

EDITORIALS

Furse's Fresh Flashes

THE PENTAGON—SOFT CHAIRS

The Senate Preparedness subcommittee reported recently that there were too many admirals and generals in the Pentagon, and too many civilians. That is something most Washington newsmen know already, but something difficult to correct. With the country engaged in actual fighting, the man who insists on cut-backs in military appropriations leaves himself open to attack from clever foes that he is jeopardizing national defense.

And, of course, there are few Congressmen, and fewer civilians, who have the time to become expert enough on the vast manpower requirements of the defense establishment to put their finger on this spot, or that spot, and say: "This can be cut; this staff should be halved . . ." etc. Knowing that manpower is being wasted is not enough. One must have the facts, to show where it is being wasted.

The Senate subcommittee supplies some of these facts. There are 361 general and flag officers in the Washington area—only 36 less than at the high point in World War II. There are over 90,000 civilians working for the Defense Department—compared to 98,071 on VE-day. But today there are only 3.5 million men in service compared to more than 12 million on VE-day. In other words, practically as much military brass, and as many civilian workers, are being used today, to run a military machine a third as large as the World War II machine, as were required to run the all-out machine in 1945.

That, of course, is progress in reverse, and the kind that the American taxpayer seems to be struggling under. The Defense Department should take immediate action to correct the bureaucratic tendency, and there are indications that the department is already concentrating on this problem, and on another program which could ease the taxpayer's load in 1952. On the first point—too many soft-chair workers—the Defense Department has promised the subcommittee to study the indictment and report its findings.

FARM OUTLOOK

According to the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the American farmer should do about as well next year as he has this year. If all-out war gets closer, the farmer will do even better.

One problem that will face the farmer is a labor scarcity. As a matter of fact, more than a million persons left the farm last year. This exodus is twice as high as the average each year for the past ten years.

Liquid assets of the farmers of the United States is today estimated at about \$20 billion dollars as compared with \$4 billion in 1940. In the past ten years, the dollar value of real estate in farms has more than doubled. During the year ending in March 1951, the value of farm land has risen in every state in the union, except Maine and New Hampshire.

Generally speaking, 1951 has been a good year for agriculture. This seems to be due not only to high prices but to high production. For example, the price of wheat, corn, hogs and milk on October 15, 1951, was lower than the average monthly price received in 1948, while cotton, tobacco and beef cattle were substantially higher.

FROG WOMEN

Major Glenn E. Fant, Chief of the Press Center of the Second Logistical Command in Korea, reports that the American service men in Korea are amazed at the frog women of Quelpart Island, about sixty miles off the southern coast of Korea.

Apparently, the women bring home the water-bacon by diving for edible sea weeds, sea cucumbers, sea potatoes, lobsters, crabs and various kinds of shell fish. The husbands, and most frog women have two or more, stay home and take care of

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

A generous and free-minded confession doth disable a reproach and disarm an injury.
— Michael de Montaigne

The Plattsmouth Journal

Official County and City Paper
— ESTABLISHED IN 1881 —
Awarded Ak-Sar-Ben Plaque For
"Outstanding Community Service in 1950"

Published semi-weekly, Mondays and Thursdays, at 409-415 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Cass County, Neb.

RONALD R. FURSE Publisher
HARRY J. CANE Editor
FRANK H. SMITH News Reporter



Entered at the Post Office at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, as second class mail matter in accordance with the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$3.50 per year in Cass and adjoining counties, \$4.00 per year elsewhere. In advance, by mail outside the city of Plattsmouth. By carrier in Plattsmouth, 20 cents for two weeks

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little counter twister, says her new boy friend is rather fast, but she doesn't think he'll get away.

Money tends to make us unhappy—especially if someone else has it.

Too many folks are conducting their lives on the cafeteria plan—self-service only.

Recruiting for the armed forces has been going at such a lively pace the air force has limited enlistments. One reason for it is that a lot of young fellows have learned that being a civilian is a luxury they cannot afford.

A Plattsmouth man, all hepped up over the condition of the country, says Congressman should have their pay docked for absenteeism. We think, sometimes, more would be accomplished if they paid 'em to stay away from Washington.

If you want to redecorate the living-room, you can get some interesting effects by removing the pictures that have hung on the wall for the last couple years.

It's the finish that counts. The dessert is remembered long after the soup is forgotten.

All marriages are happy—it's the living together afterwards that causes all the trouble.

A local kid is nursing a gorgeous black eye. He thought he saw dew in a gal's eye and it proved to be don't.

American women, however, have nothing to worry about in view of the fact that the frog women apparently snore louder than women anywhere else in the world and "none would look good in sweaters."

Down Memory Lane

20 YEARS AGO

Miss Clara Wickman and Alvin Meisinger were married this morning at the residence of O. G. Wickman, pastor of St. Paul's Evangelical church . . . The Tri-County Poultry show opened at the American Legion building here today . . . The Associated Charities has set a goal of \$1,000 in its campaign to raise funds for the needy. Wm. M. Barclay has been appointed chairman of the group . . . Fred H. Vincent has been named venerable Counsel of the Cass Camp of Modern Woodmen. Other officers are Herbert Nelson, H. F. Goos, Ed Gabelman, D. T. Stapp, Everett Newton, Fred G. Morgan and Dr. R. P. Westover . . . Miss Frances Krejci was surprised at a birthday party given by Miss Ruth Janda and Miss Mary Holy . . . Musical organizations of Plattsmouth high school will present a program at the high school tonight.

10 YEARS AGO

Avoca and Louisville are the only two communities in the county who have surpassed their Red Cross quota . . . Corbin Davis has been named a member of the basketball squad at Kemper Military academy . . . Mayor Arnold J. Lillie has been named chairman of the Civilian Defense Council, recently organized here. Other officers are Carl Ofe and Miss Edith Solomon . . . Robert Reade of Lincoln has been appointed recreation supervisor for Plattsmouth WPA recreation . . . North High of Omaha scored a rousing 45 to 18 win over Plattsmouth on the basketball court . . . Charles Vallery is attending a convention of implement dealers at Omaha . . . Henry Sander is vacationing on the west coast, where he is a guest of his daughter, Miss Ann Sander.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Copyright, 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)
DREW PEARSON SAYS: NAVY REFUSES TO HELP AIR FORCE COMBAT RUSSIAN MIGS; TRUMAN ADVISERS DIVIDED ON MCGRATH OUSTER; MERRY-GO-ROUND TO TEST PUBLIC'S POLITICAL SENTIMENT.

Washington—The Navy has taken an unusual stand regarding the air warfare which is getting more and more intense over Korea. It has turned down a request from General Otto Weyland, Air Force commander in the Far East, that Navy jets help out the Air Force in combating Russian MIGs.

With increasing communist strength in the air, and with the Air Force sometimes badly outnumbered in battling Russian MIGs, General Weyland requested help from the Navy's carrier-based jet fighters.

However, despite the fact that there is supposed to be armed services unification, the Navy refused. Official reason was that Navy carriers were outside the fighting range.

MURDER IN MOSCOW



WASHINGTON REPORT

by Howard Buffett
Congressman, 2nd
Nebraska District

Our biggest political problem will not be settled at the 1952 election. It will be settled some months earlier—when the Republican Party holds its national convention. That issue is whether or not the Republican Party is going to give the people an honest choice in 1952.

It is this underlying problem that can determine our fate. Is the two-party system really functioning? Are the people given a genuine choice of vital issues? This is the decisive question.

If the people have no choice on vital decisions, then the right to vote becomes a fraud. In Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia, the people cast ballots. But they had no choice. Voting was a hoax.

Let me show you what I mean. Peacetime conscription abolishes liberty for young men from 18 to 26—with some being exempted by religion or special favor. This is a simple statement of fact, which no honest person will deny.

Peacetime conscription (UMT) is Article 132 of the Soviet Constitution. If made permanent here, it will decisively change this nation. Will this scheme be choked down by some Americans, or will others have a fair chance to participate in the decision? That will happen unless the Republican Party takes a stand against it, and makes this denial of liberty an issue in 1952.

These may represent the people of their state, some may not. Some may realize that world conditions, the threat of war, the hopes for peace, can change the world in six months, and with them can change the presidential needs of the nation.

Therefore, to sound out the true political sentiment of the American people through the 60 newspapers publishing the Washington Merry-Go-Round, this column is conducting a post-card poll on the Republican candidates. (The Democratic poll will come later.) To vote, address a post card to the GOP candidate of your choice. Box 1952, Washington 13, D.C., and tell him: "I'm for you in 1952."

Results will be announced from time to time in this column.

Washington Pipeline

William Ritchie, anti-Truman Democratic State Committeeman for Nebraska, is throwing his hat into the ring for Senator Wherry's seat next November. Ritchie roomed with Wherry at the University of Nebraska, always liked him, sometimes supported him—though they belonged to opposite parties. The Nebraska Ritchie is a first cousin of the late famous Governor of Maryland, resents Gov. Val Peterson's onetime statement that all Democratic candidates are communists. Ritchie's forebears came to this country prior to 1743. . . . Lucille Lay Grace, the lady who nobly thought had a chance to become Governor of Louisiana, is really stirring up the state. . . . Attorney General Howard McGrath, while unhappy over the King Income-Tax Committee, has been cooperating quietly with the income-tax probe of Senator Williams of Delaware. McGrath is even trying to get a job for a Williams man, J. George Stewart.

Air Force officers point out, however, that the Navy used to fly its fighter planes as far north as the Yalu river when there weren't many MIGs in the area; so presumably it could do so again. They also feel that for one branch of the service to refuse help to another branch in wartime—especially when badly outnumbered—is anything but unification. In fact, they use words far less refined.

Air Force pilots who sometimes go into battle against superior communist odds believe the Navy is trying to hide the fact that its jets are inferior to the MIGs. Since the Navy specializes in fighters, and not long ago boasted the best jet fighter plane in the world, this is a bitter pill to swallow.

Navy pilots today are among the best in the world, but apparently planes haven't kept up with either the Air Force or the enemy. As a result, only two MIGs have been shot down by the Navy during the Korean war. One was bagged by a Navy panther jet some time ago, the other, flew an Air Force Sabre jet.

President Truman's advisers are split down the seam on a bold move to oust Attorney General Howard McGrath and name crusading Sen. Estes Kefauver to clean up the Justice Department.

This proposal was pushed backstage by Averell Harriman, who has been on speaking trips out of Washington and knows how deeply the corruption issue is hurting; also by usually cautious White House counsel Charlie Murphy, and younger staff members.

Their argument with the President is: "The investigations are not going to ston with Internal Revenue and RFC, but will go into Alien Property Custodian, Surplus Property, and possibly the Federal Judiciary right up to the Supreme Court. The American people won't be satisfied unless the Administration cleans house boldly and dramatically. A sure-fire way to regain public confidence is to name Senator Kefauver as Attorney General, giving him com-

plete authority to prosecute, no matter who is hurt."

Mr. Truman seems to like the idea and has been saying privately: "I've always been loyal to my friends. But they haven't been fair to me."

On the other side, a powerful White House force, Matt Connelly, who sits next to the President and makes all his appointments, is more than cool. Connelly vigorously defends his fellow Irishman in the Justice Department and has been digging up political friends of Mr. Truman to talk up McGrath and talk down his ouster.

The decisive factor and still on the fence is the forthright, new National Democratic Chairman, Frank McKinney. McKinney owes his appointment to Connelly, but agrees with Harriman that corruption is the issue and requires bold steps by the administration.

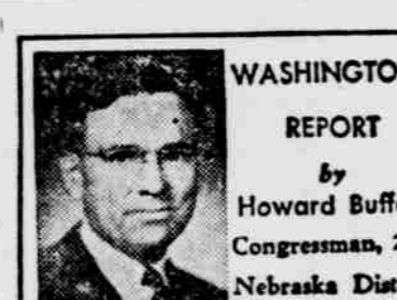
In a recent talk with President Truman, McKinney told him, in effect: "You don't have any obligation to any official who has been indiscreet or corrupt. They've pulled the rug out from under you."

People not on the political inside seldom realize how much backstage wire pulling goes into the nomination of a presidential candidate. To a considerable extent this lessens the chance of the American people to elect a president. For, while they can elect, not many can nominate.

This frequently leaves the selection of the presidential nominee a matter of barter and backstage lobbying by the party bosses.

This was true when Bob Hannegan and the Big-city bosses flung in the Blackstone Hotel to pick Truman for vice president in 1944. It was also true of the famous smoke-filled room conference in the same Blackstone Hotel which picked Harding in 1920. And it was likewise true that most Democratic delegates in 1948 were roped and hood-limed for Truman before they ever took the train to Philadelphia.

Today, Taft scouts have been combing every state in the Union, pledging delegates six months in advance. Some of



WASHINGTON REPORT
by Howard Buffett
Congressman, 2nd
Nebraska District

Our biggest political problem will not be settled at the 1952 election. It will be settled some months earlier—when the Republican Party holds its national convention. That issue is whether or not the Republican Party is going to give the people an honest choice in 1952.

It is this underlying problem that can determine our fate. Is the two-party system really functioning? Are the people given a genuine choice of vital issues? This is the decisive question.

If the people have no choice on vital decisions, then the right to vote becomes a fraud. In Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia, the people cast ballots. But they had no choice. Voting was a hoax.

Let me show you what I mean. Peacetime conscription abolishes liberty for young men from 18 to 26—with some being exempted by religion or special favor. This is a simple statement of fact, which no honest person will deny.

Peacetime conscription (UMT) is Article 132 of the Soviet Constitution. If made permanent here, it will decisively change this nation. Will this scheme be choked down by some Americans, or will others have a fair chance to participate in the decision? That will happen unless the Republican Party takes a stand against it, and makes this denial of liberty an issue in 1952.

These may represent the people of their state, some may not. Some may realize that world conditions, the threat of war, the hopes for peace, can change the world in six months, and with them can change the presidential needs of the nation.

Therefore, to sound out the true political sentiment of the American people through the 60 newspapers publishing the Washington Merry-Go-Round, this column is conducting a post-card poll on the Republican candidates. (The Democratic poll will come later.) To vote, address a post card to the GOP candidate of your choice. Box 1952, Washington 13, D.C., and tell him: "I'm for you in 1952."

Results will be announced from time to time in this column.

Washington Pipeline
William Ritchie, anti-Truman Democratic State Committeeman for Nebraska, is throwing his hat into the ring for Senator Wherry's seat next November. Ritchie roomed with Wherry at the University of Nebraska, always liked him, sometimes supported him—though they belonged to opposite parties. The Nebraska Ritchie is a first cousin of the late famous Governor of Maryland, resents Gov. Val Peterson's onetime statement that all Democratic candidates are communists. Ritchie's forebears came to this country prior to 1743. . . . Lucille Lay Grace, the lady who nobly thought had a chance to become Governor of Louisiana, is really stirring up the state. . . . Attorney General Howard McGrath, while unhappy over the King Income-Tax Committee, has been cooperating quietly with the income-tax probe of Senator Williams of Delaware. McGrath is even trying to get a job for a Williams man, J. George Stewart.

Our biggest political problem will not be settled at the 1952 election. It will be settled some months earlier—when the Republican Party holds its national convention. That issue is whether or not the Republican Party is going to give the people an honest choice in 1952.

It is this underlying problem that can determine our fate. Is the two-party system really functioning? Are the people given a genuine choice of vital issues? This is the decisive question.

If the people have no choice on vital decisions, then the right to vote becomes a fraud. In Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia, the people cast ballots. But they had no choice. Voting was a hoax.

Let me show you what I mean. Peacetime conscription abolishes liberty for young men from 18 to 26—with some being exempted by religion or special favor. This is a simple statement of fact, which no honest person will deny.

THE WEEK IN Washington

CHARLES E. WILSON, director of the office of defense mobilization, is planning to take the defense mobilization program of the nation to the grass roots editors in an attempt to clarify just what the program means to the average American.

Says Mr. Wilson: "I can't help but feel that defense mobilization is everybody's job—yours as well as mine—and that without the cooperation of everyone, in all fields, we cannot meet our defense goals and our overall goal of preventing war and preserving the peace."

The material to be sent to small town weekly and daily newspapers will consist of articles prepared by the office of defense mobilization, the economic stabilization agency, the defense production administration and the other agencies connected with defense mobilization. The program, Mr. Wilson said, is to clarify the entire program "how far it has come, where it is going, what it wants and needs to do and how it affects the individual citizen."

The bureau of the census has issued figures showing that the 10 ranking states with the largest rural population are Pennsylvania with 3,094,976 rural folks; Texas with 2,873,134; North Carolina, 2,693,828; Ohio, 2,368,353; New York, 2,147,746; California, 2,046,608; Illinois, 1,952,905; Georgia, 1,885,133; Michigan, 1,868,682 and Kentucky, 1,860,736.

The 10 states with the largest percentage of rural population are: N. Dakota, 73.4; Mississippi, 72.1; Arkansas, 67; South Dakota, 66.8; North Carolina, 66.3; West Virginia, 65.4; Vermont, 63.6; South Carolina, 63.3; Kentucky, 63.2, and Idaho, 57.1.

In cooperation with the civil defense administration, Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brannan has requested heads of state departments of agriculture to help tighten up the system for detection and reporting of unusual occurrences in livestock and crop diseases and pests. "We cannot ignore," Brannan said, "the fact that farms and ranches, as the source of so much that is vital to our existence, could be targets for attack by an enemy."

One of the last acts of the House before adjournment was passage of a resolution providing each member up to \$2,500 for office equipment. The legislation will cost the government an estimated \$1,080,000. The vote was 181 to 65.

According to information the federal trade commission is preparing to crack down against some alleged monopolies under a new law passed by the 82nd congress.

either openly or through sabotage."

D. A. Huley, president of the chamber of commerce of the United States, in answer to a statement by Robert Ramspeck, chairman of the civil service commission, recently issued a statement in which he said: "When we consider the recent revelations of shady dealing by some government officials, we must bear in mind that he who buys government influence is just as culpable as he who sells. If there were no business men willing to hand out deep freezes and mink coats and costly vacation trips in return for public favors, then, certainly, public officials would not be tempted into wrong doing. I hold no brief for any public officer who uses his office for personal gain. But at the same time, we who are engaged in this struggle to preserve the free American business system must be just as quick to condemn immoral practices by business men in their relations with government, as we are to condemn those in government who take the business men's bribes . . ."

Mr. Ramspeck had said: "I find it strange that with all the hullabaloo about misbehavior of a handful of public servants, there has been no outraged indignation expressed by business regarding the role played by business in any unethical conduct under discussion. I'm a pretty avid reader. But I have yet to note any news item reporting that the national association of manufacturers, or the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, or any trade association . . . has ostracized, or even condemned any businessman who admittedly participated in, if indeed they did not instigate, the shenanigans which resulted in the drumming out of camp of the accused public servants."

One of the last acts of the House before adjournment was passage of a resolution providing each member up to \$2,500 for office equipment. The legislation will cost the government an estimated \$1,080,000. The vote was 181 to 65.

According to information the federal trade commission is preparing to crack down against some alleged monopolies under a new law passed by the 82nd congress.

AND AFTER THAT, THERE'S INCOME TAX

It costs considerably more to become an oil tycoon these days than it did 92 years ago. The Central City Republican reports that in 1879 a \$75.50 investment was all that was needed for equipment to drill a well of 69 1/2 feet. But in 1951, the cost of a rig for a 7,500-foot well in the Mid-Continent area exceeded \$112,000.

Fouchek-Garnett

—LAWYERS—
Bonded Abstracters

GET THAT CAT!
Nebraska's "lion" hunt has aroused nation-wide interest. Mrs. Emil Dolzal of Wahoo received a clipping from a Los Angeles paper describing the hunt. Accompanying the clipping sent by her sister, was this comment: "Let us know if they caught the lion. . . . We Nebraskans are very much concerned about the wild life there!"

LOANS

\$1,000 or Less
LOANS MADE ANYWHERE
Write or Come in
AMERICAN
Loan Plan
O. T. NICHOL, JR., Mgr.
112 Uo. 5th St. Ph. 3213
Plattsmouth

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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	

PUZZLE NO. 163
47 Mistakes
49 To place
50 Horse
53 Toward

Answer to Puzzle No. 162

P	A	O	B	R	A	D	U	P	A	S
A	N	A	L	O	C	A	L	A	R	A
R	U	S	S	E	T	E	R	E	A	D
P	O	L	E	K	A	T	E			
S	H	E	D	D	A	R	R	E	N	D
C	A	R	A	P	Y	E	R	R	E	A
O	G	S	A	P	S	E	R	E	N	
R	A	P	A	P	A	R	E	S		
B	R	A	S	N	A	P	R	E	S	
R	O	M	P	A	R	E	S			
F	O	R	T	I	C	I	L	E		
A	N	N	S	A	G	E	S			
S	E	T	S	P	A	R	K			
D	Y	E								