

Serving Plattsmouth and Cass County for Over Seventy Years

THE PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL Thursday, July 19, 1951 Section B PAGE ONE

INCOME TAX "MISTAKES"

One out of four taxpayers makes a mistake in their individual income returns...

While making a survey of returns in 1948, the Bureau found that 14,000,000 returns contained errors...

Because of inadequate help, many of the erroneous returns for any year will not be adjusted...

Another surprising revelation is that business men, despite their training, make mistakes in nearly half of their returns...

Undoubtedly many of the mistakes made in connection with filing income tax returns are honest errors...

COMMENDATION FOR SEN. WILEY

We call attention to the action of Senator Alexander Wiley, of Wisconsin, who recently wrote a man, nominated for a Federal judgeship...

The Wisconsin Senator, ranking minority member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, declined to make public a series of questions...

Declaring that he did not intend to be a party to any "smear assault," the Wisconsin Senator pointed out that naturally there swirls about almost any man in public office a certain amount of adverse reports...

Everybody should applaud the Wisconsin Senator for the fair method he adopted in regard to questions sent to the nominee...

WITHOUT A CONCLUSION

The Senate's prolonged inquiry into the dismissal of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur from his commands ended after nearly eight weeks of testimony...

The testimony was mostly that of military leaders, with Secretary of State Acheson and a few others sandwiched between...

In general, there was agreement as to the power of the President, under our form of government, to remove General MacArthur...

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Philosophy is the account which the human mind gives to itself of the constitution of the world.

- R. W. Emerson

The Plattsmouth Journal

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Furse's Fresh Flashes

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little con-tour twister, is a most virtuous gal. She can say "No" in nine different languages.

Our local town sot should visit the blood bank the next time it's in town and have them drain his eyes.

A Plattsmouth widow says the next man she marries must be a man who will pick up things and be quiet around the house. She should marry a burglar.

Kansas, with her floods and recent legalization of liquor, should be wet enough right now for Carrie Nation to turn over in her grave.

A fool and his money are some party.

Mark up a unanimous vote among local merchants for the good old days when a ceiling was something that went over your head but didn't get in your hair.

It's dangerous to place a woman on a pedestal—makes it easy for her to kick you in the teeth.

If you need something to worry about, you might chew on this for a while: A scientist says the sun is becoming hotter and that eventually the oceans will boil.

Down Memory Lane

10 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Louis Tiekotter, Joan and Kenneth returned from a visit in Wisconsin where they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ben H. Woodward and family at Beaver Dam...

Now lives have been lost and millions of dollars worth of property ruined in a flood which could have been partly controlled if the army engineers' plan had been followed.

An unpublished incident occurred in the Federal Power Commission recently which illustrates why Harry Truman is almost certain not to be elected President of the United States even if he chooses to run.

20 YEARS AGO

Glenn Woodbury, district court reporter of second district, with Robert Nichols of Louisville planned a trip and camping vacation in the north...

This was what he did on one of the most important battles he has waged in the past year—his veto of the Kerr Natural Gas Bill. The bill was authored by a friend of his, powerful Senator Frank P. Kerr of Oklahoma...

THE WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Copyright, 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.) DREW PEARSON SAYS: SENATORIAL COURTESY HELPED KANSAS FLOOD; TRUMAN'S POLICY ON NATURAL GAS UNDERCUT BY HIS OWN CRONY; FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION PUTS VETOED KERR BILL INTO FORCE.

Washington.—Part of the damage suffered by the people of Kansas in the current flood would have been avoided but for the custom of senatorial courtesy.

Thirteen years ago, Congress passed a bill authorizing a 22,000 acre reservoir on Tuttle creek, north of Manhattan, Kansas. It was proposed by the Army Engineers as a means of controlling the floods which have swept eastern Kansas periodically.

However, the dam was never built—for the reason that the money never was voted by Congress. Although authorized, it was never voted because one of the late Republican Senators from Kansas, Clyde Reed, objected. Every time the appropriation came up for the Tuttle creek reservoir, Senator Reed turned thumbs down, and under the system of senatorial courtesy he had the final say.

Frank Carlson, now a GOP Senator from Kansas, was then a Congressman and did his best to obtain passage of the appropriation. Later, as governor, Frank Carlson also tried to push the Tuttle creek reservoir through. But Senator Reed had some friends in that area who owned farming land which would have been

"COME INTO MY PARLOUR"



taken over by the proposed reservoir. Unfortunately, he put their interest ahead of the interest of the rest of the people of eastern Kansas.

Now lives have been lost and millions of dollars worth of property ruined in a flood which could have been partly controlled if the army engineers' plan had been followed.

Why Truman Can't Win An unpublished incident occurred in the Federal Power Commission recently which illustrates why Harry Truman is almost certain not to be elected President of the United States even if he chooses to run.

The incident involved a poker-playing crony of the president's, ex-Sen. Mon Wallgren, who deliberately cut his chief's throat.

This has become a favorite pattern in Washington. The White House outlines a policy, frequently a fine and cautious policy then the president appoints men who throw that policy in the ditch. That's why the Truman administration is being called the "Talk-Big-Do-Little" administration.

This was what he did on one of the most important battles he has waged in the past year—his veto of the Kerr Natural Gas Bill. The bill was authored by a friend of his, powerful, popular Sen. Frank P. Kerr of Oklahoma. But it would have boosted the price of gas to city populations everywhere, and also boosted the profits of the oil and gas companies. So Truman vetoed it.

Yet, believe it or not, the Federal Power Commission has now secretly overruled the president's policy and completely nullified his veto.

What the Kerr bill said was that the Federal Power Commission did not have jurisdiction to regulate the price of natural gas going into interstate pipelines. The president, overruling the Kerr Bill, said the Power Commission did have jurisdiction.

Secret Vote But by a secret 4-to-1 vote, the FPC has now decided not to take jurisdiction over the biggest producer of natural gas, Phillips Petroleum, thus directly reversing the president and giving the oil and gas moguls their greatest victory in years.

Incidentally, housewives in the cities of the north, midwest and southwest can look for hikes in the price of their gas very shortly.

Significantly also—Senator Kerr is one of the biggest suppliers of natural gas to Phillips Petroleum. He owns several leases in partnership with Phillips, while his Kerr-McGee oil company owns an estimated \$100,000,000 in natural gas reserves. His gross income of \$12,000,000 a year makes him the wealthiest man in the Senate.

Truman's Crony Most amazing thing about the Federal Power Commission debate was the way the president's poker-playing crony, Chairman Mon Wallgren, actually broke into the final arguments of the attorneys defending the public to quote excerpts from the Kerr bill.

I want to hear something about what Congress thought," Wallgren explained, as he quoted from the bill which his chief in the White House had vetoed.

At one point, Wallgren nearly got into a brawl with James H. Lee, Detroit attorney, who was arguing for the public. Wallgren shouted accusations across the hearing room, charging that local utility commissions shirked their duties. The argument got

so hot that Lee started toward the Commission bench, and Wallgren pushed back his chair ready for action. However, acesse Commissioner Claude Draper headed Lee off by dashing out from behind the bench and planting himself in front of Lee.

Wallgren also baited William Torkelson, counsel for the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. In fact, the FPC chairman seemed to go out of his way to undercut the man in the White House who appointed him.

One of Wallgren's tactics was to bombard pro-consumer lawyers with so many questions that they didn't have time to sum up their arguments. For example, FPC attorney Lambert McAllister was limited to two hours to present the public's case. Yet Wallgren, buried so many irrelevant questions at him that McAllister never finished his presentation.

Finally, Commissioner Thomas Buchanan blurted angrily: "Don't you think we might have a little more argument from counsel?"

An Old Man Gets Tired One day, following these oral arguments, Wallgren called a surprise closed-door meeting to decide the Phillips case. Staff members could hardly believe it when the motion to rule in favor of Phillips and reverse the president's policy was offered by Commissioner Draper, the man who had battled tooth-and-nail against the Kerr bill only a year ago.

It may be significant that Draper's confirmation for another term was held up by the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee last month. Now 76 years old, and most of his life a public servant, Draper has no money and little to live on if the Senate failed to confirm him.

Though Draper flatly denies it, members of his own staff claim that the Senators held up his confirmation until he agreed to reverse himself on the Kerr bill. Significantly, he was finally approved for another

term only on June 21, just one day before his previous term ran out.

Those voting with Draper against the president and in favor of the oil and gas interests were Commissioners Nelson Lee Smith, Harrington Wimberly, a friend of Senator Kerr's from Oklahoma, and Chairman Wallgren. Only Buchanan voted for the public.

Note—Here is what President Truman said about the Kerr bill a year ago in his veto message: "This bill would preclude the Federal Power Commission from regulating sales of natural gas to interstate pipeline companies... The continuance of that authority will adequately protect the public interest by permitting the commission to prevent unreasonable and excessive prices which would give large windfall profits to gas producers at the expense of the consumers."

The proudest case in the entire museum of the State Historical Society in the capitol is that which holds the names of those Nebraskans who have won the Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award. Recently, something which seldom occurs took place in that case—a new name was added.

The new name, as all of you might guess, is that of Sgt. Ernest R. Kouma of Dwight, who entered the ranks of the nation's most honored heroes when President Truman awarded him the Medal of Honor May 19, 1950.

The first Nebraskan to receive the Medal of Honor was Gen.

OUT OF OLD NEBRASKA



know, occurred while covering the withdrawal of United Nations forces in Korea, August 31 and September 1, 1950.

The addition of Sergeant Kouma's name to this Nebraska roll of the nation's most honored brings the number on the list to 21—a small number when you consider the thousands of Nebraskans who have served in the armed forces since the medal was authorized in 1861.

Nevertheless, that's a rather high figure when you consider that more than 2,500 have been awarded in the nation at large.

In making up the list, we have included those who were born in Nebraska, who lived in Nebraska, or who won honors for service in Nebraska. The total of 23 is derived as follows: Civil War, 4; Indian wars, 1; World War I, 1; World War II, 2; Korean conflict, 1; and peacetime, 1.

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THIS WEEK IN Washington

THERE IS ABOUT a two to one chance that the peace talks now going on in Korea will be successful. Likely if the cease fire order holds good, there will be discussion looking toward an armistice, but when peace will come will depend upon weeks of discussion.

In the meantime, the government here in Washington is operating on a stop-gap basis. Since no appropriation bills were passed by the congress when the end of the fiscal year, June 30, rolled around, it was necessary to pass emergency stop gap bills in order that the agencies of government could function and the employees be paid.

By the same token, neither house of senate could get together on an extension of the highly important national defense act, which also expired June 30, so after an all-night session, congress passed a 31-day extension of the act, but hedged it about with a ban on any roll-back in prices during that 31 days. So the consumers who were due to reap the benefit of some price roll backs on thousands of articles which the General Price Stabilization had already ordered effective July 2, will be prevented from cashing in on those lower prices.

OPS was forced to issue a quick price freeze again on these articles as of June 30. These price roll-backs would have applied to machinery, cotton textiles, shoes, wearing apparel and many household appliances and such items as bolts, screws, nuts, plumbing and drainage specialties, builders hardware, soaps, cleansers, watches, mattresses and box springs, agricultural insecticides and other items.

What will happen to the foreign aid program, including the Marshall Plan and the aid asked for by General Eisenhower is still to be seen. It may be that some stop-gap legislation will be necessary to keep the country from lapsing or repudiating some of its commitments under these programs.

Because of Democrat increases in the senate, such as the replace-

ment of GOP Senator Vandenberg, deceased, by Senator Blair Moody of Michigan, two Republicans have been ousted from important committee posts on the senate appropriations and banking and currency. The two senators bumped were those with lowest seniority, Senators McCarthy of Wisconsin and Bennett of Utah. The GOP assigned McCarthy to the senate rules committee and Bennett was assigned to postoffice and civil service committee.

This leaves McCarthy without a major committee assignment. In the meantime, a resolution adopted by the Young Republicans of the Eighth District of Wisconsin, Senator McCarthy's home district, urging McCarthy's defeat in 1952, was given widespread publicity here. The resolution urged the McCarthy defeat on grounds that he has accomplished nothing of importance during his five years in office and "has engaged in character assassination and mud-slinging tactics, thus discouraging good men from holding office."

The house on a roll call of 240 to 139 passed a bill authorizing the importation of Mexican farm labor and permitting farmers to employ Mexican "wet-backs"—those entering the country illegally. A similar bill authorizing recruitment of Mexican farm labor was passed by the senate May 7, but the senate bill contained an amendment making employment of "wet-backs" a felony.

The senate crime investigating committee now is engaged in a probe of narcotics in the country. As a result of its hearing, nineteen narcotics control bills have been introduced in this congress, largely protecting minors from drug addiction. In the entire 81st Congress only one measure was introduced.

Strangely enough, two former top-notch government employees upheld the moral and ethics of the average government employee in Washington in testimony before Senator Paul Douglas' senate labor subcommittee on ethics in government. They were former Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes and former chairman of the atomic energy commission, David Lilienthal.

Victor Vifquain, who was honored for gallantry displayed in the capture of a Confederate flag at Fort Blakely, Alabama, April 9, 1865. General Vifquain, a Saline County pioneer, returned to Nebraska after the Civil War to play an important role in the building of the new state.

Both of Nebraska's awards during World War II were made posthumously—the recipients were killed in the action for which they were honored: Ensign John J. Parle of Omaha in the Sicilian invasion, and Pvt. Robert D. Booker of Callaway in the Tunisian campaign. Private Booker previously had won the Distinguished Service Cross.

The comparatively high number during the Indian wars is accounted for by the fact that a number of battles in those wars were fought in Nebraska, so men serving in Nebraska as well as Nebraskans themselves are included.

Crossword Puzzle section with a grid and clues for horizontal and vertical words. Includes a small graphic of a steam locomotive.