

EDITORIALS

BAND DESERVES CREDIT

Decision of the Plattsmouth Chamber of Commerce to cooperate with the Eagles and the Band Parents Club in giving a dance and party for members of Plattsmouth's band is certainly a wise one. For the past several years the writer has felt this organization was sadly overlooked when passing out the laurels.

For three years straight this organization has given the city some of its finest publicity at Ak-Sar-Ben by winning top honors in Class B competition. Throughout the summer months, members and Instructor Ward Pscherer have presented fine musical concerts in Plattsmouth's city park. In addition, they have made numerous trips to surrounding towns where they have marched in parades, taken part in fairs and celebrations, to the credit of our community.

It is not an easy job to be a member of Plattsmouth's High School Band. It means early rising throughout the school months to get to early morning practice. It means long hard hours of marching drills, days and weeks of it, for only a few fleeting hours of public appearances. It means a great deal of effort and expense to parents in providing instruments, care of uniforms, music, and keeping the young hopefuls to their daily hour of practice. It means furnishing cars for transportation on band trips and a lot of effort on the part of Band Parents Club gathering extra funds for buying musical instruments, music and extra curricular activities the school does not pay for.

But it is worth it, not only in personal satisfaction, but the job this organization does for our community—pomp, show and fine publicity. We're proud to be a part of it and we're often reminded of the remark Mr. Pscherer once made to us: "Teach a boy or girl to blow a horn and they'll never blow a safe."

MAY END TAX-FREE ALLOWANCES

The Senate voted to end the tax exemptions heretofore enjoyed by high officials of the Government and members of Congress, means, in effect, that their pay will be cut by the amount of the taxes to be paid.

The Senate, apparently with an eye to securing passage of the provision, provided that it would not go into effect until January of 1953. This means that the provision will not affect the members of the present Congress, with the exception of Senators who hold on after that date.

While there is sound logic behind the action of the Senate, one should not forget that, just a few years ago, in taking cognizance of the fact that governmental officials were underpaid, the Congress decided to provide certain tax-free allowances and to exempt certain salaries. If the action of Congress was right at that time, it cannot be right at the present.

PUBLICITY FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Because of repeated charges that graft "is running rampant" in this country, President Truman has requested Congress to pass a law to put on the public record exactly how much money, gifts or loans every top governmental official receives each year.

The President thinks that the list should include Cabinet members, generals, admirals, judges, high-salaried government employees, members of Congress and the leading officials of both major political parties.

There is some merit in the President's suggestion but little prospect that it will be enthusiastically received by the members of Congress. In fact, chance of passage of the proposed measure is extremely doubtful. Not only congressmen, but many others connected with the Federal government, are not anxious for their financial statistics to be revealed.

We are prepared to go a bit further than the President could, under the law of the land, and suggest that the same provision be made applicable to all public officials throughout the United States.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Hope ever tells us tomorrow will be better. — Tibullus

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— ESTABLISHED IN 1881 —
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Furse's Fresh Flashes

All too often the clever gal who knows all the answers is never asked.

A professor is a man whose job is to tell students how to solve the problems of life which he himself has tried to avoid by becoming a professor.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says when a boy breaks a date it is usually because he has to; but when a girl breaks a date, it's usually because she has two.

A national picture magazine shows a gym instructor giving one of the nation's top and attractive opera stars a going over to strengthen her abdominal muscles, and adds that he enjoys letting visitors feel of her stomach. Maybe we've been overlooking something about opera.

The weather this time of year is about as uncertain as those Korean peace proposals.

One nice thing about the boys in athletics at Plattsmouth high school is that they enjoy throwing the ball, not the game.

A word to the unwise is insufficient.

Both golfers and motorists seldom know where they're going when learning to drive.

Christian fellowship includes eating together as well as praying together.

That big nest egg we've saved up these many years has shrunk to about the size of a canary's.

Regardless of whether they serve states, counties, municipalities or other political subdivisions.

Newspapers are required to print, twice a year, the names of those to whom they are indebted, as well as the names of those who own the publication involved. This is justified on the ground that the public is entitled to know the financial interest of the newspapers which present news and, theoretically at least, have some influence on public opinion.

If such a measure is justified in application to newspapers, it is certainly of greater importance in connection with those, who interpret and enforce the laws of the country. The suggestion of the President is sound, regardless of whether it passes Congress or not. In the long run, however, there will be a law to bring about this revelation of the financial condition of important people.

Down Memory Lane

20 YEARS AGO

The Nebraska Basket Co., operated by L. D. Hiatt and Thomas J. Slayman started active manufacture of the line of baskets that they expect to supply the trade in the future. . . . The filling station operated by Charles Barrows was robbed of \$30. . . . Miss Teresa Hemple of Plattsmouth was reelected secretary of the Degree of Honor. . . . Horsak is leader in the qualifying rounds of the golf tournament with Westover and Walling next in line. . . . The heavy concrete piers at the north end of the Pappio viaduct are being lined up. . . . Mrs. Don Seiver was elected president of the Plattsmouth unit of the American Legion Auxiliary.

10 YEARS AGO

Dr. R. P. Westover of Plattsmouth is the new president of the Cass County Medical Association. . . . Edward Kohrell is visiting with his son, Glen, at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. . . . Fred H. Sharpnack of Philadelphia is visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Emmons Ptak. . . . Mr. and Mrs. William W. Wetenkamp, Jr., were hosts to a family dinner. . . . Holy Rosary Church is observing its 50th anniversary at a golden jubilee celebration. . . . Donald Wall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Wall has enlisted in the United States Army Air Force. . . . W. R. Young reports that a seven year old cow owned by Elmer Jacobsen of Fort Crook, gave birth to triplets.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Copyright, 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)
DREW PEARSON SAYS: STATE DEPT. OFFICIALS DISTRESSED OVER CANADIAN BAN ON SOME OF "FREEDOM TRAIN" CZECHS FLEEING COMMUNISM; U. S. AGENCIES WORK AT CROSS-PURPOSES IN HANDLING ESCAPEES, MANY OF WHOM COULD HELP ALLIED CAUSE.

Washington—Exactly one month ago a Czech railroad train, piloted by a daring anti-communist engineer, dashed across the border into Germany. It was promptly called "The Freedom Train" and its passengers, considered an omen of a new surge against communism, received a great ovation.

Thirty-one of these Czech passengers

LAFF OF THE WEEK



"Any reduction to the trade?"

to stay in the "Free World." Thirty days passed, at the end of which I received a cable from the International Rescue Committee, a private organization headed by General "Toughy" Spaatz, that 21 of these Czech passengers on the freedom train were held up by bureaucratic red tape with "men, women, young girls, children now living in dark attic room, no privacy, no decency, no heat, facing months of waiting."

What happened was that the Canadian government had generously offered to give haven to these escapees from behind the iron curtain, after which an overzealous Canadian security officer who could not even speak Czech had detained some of them as "security risks."

I telephoned the State Department, whose officials seemed distressed but incapable of prompt action. I also telephoned the Canadian ambassador, who got busy with his government. As of this writing, however, the Czech freedom train passengers who rebelled against communism are still snarled up in red tape—though doubtless the publicity they have received will cause them soon to be released.

"Freedom Jails"

Their case is typical, however, of what is going on all the time along the iron curtain. It is estimated that 1,200 escapees who never get publicity take the plunge across the iron curtain every month from Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and other captive countries.

Whereupon they are clapped in German and Austrian jails, become the associates of prostitutes and finally begin to think that, if this is the free world, they were better off under the communists.

As a matter of fact, many of them do go back. It would shock most Americans to know that 2,000 Russian escapees who obtained work in the coal mines of Belgium recently voted to go back to Russia. The supposed free world, they voted, did not offer the great freedom they had supposed.

Blame for this tragic situation can be laid directly on the doorstep of the U. S. Army, Central Intelligence, and the State Department. All three have divided responsibility for these escapees, but all either work at cross-purposes or do not work at all.

The United States Government has the authority to handle all those escaping from behind the iron curtain, but most of the time it ducks the responsibility.

Capitol News

LINCOLN—A report was released here this week that has tremendous implications for every Nebraskan.

It is a preliminary draft of a study made for the Missouri River States committee by the Council of State Governments. It concludes that the best solution of the problem of operating the Missouri basin's water program is "the establishment of a modified interstate compact in which the states of the basin and the federal government join as active participants."

The document, written by Elton K. McQuery, director of research for the Council of State Governments, used three yardsticks against which he measured the effectiveness of alternate plans of operating the multi-million dollar basin water program, being developed under the Pick-Sloan and Young plans.

These are the yardsticks:
1. Basin-wide co-ordination of operation.
2. Joint federal-state direction and control.
3. Utilization of established agencies.

Flunk

The present organization, under which the corps of engineers and the bureau of reclamation is responsible for the operation of the development program, flunk the tests on Yardsticks 1 and 2, passed on No. 3.

The Hoover commission recommendations, calling for a drastic overhaul of the department of interior, passed No. 1, failed 2 and 3.

The proposed Missouri Valley Authority, of course passed the first yardstick, but failed to measure up on 2 and 3.

Complex

"The high degree of flexibility that the compact approach offers is one of its chief advantages," McQuery wrote. "It can be molded to fit a wide variety of conditions to fill a complex pattern of needs."

Here's how McQuery measures the compact approach against his yardsticks:
No. 1: "In the case of the Missouri basin, the region involved is so vast that ten states are included in whole or in part within its boundaries. If the states are to exercise a measure of real direction and control, it is necessary that a legal instrument be devised that is binding on all the states that are parties."

No. 2: "Joint federal-state participation, perhaps, can best be achieved by conditional ratification by the states of a carefully negotiated compact. The condition upon which complete ratification would hinge might be passage by the federal government of complementary legislation providing for federal participation."
No. 3: "The effective working relationships that have been established (among existing federal agencies) should not be disrupted." McQuery suggests a Missouri Basin commission to be given responsibility in two broad fields: Reservoir operation and planning.

Interest

Because every Nebraskan has a vital stake in the water development of the Missouri basin—Nebraska is the only state lying completely within the basin—Gov. Val Peterson has been one of the leaders in basin development.

It was at his request, as chairman of the Missouri River States Committee, that the study was undertaken two years ago. Peterson moved chiefly to combat the rising activity on behalf of a Missouri Valley Authority.

The governor favors the compact approach to the problem because: "It gives the required degree of co-operation with the maximum amount of local control."

He has asked the Council of State Governments to draft a compact for presentation at the Missouri River States committee meeting this winter (the date hasn't been set) in Hastings.

Although only about one-fourth completed, the Pick-Sloan plan is well on its way to a full reality. It is none too soon to blueprint its operational machinery.

Leases

School land leases continued to hold the statehouse spotlight last week.

Biggest development was the turnover given representatives of the Nebraska Leascholders association by Governor Peterson. He was asked to call a special session of the legislature and ask it to change the law to provide that a lessee whose lease was up for auction would be given the right to keep it, so long as he paid as much as the highest bid.

That, said Assistant Attorney General Bob Nelson, is unconstitutional. He reminded the callers that the very heart of the supreme court's decision, which started the whole fuss in the first place, was that the State Board of Educational Lands and Funds is merely a trustee for the lands which are held in trust for the school children of Nebraska. If the board doesn't do everything it can to get as much revenue from the lands as possible, then it's not doing its duty, Nelson said.

DALE CARNEGIE

AUTHOR OF "HOW TO STOP WORRYING AND START LIVING"

Difficult To Change Acquired Personality

KATHERINE HAYS, Cambridge, Mass., began worrying at the age of seven, and with reason. Her parents separated and she went to live with an aunt. Shortly after her parents' separation, she was told by her mother that one day she would be called into court to tell a judge which parent she wanted to live with. This troubled her young mind no end, for she loved both parents and she had never admitted even to herself which parent she preferred.

So she tossed about in her sleep at night wondering how she would settle this weighty matter. Young as she was she knew it would affect her entire future. Both parents would want her, and she was bewildered about the decision she had to make. It would be better, she thought, if neither of them wanted her. That gave her an idea. She would be so naughty and so disagreeable that no one would really want her. She went to work on this idea and was as successful as she had hoped to be.

By and by, she was dubbed a problem child and was packed off to boarding school where she became very unpopular with the other pupils. More than that, every teacher there looked at her askance and seemed glad when rid of her. Of course, she was a very unhappy little girl.

But this attitude of hers continued until she was 15 years old. Then her father died and her conscience began to trouble her. She wanted her mother's love, but her mother didn't seem to understand her. And she yearned for friends.

Shortly after her father's death, she learned that the divorce had been granted her parents soon after their separation. Then she realized that all her worry over the important decision had been for nothing. She had not been called into court. She realized, too, that both parents had loved her and wanted to save her from all unhappiness.

Now she set about to undo what she had done, to gain her mother's confidence, and to make friends among her classmates. She watched the other children and attempted to emulate the happy ones. She found that little acts of friendship worked. But it was a hard pull and she says that even now, after 20 years, she still finds she has to struggle to undo what became so ingrained in her nature.

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Farmers Warned Of Fall Upsurge In Hog Cholera

Farmers were warned today to be on the alert this month for the usual fall upsurge in outbreaks of hog cholera.

"Fall is one of the greatest hog cholera danger seasons, second only to the peak outbreak season in May and June," the American Foundation for Animal Health reports. To guard against fall cholera losses the Foundation suggested that farmers take the following precautions in September and October:

1. Have all pigs vaccinated before outbreaks occur, as there is no cure for cholera once it starts in a herd.
2. Keep neighbors, farm salesmen, trucks and wagons out of hog lots. It takes only a drop of live virus to spread hog cholera to an entire herd.
3. Have all pigs checked over by the veterinarian to determine whether they are in proper condition, before vaccination. Pigs which are infested with intestinal parasites, or recovering from flu, or are suffering from enteritis or other diseases should be put in proper condition before given cholera immunization.
4. If hogs do weaken and show signs of fever, poor appetite, or wobbly gait, suspect cholera and take preventive steps immediately to try to protect the rest of the herd. Neighbors should also be warned if an outbreak starts, so they can protect their own hogs.

"With hogs worth real money this fall, it's an especially risky gamble for the farmer to take chances on hog cholera this season," Foundation authorities said.

"Ride a Bicycle to Reduce," advises an ad in a Florida paper. You can be sure you'll fall off quite a bit.

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