

### EDITORIALS

#### HIGHWAY FATALITIES RIVAL WAR

While we are concerned about those who die in warfare, it might be a good idea for us to think about the hundreds of Americans who die terrible deaths every day in automobile accidents.

This is a fearful price for a nation to pay for transportation. Naturally, some citizens will be killed on the highways, due to causes that are not preventable. This does not excuse us for ignoring the death of those who die from human carelessness and individual acts that are reprehensible and criminal.

Most of the American states have competent highway patrolmen. They do their best to make highway traffic safe for everybody. Frequently, they arrest speeders; at times, they apprehend drivers operating vehicles under the influence of alcoholic beverages. Formal charges are made against the offenders and many are convicted and punished.

It happens occasionally, however, that one who violates the highway law demands a trial before a jury and the men sworn to try the case, out of sympathy or other maudlin excuse, turn loose individuals, who, they are convinced, have violated the law. The jury in such case exercises its right and there is no appeal from the verdict rendered.

Frankly, a man or woman, who sits on a jury in a case involving the operation of a motor vehicle by a driver under the influence of alcoholic beverages, has a responsibility to society. He, or she, should not hesitate to join in a verdict that will speak the truth, regardless of what happens to the accused. Other citizens, using the highways, have a right to protection and it should not require a fatality, upon the main street of a town, to create a sentiment that demands enforcement of the law.

#### DOES TV INFRINGE PRIVACY?

An interesting question has been raised by a nationally-known betting commissioner, who recently refused to testify at a Senate Crime investigating committee hearing in St. Louis, on the grounds that television invaded his constitutional right of privacy and subjected him to ridicule and embarrassment.

It seems that the committee, headed by Senator Estes Kefauver, of Tennessee, permitted the hearings to be carried by a television station in St. Louis, where many public places have receiving sets. The question raised by the betting commissioner may present a legal test of television as a means of reporting a public event.

The same protest was probably made when the first hearing of any kind was attended by reporters from the press. While the issue raised by the betting commissioner may cause some delay in connection with his testimony, there is not much chance that the courts of this country will bar television as a means of reporting public matters. Certainly, if newspapers can print and radio commentators relate the details of a hearing, there is no more objection to a television record than to any other photographs that might be taken in connection with the news.

#### BRIGHTER DAYS PROMISED

Calling attention to the "temporary curtailment" of civilian goods, Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson emphasizes the productive capacity of this country and expresses the opinion that increased production will make it possible, in two or three years, to take care of the defense and civilian needs of the country.

Mr. Wilson points out that production has doubled since 1939 and cites the fact that restricted production in 1951 will still give Americans more motor cars than they had in 1948. He envisions a three-year plan of mobilization, with the increased facilities and skills eventually becoming to the "building of a better nation and a better world."

We call attention to this viewpoint because it is vitally important for every

#### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

The host is happy when the guest has gone.  
— Chinese Proverb

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### Furse's Fresh Flashes

The man who is always trying to get something for nothing usually winds up getting free board and clothes.

If you cannot write it and sign it, don't say it.

It is said that the American people squander ten billion dollars a year on games of chance. We wonder if they included getting married, starting up in business, or buying television sets?

One reason a local man has never married is that every day he gets more particular and less desirable.

Our sheriff asked a guy pinned underneath his overturned automobile if he was married. The fellow replied, "No, I'm not. This is the worst fix I was ever in."

A friend of ours has an income tax blank and now he would like to meet a nice young lady with an income.

If a rich man wants sympathy he must get it from other rich men. That's probably why they have clubs.

They say the RFC has cost this country millions of dollars through favoritism in loans. After taking a second look at the gang that has been heading the outfit, we'd say we got off cheap.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little court twister, thinks its foolish for our legislature to investigate lobbyists. She says lobbying is alright if you are really staying at the hotel.

American to support the present effort and to cheerfully accept temporary inconveniences. After all, the security of this country in a troubled world is more important than the immediate possession of the luxuries that we have become accustomed to consider necessary to our standard of living which continues to be the envy of all intelligent people throughout the world.

### DOWN MEMORY LANE

#### 10 YEARS AGO

The one act play "Happy Journey" presented by the P.H.S. Dramatic Club was given superior rating at the Tarkio College speech and music festival. The cast comprised Jacqueline Wetenkamp, Edward Gradoville, Georgia Carey, George Jacobs, Rachael McMaken and Gerald Hennings. Supervisors of the Cass County Soil Conservation District announced inclusion of 7,664 acres additional to the district, most of the land being in Plattsmouth and Eight Mile Grove precinct. Chief of Police John Jordan tendered his resignation to Mayor Arnold Lillie to take up work with the engineers on the river. Carl D. Ganz of Alvo, W. B. Hughes of Omaha and H. A. Schneider of this city motored to Excelsior Springs to attend bankers regional meet being held at Elms Hotel.

#### 20 YEARS AGO

Principal R. F. Patterson received notice that seven members of the 1930 football squad had been elected to membership in the National Athletic Scholarship Society of Secondary Schools. Those honored were Jack Troop, Francis Yelick, Henry Donat, Clarence Forbes, Mott Frady, Sam Arn and Francis Warren. The local chapter was founded in 1928. W. T. Distell was named Exalted Ruler of the Plattsmouth Lodge B.P.O.E. No. 739.

### The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Copyright, 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)  
DREW PEARSON SAYS: PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S TEMPERAMENT IS MAJOR TOPIC ABROAD; HASTY REPLIES TO ORAL QUESTIONS AT PRESS CONFERENCES WORRY EUROPEANS; IMPACT OF AMERICAN WAYS NOTICEABLE IN GREECE.

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

Athens.—The chief subject every American is asked about, no matter what country he is traveling in, is Harry Truman's temperament. Why, you are asked, does your president write so many letters? Why does he call people so many names? Why does he make so many quick statements in press conferences?

Few people in the United States realize how widely the president's letter to Paul Hume, Washington music critic, was published—from London to the smaller cities of the Balkans. In Turkey some newspapers, having heard that the president once hurled an uncomplimentary epithet in my direction, got mixed up and thought the Hume letter had been written to me.

Leaving personalities strictly aside, however, the net effect of the president's mercurial disposition is to give the rest of the world an impression of American unsteadiness and a feeling that we are

### CIVIL DEFENSE

## A-Bomb Not Only Home Danger We Must Be on Guard Against

By Walter A. Shead

(This is the third in a series of five articles on the Civil Defense Program.)

With an enemy which places no value whatever upon the lives of individuals, which has no moral scruples as we know them, an atomic bomb is not the only peril faced by the American people in an all-out war with Russia.

Biological warfare against people and against animals is one of these perils. This sort of warfare which can spread a wide variety of disease including a number of viruses, rickettsiae, bacteria, fungi, protozoa and some toxins, may be waged about without by sabotage or from without by enemy planes and can be disseminated through a variety of media, chief of which are food, air and water. These infectious diseases taken in by humans through inhalation, absorption through the skin or by food, could be disseminated by animals and our munitions, by release of insecticidal aerosols from planes or from ground devices, taking advantage of favorable winds, or by release in ventilating systems of large auditoriums. Particularly effective is contamination of water sources.

In addition to humans, biological warfare against animals can be effective since meat, dairy and poultry products are an important source of diet for both military and civilian personnel. Production of wool and leather, might be curtailed and important biological and pharmaceuticals such as adrenalin, liver extract and insulin, entirely dependent upon animal glands and organs, could be cut off. Such animal diseases as foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, fowl pest and foreign types of Newcastle disease appear to have greater possibilities for damage in this country.

Then there is biological warfare against crops in the spread of insect pests and plant diseases which constitute a threat to our food supply. It would be comparatively easy for low flying planes to spread such crop and animal diseases across the vast stretches of the country's great plains where wheat, oats, and the meat animals are raised and where population is comparatively meager. The department of agriculture knows about many of these foreign pests such as Japanese beetle, European corn borer, Mediterranean fruit fly, citrus canker and other pests, and most successful method of keeping down losses is development of strains resistant to specific diseases, which takes time. But it is likely that new organisms which

likely to fly off halfcocked. This applies to press conferences just as much as presidential letter-writing, as two cases will illustrate. A couple of weeks ago, Mr. Truman was asked at a press conference whether the United Nations force in Korea would cross the 38th parallel. He replied that he was leaving this entirely up to General MacArthur. Now, it so happened that this was not true. But true or not, nothing he could have said could have injured our relations more with other U.N. nations, for several reasons.

First, they feel important political decisions of this kind involving further embroglio with China and Russia are not up to the American Military Commander but to the entire U.N. Second, both the French and the British repeatedly urged, requested and begged us not to go above the 38th parallel prior to MacArthur's previous disastrous advance. Third, we are now demanding that Europe rearm under an American ground commander, an American Naval commander and air commander. Unfortunately, Mr. Truman's hasty press-conference statement makes them think twice about who would decide political matters regarding European defense.

The other Truman press conference boner was his famous statement that we are considering dropping the a-bomb on Korea which brought British Prime Minister Attlee hotfooting it to Washington. Questions Sometimes Loaded Most people don't remember that the three most recent Republican presidents refused to answer oral questions at press conferences and that it is only a man of extraordinary versatility, such as Franklin Roosevelt was, who can get away with it. Every week, as 200 newsmen face the president, they come armed with questions which either they or their editors have concocted on a score of difficult, sometimes intricate, problems. Some are friendly, some are calculated to embarrass, some merely want information. Presidents Coolidge and Hoover found it wiser to answer these only when handed in in writing, in advance, and this system of written questions began through the same kind of boner as that which Mr. Truman has occasionally been guilty of.

During the Washington Arms conference in 1921 President Harding who then permitted oral questions, was asked whether the treaty banning fortifications applied to the Japanese mainland which, of course, included Japanese islands. He replied in the affirmative. Whereupon the State Department had to rewrite the entire



WASHINGTON REPORT  
by  
Howard Buffett  
Congressman, 2nd  
Nebraska District

"We're getting ours while the gettin' is good. We've got two more years to clean up. What happens after that doesn't worry us." Who said that? The speaker was a contractor in the Pendergast crowd visiting with another Congressman. He was talking freely after a few drinks.

But he wasn't talking idly. The RFC graft recently in the news was bad — even though only the surface was scratched. But the defense program now starting will plunder the American taxpayer like he has never been robbed before — unless a miracle happens.

President Truman budgeted 52 billions for all defense spending. He gave no details — "Everything must be secret, of course — keep the Russians in the dark, you know. All this hush — can't trust even Congress — just vote the money — save the free world."

So the great steal begins. Here's a sample — say six more military bases are planned in Africa. "Yes, sir, there's no reason for us not to have the contracts. We're Fair Dealers! If a job costs 5 million, we'll put in a bill for 10 million — it's 5,000 miles away — perhaps we'll have to bribe a few inspectors — well, what's the difference? Truman rewards his friends."

"And those poor suckers in Congress — what can they do about it? They've got to vote the money, or we'll smear them as Stalin's helpers. If they show signs of balking, we can always invent a new Communist war scare. Yep, we've sure got Congress on the hook."

Yes, friend, part of this dialogue is true! The rest of it is coming true, unless your Congress and/or the American people can find a way to stop it. Here is my tough problem — and yours!

### Hatching Eggs Are Scarce, Report Shows

LINCOLN—There is a shortage of hatching eggs in the nation, according to information received by the University of Nebraska poultry husbandry department. Hatchery men are having trouble locating enough hatching eggs to keep up with the demand. Chicks are moving fast now, after a rather slow month in February because of the adverse weather conditions. Many sources in the poultry business feel that the season is two weeks late this year, due mainly to the weather.

Coal is consumed in greater tonnage than any other commodity produced by man.

## DALE CARNEGIE

AUTHOR OF "HOW TO STOP WORRYING AND START LIVING"

### Good Fortune Smiles on Non-Worriers

HERE'S A STORY about a couple of people who started out in life as Non-worriers. It wasn't that they had conquered worry; they never had worried, says Mrs. Alan Longacre, Richmond, California. Their marriage was happy. Good fortune came to them with her choicest gifts.

It looked for a time as if they would have no children, but they didn't worry about that. Within five years came three lovely children. They had everything, but what was more important they realized it, and didn't fret their lives away over petty matters.

Then: their house burned down with all their personal belongings. But they took advantage of having no home for George Allen to go back to school and get his degree in chemical engineering, thus turning that sour lemon into lemonade.

Suddenly their little three-year-old son developed Leukemia. The doctors gave him one week to three months life expectancy.

But the doctors at a well-known medical center asked to hospitalize him for three weeks for an important experiment which might save him. They consented and for weeks after he left the hospital they took him to the hospital daily for treatments. This meant rising at six in the morning and working until after mid-night. But hope was enshrined in their hearts.

Everything went well for six months, then the doctor said Mrs. Allen's heart would not continue to stand the pace she was going!

Their budget was already so overburdened that there was nothing to be applied to even inefficient help. So she had to handle her relaxation herself. She spent two hours on the bus to and from the hospital. During that time she learned to absolutely relax, let her mind go blank.

Today she can carry out her daily program with no strain on her heart, and the doctors are grateful to them, the while they are grateful to the doctors, because their young son is the "star" in his group at the medical center and is responding wonderfully to treatment.

"We still believe that good fortune favors us," says Mrs. Allen.

I am proud to write in this column of people who just naturally count their blessings. They are the salt of the earth.



Carnegie

### Buffet's Bill Would End RFC

Howard Buffett, member of the House Banking and Currency committee, today introduced a bill providing for the liquidation of the RFC. A similar bill was introduced at the same time by Congressman Robert Kean of New Jersey.

Buffett and Kean are the only two members of the present House who voted to end the RFC in 1947, when its life was being extended.

Buffett said: "The RFC was set up as an emergency agency almost 20 years ago. It has outlived both the emergency and its usefulness. It has degenerated into a bucket shop for political favors, sale of influence, expense-free trips, expense-free suites in luxury hotels, and an inside track for mink coats. It should be abolished."

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