

MAKE PLATTSMOUTH PRETTIER

Nature, bursting in bloom, suggests the beauty that would belong to Platts- mouth if advantage were taken of the native flowering species, planted for growth and development in various local- ities where they would startle our in- habitants in the early spring with their ex- quisite pictures of exotic loveliness.

Every community can enhance its own appearance and present its inhabitants with rare delights if a little time and thought be given to this idea. Really, folks, there is no excuse for an unattractive town or city in the springtime of the year.

What shall we do about it, besides talking and thinking?

Do we hear someone say, "Platts- mouth is wonderful at this time of the year!" We do! Well, we will admit that Platts- mouth has made a good start and that it is ahead of other places that we know, but, just the same, we have hardly scratched the surface and, besides, there are other places that are far ahead of our city.

BEAUTIES IN SCANTIES

We are getting fed up with the pic- tures of beauties, half-clad and posed, as they prance around exhibition halls for a chance to be called some kind of a "beau- ty queen."

The beauty contest idea has been worked overtime, so far as feminine shape- liness is concerned, and some of the con- testants seem to be ready for anything so long as it is called a "contest" with a prize to be awarded for pulchritude.

The obvious answer is that the public is girl-conscious and the answer may be correct. Just the same, it is about time for some smart girls to figure out that there might be just a bit more allure in less exhibitionism.

HOW CLOSE ARE WE TO WAR?

How close is war to the United States? No one can answer this question un- less he is able to read the mind of Joseph Stalin, and the other leaders of Soviet Russia.

It is admitted that the policies of the United States are hostile to the supremacy of Communism throughout the world and the acts of this country in fighting aggres- sion in Korea provide ample example for the Communists to declare war.

The question then arises whether Stalin and the other Communists will decide to wage open war upon the United States. The answer, according to most experts, is, "No."

This does not mean that the Com- munist are afraid of the United States. It means that, at this stage of the game, it is probably more profitable not to have a full-scale war with the United States.

We should not overlook the fact that the United States at this time possesses an overwhelming supremacy in the atomic bomb. Granting that the Russians have been able to manufacture some of these destructive agents, the early start of the United States gives us a preponderance which, according to Mr. Winston Church- hill, prevents the Russians from attempt- ing all-out war.

TIME COMES FOR US TO PAY

The United States is slowly getting away from the childish idea that it is a favored nation, without the dangers that beset other countries.

There has been, in times past, a wide- spread acceptance of the theory that the world is our apple and that all we have to consider is how to dispose of the fruit.

The time is not far off when the people of this country will realize, as they have never done before, that every nation pays for what it enjoys, whether it be peace, vast commerce or successful exist- ence in the midst of rapacious, predatory powers.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Every man cannot be the best, but every man can be his best.

— Mirabeau

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Furse's Fresh Flashes

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little con- tour twister, says marriage begins when you sink into his arms and ends with your arms in a sink.

A boy is at the in-between age in life when he knows why a strapless even- ing gown is held up, but he doesn't know how.

We recently reached the highest point of inflation recently. They awarded a guy back east over \$31,000 as the Nobel peace prize. Actually, we don't think there is over two-bits worth of peace in the whole world.

You can depend upon your neighbors sending your kids home at the hour you mention, if not a little before.

We'll go on record right here in ask- ing for a little peace and quiet in the world so we can catch up with our worry- ing.

Culture is the product of versatility and leisure, aided and abetted by some cash.

There may not be anything new under the sun, but the present generation is see- ing it for the first time.

A local woman is no longer consid- ered an active member of her Sewing Club. She never says a word—she just sits around and sews.

All is forgiven by a Plattsmouth war bride after she heard he had been going around with a jeep overseas. She thought it was a female Jap.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

20 YEARS AGO

Friends here of the Frank Dunbar family received announcements of the graduation of their daughter Miss Jane at Seattle, Washington. The family moved from here to California then to Seattle where Jane completed her school work. Carlyne Thomas was honored at her home at a birthday party, to which high school friends were invited. Mrs. Thomas was assisted in serving by Mrs. John W. Gamble of Omaha, grandmother of Carlyne, and her sisters, Miss Aimie Jane and Betty Ann. Many very attractive spots were to be found throughout the city streets carrying out the policy of planting flowers and shrubs in the small parks and parkways operated as a part of the city park system.

10 YEARS AGO

Dr. Leonard Fitch optometrist was opening offices in Plattsmouth. The members of Plattsmouth Rotary and their ladies enjoyed a chicken dinner and boat trip down the Missouri aboard the Robert Hoover, with Capt. J. A. Kruger of the Kansas City Bridge Company in charge. The Norfolk Packing Co. were engaged in their spinach pack. Robert Taylor, son of Dr. and Mrs. G. L. Taylor, former residents, graduated with cum laude honors class of 1941 State Teachers College at Kearney. R. Foster Patterson gave address at laying of corner stone at new Central School building; under auspices of Nebraska Grand Lodge AF & AM.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Copyright, 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.) DREW PEARSON SAYS: TRUMAN HINTS OF CALIFORNIA TRIP; SEN. McCARRAN'S SECRETARY HAS SENATORIAL AMBITIONS; NEW WRINKLE UNCOVERED IN B. & O.-RFC SCANDAL.

Washington. — President Truman, talking to a friend from San Francisco the other day, hinted that he would soon be making a whistle-stop campaign through California. The friend had warned that Mr. Truman had better come out to California soon.

"That's in the cards," the President promptly replied. "That's in the cards."

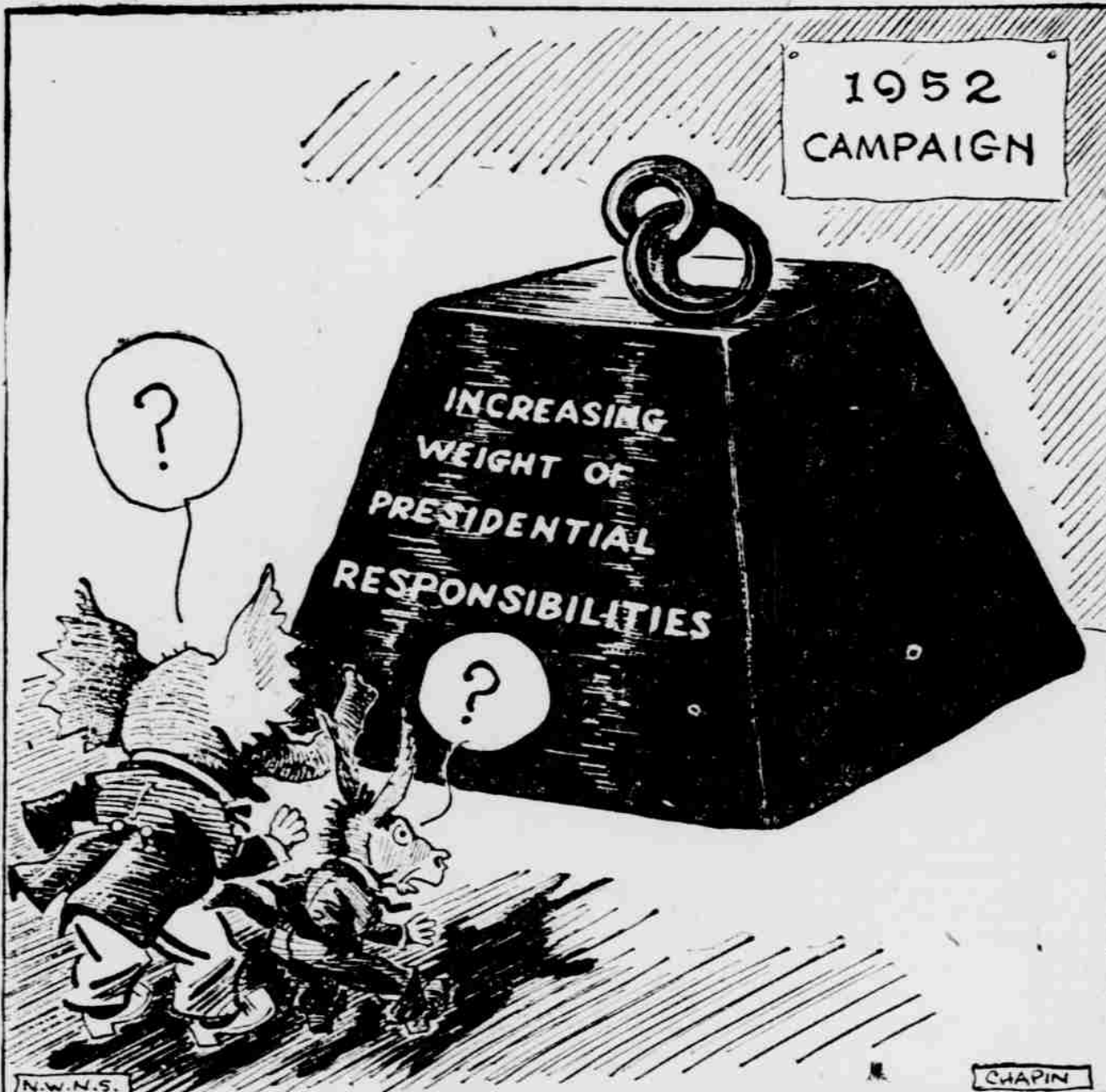
Then, as an afterthought, he asked why he was needed in California.

"You're in trouble out there, Mr. President," the friend replied, "as a result of MacArthur's visit."

"Oh, that'll be all right," was Truman's humorous comeback. "California's composed of crackpots from Kansas, Iowa and Missouri—like me. Once I get out there and talk their language, they'll get back in line."

Snubbed Senator Busy Sen. Ken Wherry of Nebraska is complaining bitterly about the way he has been snubbed by General MacArthur, the man for whom he has gone to bat so vigorously.

WANTED, A STRONG WEIGHT LIFTER



What irks Ken is that Sena- tors Knowland of California, Bridges of New Hampshire and Taft of Ohio, all Republicans, are in frequent touch with MacArthur, while his spokesmen, Maj. Gen. Courtney Whitney, telephoned questions to them to shoot at Gen. Omar Bradley and Gen. Joe Collins when they were on the witness stand.

In contrast, Senator Wherry was turned down when he tried to see MacArthur in New York, and hasn't yet been able to get him on the telephone. You can't blame him for feeling just a little out in the cold. Lady Senator From Reno?? It is supposed to be an office secret, but the lady who runs Sen. Pat McCarran's office, attractive Eva Adams, now has ambitions to become a senator from Nevada herself. Miss Adams has been badgering her boss, McCarran, to support her in the 1952 election against his Nevada colleague, GOP Sen. George "Molly" Malone.

Miss Adams has secretly coveted Malone's seat for some time, and even put herself through law school at nights until, last year, she passed both the District of Columbia and Nevada Bar examinations. She is the pert, competent, former dean of women at Nevada University, but for the past 10 years she has been McCarran's secretary. Those close to McCarran's office also say she can twist the Senator around her finger.

Net result of Miss Adams' political ambitions is that the silver-tatched Nevada Demo- crat is very much on the spot. For he had already promised his support privately to Aian Bible, the ex-attorney general who also wants to run against Malone.

If McCarran goes through with his support for Bible, it means that his senate office and the lady who runs it will be impossible to live with. Therefore, the harassed McCarran is trying to placate Bible by offering to make her a federal judge, even though she was admitted to the bar only a short time ago.

Biggest RFC Loan The more you dig into the RFC scandal regarding the huge \$87,000,000 loan to the Balti- more and Ohio railroad, the more you wonder why Republi- can Senators side-stepped a showdown at a time when they controlled Congress in 1947. Had they finished their RFC probe instead of mysteriously suspending it in mid-air, sub- sequent RFC troubles might have been avoided.

Chief difference between 1947 and 1951 is that today White House cronies and a \$9,000,000 mink coat are involved, while a pow- erful railroad friendly to cer- tain Senators and \$37,000,000 was involved in 1947. At any rate, here is a new and interesting wrinkle regard- ing the B. & O. case. After RFC Administrator Jesse Jones had put his men inside the B. & O., one of them, Russell Snodgrass, who became financial vice-president, pro- ceeded to get the McLaughlin Bankruptcy Act revised. Appar- ently he foresaw as early as 1942 that the \$87,000,000 loan to the RFC would not be repaid as scheduled in 1945. Therefore, he proceeded to pull wires to secure the renewal of the Mc- Laughlin Act by which the rail- road could go into receivership without the Jesse Jones boys giving up control.

To that end, Snodgrass ap- peared before the Senate Bank- ing and Currency Committee and urged re-enactment of the McLaughlin Act. But the inter- esting thing was that Snodgrass testified as an RFC official, even though he had already ac- cepted a lush salary offer from the B. & O., the railroad which would profit most.

Furthermore, Snodgrass did not tell the Senate Committee that he had accepted a job with the B. & O. when he testified. In brief, he used his govern- ment position to further legis- lation in the interest of his private employer.

The McLaughlin Act was then renewed, and the B. & O., three years later, was thrown into a fictitious bankruptcy under cir- cumstances described in a previous column—namely, a letter drafted by Snodgrass, later sent to him by the RFC.

These are some of the facts which Senator Fulbright's sub- committee on the RFC could well investigate. Fanning John Steelman Dr. John Steelman, back- slapping administrative assis- tant to President Truman, has been pulling frantic wires on Capitol Hill to prevent the Sen- ate Labor Committee from mak- ing public a report on the rail- road strike criticizing him. Steelman has been pleading and cajoling that the report be rewritten or suppressed.

Chairman of the Senate La- bor Committee, Jim Murray of Montana, is a great friend of the White House, and ordinari- ly would not level criticism at one of Truman's aides. In this case, however, Steelman is charged with being responsible for the off-again, on-again White House policy which confused the nation last year and helped precipitate the railroad strike. This column has obtained a copy of the Senate report which Dr. Steelman wants suppressed, and it's easy to see why he doesn't like it. Here are some purple passages: "Dr. Steelman allowed him- self to become involved in the dispute in a manner which com- promised his effectiveness and which threatens to embarrass the White House. It is an un- written rule in the profession that mediators will not... be- come arbitrators in the same dispute. In the opinion of the senate committee, he (Steel- man) made himself a vulner- able target."

Dr. Steelman also panned Steelman for having "grossly distorted and misrepresented" the railway unions.

The senate committee also suggests that Steelman was un- truthful when he advised the President that the brotherhoods had promised not to strike. "The committee finds," says the re- port, "that no such promise had been given."

All in all for a man who likes to get along with folks, as big John does, the report puts him in rather a bad light with a large segment of society.

WASHINGTON REPORT by Howard Buffett Congressman, 2nd Nebraska District

In my judgment, the greatest danger to America is not Rus- sia. Instead, it is the interna- tionalists, or more accurately, the interventionists. These are the people who favor the foreign policy that conscripts American men and resources for foreign lands.

Since 1940, this group has dictated our foreign policy. Each of their many plans, from Lend- Lease on, has failed. Always they have another scheme for us to try to police and supply



AS THE JOINT Chiefs of Staff continued their rebuttal of the testimony of General Douglas MacArthur, deposited for east com- mander, disagreeing with some of the general's views and assailing his methods of bringing them to public attention, the political edge was gradually wearing away on in- terest in the "great debate" as members of the congress obtained an overall global picture of this nation's foreign policy, as com- pared to the Asian picture painted by MacArthur.

Attendance was gradually de- creasing at the joint senate committee hearings although general overall interest does not appear to be in any dan- ger of fading away.

In the meantime several congress- ional committees have taken up the question of the nation's purse strings, the appropriations, the budget and just what steps shall be taken to slash away at govern- mental expenditure. Chief among the subjects at hand is the annual fight made on the growing federal grants-in-aid to the states. Not only would heavy slashes made in these grants in aid curb some im- portant services which the people over a long period have come to expect, but any heavy slashes into long established federal grants would work a hardship on state budgets and bring about local tax increases, or abolishment of the services in question.

During the 1950 fiscal year, the government disbursed to the states a total of \$2,152,337,143 in 41 grant- in-aid programs according to the sub-committee of the senate com- mittee on expenditures in the ex- ecutive departments. This was a \$206,000,000 increase over the same programs in 1949, and for 1952 the budget estimate for grants in aid amounts to \$3,176,512,124.

Congress has served notice how- ever that it is in a mood to cut into some of the budget estimates and such warnings have come from the joint committee on the economic report, the house and senate ap- propriations committees and the joint committee on reduction of non-essential expenditures. Usually these grants are made on a match- ing basis between the federal gov- ernment and the states. The largest

such federal aid grant is for aid assistance for aged and needy, which for 1950 totaled \$843,161,115, a 16 percent increase over 1949. For 1951, \$853,627,000 was ap- portionned.

The second largest grant in aid is for highway construction, where for 1951 the expenditure was \$432,125,000. This is the best known of the grant-in-aid programs and it is made on a 50-50 matching basis. Third largest is federal aid for dependent children under 18. Be- cause of increased aid voted by congress, the program showed a 25 percent increase for 1950 over 1949 and a 46 percent boost for 1950. Outlay for 1951 is estimated at \$44,205,000.

Fourth in line, comes unemploy- ment compensation and employ- ment administration. States bear actual cost of unemployment com- pensation, but the federal govern- ment shares with the states the cost of administering the com- pensation and employment services program. For 1951 the estimate is \$171,047,000, a one percent increase over 1950. The school lunch pro- gram is fifth largest with the fed- eral government providing assist- ance in both funds and food. It increased 10 percent in 1950 over 1949 and expected cash outlay for 1951 is estimated at \$64,625,000.

A new program — hospital construction is sixth largest for 1950. For helping defray hos- pital and health center con- struction Uncle Sam put out \$56,968,000 in 1950 and expects to spend \$75,000,000 this year. This is a temporary program, however. Distribution of sur- plus agricultural commodities is seventh in line with the fig- ures \$33,551,769 in 1949, \$36,326,000 in 1950 and approxi- mately \$25,000,000 in 1951. Next comes the federal airport pro- gram in which the federal gov- ernment provides for construc- tion of airports in the national system. The program is near- ing completion, but cost \$32,782,000 in 1950 and an estimated \$16,075,000 in 1951.

Agricultural extension work is ninth largest, a long time estab- lished program with \$31,025,000 in 1950 and an estimated \$31,547,000 in 1951.

the world.

Why are these people more dangerous to America's future than Russia? For at least two reasons. First, the military part of their policy conscripts our youth for slaughter in foreign wars. These youth are our seed corn. With that seed corn de- pleted, America becomes a hol- low shell... both biologically and militarily. Right?

Second, their handout policies make continuous inflation cer- tain. Steadily, your economic independence is being taken away from you. If their plans continue, our economic system will be completely socialized, like Russia's. Who wins then?

Yes, either the sacrifice of our young men, or unending in-

flation, will destroy America. Except as his agents must con- tinue to have these policies con- tinued, Stalin need never move a hand. Nor will the good in- tentions of interventionists change the outcome one bit.

The interventionists have long dominated both political parties. That has operated to con- ceal these perils. Also, it has de- cealed the people a chance to halt these policies. Yet I do not say that war with Russia is out—it could come any time. But our danger within is much greater. If you agree with this analysis, then the most important public interest in your life should be politics.

A new beet sugar plant in Minnesota requires from 450 to 525 tons of coal every 24 hours.

Crossword Puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for horizontal and vertical words.

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 136

Grid for the answer to puzzle no. 136.