpose in visiting this isolated, desolate part of the Balkans was partly sentimental partly to see whether the United States is getting credit for its good program, partly to gauge Yugoslav sentiment toward Russia and the United States in an area far from the official blarney handed out by the diplomats in Belgrade.

Regarding the food program, the United States has given the Yugoslav government \$60,000,000 worth of flour with the understanding that they sell it through their regular ration system but making it clear that the flour comes from us. Its distribution was organized under Richard Allen of Carmel, Calif., a former Hoover food man who has also arranged for American inspectors to travel through the country. I traveled part of the time with one of these inspectors — efficient George Treit—as he interviewed local officials and local farmers and it appears the United States is getting credit.

Regarding Yugoslav feeling

That was in 1919 and they recalled that in 1912 Serbia and Greece had fought Turkey, then in 1913 Bulgaria had fought Serbia and Greece, and in 1914 the world war started. Thus for six long years the Balkans were plunged in war—war which neither the Serbian guards nor their Bulgarian prisoners nor the Albanian conscripts wanted. Their hope, they said, was

toward Russia, it seems similar to that of the bride who has been jilted at the church and then watched her fiance marry another woman. Yugoslav papers are filled with bitter denunciation of Russia, reminding the people that anyone who deals with Russia always gets double-crossed and even playing up the Russian double-cross history back to 1700 as if it were hot first-page news today.

Later, I heard Marshal Pjadic, considered the father of Yugoslav communism, address 50,000 people in one of the bitterest attacks I have ever heard against Russia. Pjadic was jailed for 14 years by King Alexander, of which time he taught Marxism to other Yugoslav leaders but now Moscow calls him "The Hideous Hunchback of Belgrade." When I heard him he quoted Thomas Dewey. Walter Lippmann and Ernest Bevin as proof that Russia is a brutal nation and that the United States and England are vigorously supporting Yugoslavia.

Lesson For U. S.

Thirty years ago I had charge of 100 Bulgarian prisoners in a diminutive Serbian village called Dobro Do, which means Good Valley.—But the valley wasn't good, because it had been burned out by the Bulgarian army and my job was to rebury the bodies of Serbian widows, using Bulgarian prisoners for labor. We also had a transport company of 100 mules and 100 conscripted Albanian mule drivers who every night sat around campfires—the Albanians, the Bulgarian prisoners and their Serbian guards discussing war and what caused war.

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Woodrow Wilson

Woodrow Wilson—he was going to proclaim a new world in which there would be eternal peace.

Well, the years have come and gone since then. Woodrow Wilson tried and failed, and Dobro Do since then once again was ravished—this time by the Germans, later by the Italians—and then liberated by the Russians who, at times, acted more like conquerors than liberators.

This is the history of a typical Balkan village and when you look round at the poverty which always follows in the wake of war you understand why there is communism in the Balkans, for people who are poor, who are bred white, who have nothing to lose, turn in their desperation to desperate remedies.

This also may be a lesson for the United States for, if we get involved in war, its aftermath may find us nearer the communism which we are fighting so hard to avoid.

Veterans' Column

By RICHARD C. PECK Cass County Veterans' Service Officer

Widows Pension — Income Limitations

Widows of veterans who have established rights to pension benefits, but who were disqualified from receiving payments in 1950 because their income from other sources exceeded the statutory limitations, should reapply for payments for the year 1951 if they anticipate that their income will be below the limitation.

Draft Classifications

There have been numerous inquiries made as to the meaning of the various draft classifications now in effect. By way of general information, the following is a list of current classifications: Class I-A means available for military service. Class I-A-O means conscientious objector. Class I-B means official deferred by law. Class I-C means alien. Class I-D means minister of religion or divinity student. Class I-E means conscientious objector opposed to both combatant and noncombatant training service. Class I-F means physically, mentally or morally unfit. Class I-G means over age of liability for service.



Among the many historical markers in the storied Scotts Bluff region of western Nebraska is a small masonry monument on the site of one of the elusive fur trading posts in the West—Fort John. For the uninitiated, the marker is almost as hard to find as was the original site itself for the historian. You can see it by taking Highway 29 south out of Gering to the foot of Wild Cat Hills, turning west and following the road leading to Wild Cat Ranch. The monument, erected in 1938 by the American Pioneer Trails Association and the DAR, is just west of the road after you cross the cattle gate.

T. L. Green of Scottsbluff, a member of the State Historical Society's executive board and a leading authority on the history of the region, did much of the basic research required to bring the old fort to light. His reports, published some time ago in "Nebraska History," are fascinating examples of historical detective work.

Fort John was a child of Fort Laramie, the West's most important fur trading and military center. The latter, established in 1834, on the Laramie River, not far from its junction with the North Platte, was sold to the government for use as a military post in 1849.

After the American Fur Company had disposed of Fort Laramie, Major Andrew Drips, one of its principal agents—though not the one who negotiated the sale—spent the winter of 1849-50 in Robidoux Pass, down the Platte. In 1850 he moved up into Helvas Canyon and built a new post, which he named "Fort John," the official name of the fort on the Laramie while the fur company had it.

The new site was well chosen. As Mr. Green points out, Robidoux Pass was thronged each year by thousands of emigrants, and "this continuous encampment of great numbers of emigrants within the pass, with

THIS WEEK IN Washington

THE WEEK may be one of the most eventful in recent years, for some mighty angry labor leaders, who know the facts of life, and some equally resentful farm leaders are up in arms over the way the nation's top business leaders are running the defense mobilization and the fight against inflation.

Labor leaders were so mad before they called on President Truman to discuss their grievances with him that some of the more hot-headed were even advocating a general strike. They don't believe that a deal has been made in stopping the cost of living up-swing; they have continually asked for representation on policy making controls committees and have been rebuffed. The representatives of these 40,000,000 working folk are mad clear through.

And, peculiarly enough, it was not especially over the 10 percent wage boost granted by the Wage Stabilization board. While they were not satisfied with the 10 percent hike in that they declare it does not reflect their living costs, they might be inclined to accept the board order, other things being equal. But Charles E. Wilson, the top defense mobilizer, according to labor chiefs, has given the bit to business leaders and they are running the controls picture without labor having a say-so in the running.

They want a top man in Wilson's office. They just gained a top man in Eric Johnston's office in the person of George Harrison, from the railway mail clerks union. They want a man in Defense Production Administration Harrison's office too, and they want the control of manpower placed back in the Department of Labor, from whence Wilson took it away, and placed it in charge of a committee headed by Dr. Fleming, the Ohio college professor.

And now the farmers are becoming alarmed. They have no representation on any board or commission. At a meeting here, they voiced their disgust and their determination to have a say-so in the

their numerous draft stock consuming all pastureage, must have made a more retired but still accessible location greatly to be desired.

Though the profits from the establishment do not seem to have been all the American Fur Company might have desired, it was the most important trading post in western Nebraska in the 1850s. Father DeSmet, the famed Jesuit missionary, visited it, and baptized the half-breed children living in the vicinity. Prince Paul of Wurtemberg, a widely-known European traveler, spent several days at the post.

We do not know just when Fort John was abandoned. It probably passed out of existence as the bulk of overland emigration shifted from Robidoux to Mitchell Pass, thus leaving the

Helvas Canyon site completely out of the mainstream of western traffic.

LONG DISTANCE WANT AD

Proof that it pays to advertise has been produced by the Nemaha County Herald. One man ran an "oats for sale" ad in that newspaper. Two days later a farmer called to buy them—he lived in Jansen, 100 miles away.

A Classified Ad in The Journal costs as little as 35c.

J. Howard Davis LAWYER Soennichen Building Phone 264 Plattsmouth

Puzzle Crossword grid with clues for 1 to 57.

Puzzle No. 124 grid with clues for 38 to 57 and an answer key for Puzzle No. 123.