

# EDITORIALS

### DOUBLE DUTY DOLLARS

Plattsmouth is faced with two serious problems that must be solved in the very near future if the community is to continue forging ahead.

Heading the list right now is the pressing need for additional class room space in our school system, both in grade schools and the high school building. Conditions in most class rooms at present are reaching a near emergency. Many rooms are extremely crowded. Teachers in the school system have from ten to twenty more pupils in their classes than even the lowest accredited school should have.

School board members have been spending a great deal of their time in efforts to find a way to enlarge the present system to accommodate the additional load that faces them in a growing community. Working closely with Supt. Friest, state and federal educational directors, every avenue of cooperative revenue has been explored with possibilities of financial assistance of any great sum from federal funds exceedingly slim.

Another crying need of this community is a public meeting place with kitchen facilities and floor space to accommodate gatherings upward of 1500 to 2000 persons, often referred to as an auditorium. Week after week, month after month, and year in and year out, Plattsmouth is forced to pass up conventions, annual meetings, sport events, educational programs, musicals, theatrical presentations, and numerous other events that retard progress of the city for the simple reason that we do not have proper accommodations.

Right now would be a good time for some honest-to-goodness straight-forward planning and thinking. It is estimated that \$250,000.00 would be needed to give Plattsmouth the necessary school room space needed to overcome present crowded conditions and give the school system a little growing room. It has also been estimated that it would require a near equal amount to construct a proper building for public purposes.

It might make good sense to tie these two projects together—construct a new high school building with auditorium facilities attached. It would save thousands of dollars in building costs and still provide the community with its two greatest needs.

How to pay for it? Just like Grandpa and Grandma paid for the improvements we've got now. Frankly, we're getting a little bit tired of everybody running to the federal treasury looking for a handout. It's time we stop looking to Washington like a spoiled brat with the "gimmies". Plattsmouth citizens are rich enough and should be proud enough to pay their own way.

### UNMORALITY IN PUBLIC LIFE

"There is no evil so readily understood or so quickly repudiated by the American electorate than unmorality in public office," writes David Lawrence in U. S. News & World Report. "It was a Democratic President—Grover Cleveland—who proclaimed that 'public office is a public trust.'"

The recent disclosure of irregularities, influence-peddling and various unsavory practices in the Internal Revenue Bureau, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and other government departments have come as a profound shock to every thoughtful American. Like termites in a house, these evils gnaw away at the very foundations of the nation.

This is not just a matter of bribes and other clearly illegal acts. The law can deal with them. But there are certain borderline practices which are beyond reach of law, and which lie within the realm of human conscience. In the recent investigations, men of great political power, who used that power to influence the policies of government bureaus, said that they violated no law. That may be true—but they did something as bad or worse—they violated every concept of de-

### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

It is possible to go wrong in many ways, but right in only one.

—Aristotle

## The Plattsmouth Journal

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## Furse's Fresh Flashes

Worry is like a rocking chair—it will give you something to do, but it won't get you anywhere.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says she'll never marry until she has put her sweetie to the real test. He's got to be so in love with her that he would leave a football game in the middle of the third quarter with the score tied to be near her.

If we ever started laughing at our troubles we'd probably die laughing.

If you must borrow money, borrow it from a pessimist—he doesn't expect to get it back.

A dime is a dollar with the taxes removed.

We know it's hard to get the cash for meat, butter, sugar, shoes, and other necessities of life, but there is one consolation—it's harder to learn to speak Russian.

The best way to make your dreams come true is to wake up.

Read where Americans chew a million dollars' worth of chewing gum a year. It shows how much work some people will do for nothing.

We wish somebody would tell us why it is when we walk down the street THEY GO BY LIKE THIS. But, the minute we want to cross to the other side THEY DASH BY JUST LIKE THIS.

agency, morality, and honor in government.

This is not a partisan matter. The old, degrading techniques of city-machine politics have been brought to Washington. The flies have found the sugar. The American people must make it unmistakably plain that, in the conduct of their government, they demand what David Lawrence calls "old-fashioned honesty, old-fashioned decency, and old-fashioned morality."

## Down Memory Lane

### 20 YEARS AGO

A. L. Tidd has announced that C. S. Wirtman will join him as a partner in the law business. . . . An eight pound daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hild of Mynard. . . . The children of the late Mr. and Mrs. Michael Meisinger held a reunion at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Meisinger. . . . The Holy Rosary Catholic church has just had a new roof placed on the structure. . . . Frank Horsack, defending city champion, defeated E. C. Harris for the Plattsmouth golf championship. . . . Miss Elva Hartford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Hartford of Plattsmouth, was married to Harold Sutcliffe Hartley at Los Angeles. . . . Maxine Clويد is attending Stephens College. . . . Mrs. Joe Wagner was honored at a celebration of her birthday.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Mrs. John W. Falter, Mrs. Cleveland Carter, Mrs. Rae F. Patterson, Miss Barbara Gering, Mrs. Milo Hoppe and Mrs. Louis W. Egenberger attended the Democratic national committee conference at Omaha. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Frady are the parents of a son. . . . Miss Alice Lehnst of Cedar Creek and George C. Stander were married today at Glenwood. . . . Miss Sophia Bierl and Henry R. Vindusk were married this morning at St. John's Catholic church. . . . Clarence Cotner has received a bronze plate as a reward for a five-year record as a careful driver. . . . The City council has approved a new paving district in Oakmont. . . . Roy Wilson and Gilbert Harris, both in the navy, arrived home this morning.

## The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Copyright, 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)  
DREW PEARSON SAYS: EISENHOWER FAVORS REFUGEE "FOREIGN LEGION"; SENATORS WOULD INVESTIGATE ESCAPEE PROBLEM; MONTHLY CROP REPORT TOP SECRET.

Washington.—A vitally important argument over European defense strategy is keeping the tele-oms busy between Washington, London, and General Eisenhower's Atlantic Pact Headquarters in Paris.

The debate started when Eisenhower suggested a way to take the offensive in the psychological war with the Kremlin—namely, recruit military-age refugees from behind the iron curtain into a volunteer legion.

Eisenhower believes that up to 100,000 men—three to five divisions—could be recruited from Russian, Czech, Polish, Baltic and Balkan escapees. Most of these men left iron curtain countries because they hate communism, and Eisenhower believes the existence of such a legion would be further inducement for communist troops to desert.

He received a dash of cold water, however, from London and Washington.

## WILL HE SWING BACK?



The British, who support refugee committees of their own, are opposed to a large fighting force independent of the foreign office, and the foreign legion Ike proposes would be equipped, armed, and trained largely by the United States.

Another objection is that the refugees' fanatic hatred could not be controlled and might erupt into war as soon as rifles are issued. At one conference, the British representative frankly stated: "We fought one war to liberate Eastern Europe, and our cities were bombed out for it. We are not anxious to start another war."

Gen. J. Lawton Collins, U. S. Army Chief of Staff, was also skeptical when he conferred with Eisenhower recently. He said the Joint Chiefs of Staff have no faith in troops under refugee command, and pointed out that escapees can volunteer in the American army.

Eisenhower replied that very few escapees have enlisted, and for a very simple reason: they don't want to be integrated among strange American troops. But if organized into their own foreign legion they would like to get a crack at the communists in control of their countries.

Searchlighting a group of far-sighted Senators has introduced a resolution proposing a Senate investigation of escapees in Western Europe. Behind this is the fact that both American and allied officials in Europe have so badly muffed handling these escapees that some want to go back behind the iron curtain. Russian escapees are handed back and forth between U. S. Counter Intelligence, and Military Intelligence, then either turned loose to find a job on the German economy or allowed to go to seed in refugee camps.

The Senators who sponsored this investigation are: Nixon and Knowland of California, Bennett of New Hampshire, Brewster of Maine, Carlson of Kansas, Hendrickson of New Jersey, Ives of New York, Monroney of Oklahoma, O'Connor of Maryland, Smathers of Florida and Wiley of Wisconsin.

Crippling strikes have put jet-plane manufacturers so far behind schedule that more than a million pounds of aluminum sheets have piled up in aircraft factories waiting to be used. As a result, friends of the industry inside the National Pro-

duction Authority are now maneuvering to divert this backlog of precious aluminum into civilian goods.

Meanwhile, sabre-jet pilots are fighting against five-to-one odds in Korea, because of the shortage of jet planes.

The Diplomatic Pouch  
U. S. Ambassador Robert Murphy in Brussels has handed the Belgians a tough note virtually demanding that Belgium send some of its army to help the United Nations in Korea. So far, Belgium has sent only a few hundred volunteers.

The United States is also pressuring the Netherlands to do its part to reinforce General Ridgway's army. The Dutch contribution has been no greater than the Belgian. . . . American reports on Russian a-bomb tests have been so accurate that the Russians are reported preparing a new and distant proving ground for future tests. It's reported to be in the Takla Makan desert across the southeast Russian border in China. This desert is shut off from the outside world by some of the world's highest mountains.

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## Crop Secrets

In headline-crazy Washington, the issuance of a monthly crop report by the Department of Agriculture may seem mere routine news. However, newsmen reporting on future crops are treated to a spectacle of mystery and suspense that rivals the launching of a new atomic weapon.

The ceremony, believe it or not, is climaxed by Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brannan getting locked up in his own department.

All this is because back in 1950 a report on the estimated cotton crop leaked prematurely and speculators made a big killing. Since then the department has devised an ironclad "security system" to make sure

it doesn't happen again. The night before general crop estimates (on wheat, corn, cotton, etc.) are to be released, field reports from farm states are secreted in a box, reinforced with two locks, in the main agriculture building. At 5 A.M. the next day, the box is removed, under an armed guard, to a corridor on the second floor of the adjacent south building.

Here the whole corridor is locked off, with armed guards at each end. Nobody can get in without a special pass and, once in, there's no getting out until the 3 p.m. deadline for releasing the crop report.

To make sure there is no communication with the outside world in this agricultural "Shaneri La," all telephones are disconnected. Guards even lower and latch the venetian blinds in the large room where the crop estimates are prepared, so there will be no signaling from windows. (This was how the 1950 "leak" occurred.)

At noontime, lunch is wheeled in for members of the crop reporting board and their aides, but not even the food bearers can get out—once they're in—until 3 o'clock. Secretary Brannan, who usually arrives about 2 o'clock to read and sign the finished report, also must sit out, a prisoner in the department hells.

Just before the deadline, copies of the report are taken to a special press room and placed on a table near a battery of telephones. Across the room, reporters fidget behind a white line painted on the floor, like trackmen toting the starting mark.

Not until 3 P. M. Newell, assistant chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, yells "go!" on the stroke of 3 p.m. can the newsmen cross the line and phone in their stories. Then Secretary Brannan, a free man again, returns to his office.

## FIRST GRADERS EDIT PAPER

WORLAND, Wyo.—The Worland, Wyo., Daily News has competition but the newspaper is not much worried. The "competing" paper is published by the first grade pupils at the Spanis hsechool. It contains articles on how books are made, a short piece on Korea and a cartoon of Peter Rabbit.

## LIVER OUTPUT INCREASED

MALLEN, Tex. Cattlemen of the lower Rio Grande Valley say the livers of steers fed on dehydrated citrus peel and pulp are bigger and redder than livers of steers on ordinary feed. The cattlemen claim the grapefruit and orange diet contains vitamins A, B, C, D and P.

## NEIGHBORS FIX IT

TURTLE LAKE, N. D.—When the Helmut Scham farm home burned to the ground, neighbors bought an abandoned house several miles away, moved it to the Scham farm, remodeled it and had it ready for the family to move in within six days.

## What's that?

"BETTER brush up on your insurance affairs. For the safety of your family, home and future . . . call on me today!"

**Stephen M. DAVIS**  
Second Floor Plattsmouth State Bank Bldg.  
Phone 6111

DESPITE A NUMBER of important measures hanging fire, it began to look as though the congress might adjourn in the midst of its unfinished business and call the first session of the 82nd congress history. . . .

A conference committee on the tax bill was expected to agree in most instances with the senate-passed measure. Major provisions as passed by the senate were: increase of 11 per cent on present taxes of individuals or, eight per cent on income after taxes, whichever is less; raise in maximum effective limitation from 87 per cent to 83 per cent with no change in the 25 per cent capital gains tax (effective date was Nov. 1, 1951); increase in corporations' normal rate from 25 per cent to 27 per cent and in surtax rate from 22 to 25 per cent, giving a top bracket combined rate of 52 per cent on normal and surtaxes; ceiling of 17 per cent that can be taken in excess of profits; retention of average earnings credit for excess profits tax at 65 per cent of earnings in the three best years in the four-year period 1945-47 effective April 1, 1951; no change in maximum capital gains.

Insofar as individuals are concerned, the bill means they will pay about 2 per cent more taxes on 1951 income, while next year they will pay about 12 per cent more for married folks up to \$60,000 and singles up to \$20,000. On higher incomes, the tax increase will be smaller percentage-wise. Higher withholdings will be required on pay on or after Nov. 1.

For farm co-ops—they are still tax exempt except for a corporation tax on earnings not allocated or distributed to patron members. Mutual savings banks and savings and loan associations must pay corporation tax on earnings, but are allowed deductions for losses on loans and amounts paid to depositors or credited to their accounts. A minimum of 15 per cent of income must be set aside tax-free for reserves, or a larger per cent of set aside as long as total reserves, surplus and undivided

Two important measures still in conference and expected to be acted upon before adjournment were the postal rate increase measure and the postal pay increase for postal employees. . . .

Adjustment may nip the ouster resolution by Senator William Benton of Connecticut to expel Senator Joseph McCarthy from the senate membership. With 1952 a campaign year, it may be expected that the second session of this congress may get some early action when it convenes next January on some of the still pending legislation asked by the President.

I don't know. However, it is foolish to ignore history. We are now on a course that in the past has always resulted in war—I repeat, ALWAYS. If our rulers are on the road to war, what should you and I be doing about it? What can we do about it? These are tough questions. Ignoring them does not eliminate them.

Here is one suggestion. You can yourself understand and point out the tragic madness of our last war. We went to war to destroy militarism in Germany, Italy, and Japan. Now Washington is frantically trying to militarize these same countries. Our rulers have completely reversed their aims.

"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore, choose life. . . ." (Deuteronomy 30:19).

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

## When You Think of SHOES Think of Woster's X-RAY FITTING

I do not suggest that the Truman Administration wants war.

## Crossword Puzzle

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65

16 Beneath  
17 Switch for John  
20 Nihil  
22 Balance  
23 Fubulous  
24 Kind of fish  
25 Reckoning  
27 A dressing for meat  
28 Cults  
29 Turf (slang)  
30 Saborist  
33 To feel  
34 To be  
41 Sorthearted  
42 Bright saying  
43 A meter  
47 Measure of angle  
48 Sarcenet  
49 To join  
50 To shake  
51 A word  
57 English river

Puzzle No. 137  
30 First woman  
39 A kind of  
40 A kind of

Answer to Puzzle No. 135