EDITORIALS

PLATTSMOUTH NEEDS SCHOOLS

Decision of the board members of School District No. 1 to submit for approval to the voters construction of new educational facilities for Plattsmouth is not an idea of a few born adreaming. It is a culmination of years of frugality on the part of most of us in failing to keep in step with changing conditions, to heed the needs of a rapidly expanding community, and to live up to our obligations in providing adequate facilities for the mental and moral training of our children.

As a property owner and taxpayer, we can assure readers of this newspaper we are no more inclined to pay taxes than anyone else. But there is a great difference in the kind of taxes you pay and the benefits derived therefrom. School taxes are not only an investment in the future of Plattsmouth's boys and girls, but an investment to the home owner as well. Without top educational facilities in today's world, property values in any city or town totter and crumble.

The proposed bond issue that will come before us on February 19 in the amount of $425,000 appears on the surface to be a tremendous amount of money to the average home or property owner. Frankly it is no small sum, but to a city of over 5000 the amount proposed here to modernize and improve our school system in order to maintain its accredited rating is much less per capita than dozens of communities throughout Nebraska have contributed during the past two years.

Few people know the true conditions of our schools here in Plattsmouth. Class rooms crammed with twice the number of pupils as present facilities were originally planned for. In checking old files of the Journal back to 1921 we fail to come up with one construction project that has added additional class rooms—that in a period of over 30 years. Certainly, Plattsmouth constructed the new Central building in 1939, but that construction did not add new class rooms. Central did nothing but replace a school building that was condemned by the state fire marshal. The local contribution toward that construction was only one dollar per thousand valuation. In all those 30 years, the maximum bond levy this school district has carried is TWO mills and that dates back to the mid-twenties.

Plattsmouth is a growing community, rich, progressive and alert. Our faith in its future expansion and growth cannot be shaken. We must keep that faith, we must provide the best in schools, churches, stores and recreational facilities to attract and hold more citizens of sound background seeking a spot on this earth to raise and educate their children—a family town that every citizen can point to with pride, to brag about, to fight for. We'll have that kind of town. You and I can do that job by supporting sound, progressive steps proposed by those leaders in whom we have confidence.

We must plow back into our community a few of those dollars the Almighty has so generously bestowed upon us.

★ ★ ★

IT'S TOUGH IN THE U.S.A.

The Communist world is being told daily by the Communist press in satellite countries that life is really tough in the United States.

One broadcast in Bulgaria recently reported that "more than two-thirds of the American people are unable to earn even a bare living." Another broadcast said, "Horse-meat has become a major part of the daily rations of the American working people."

The Communists blame these terrible circumstances on the American arms buildup and inflation and say we Americans try to conceal our present miseries by talking of the "good old times." That last bit of propaganda sounds suspiciously like the people of Bulgaria are currently doing a great deal of talking about the "good old times" themselves. The only difference in the two situations is that, compared to life in Bulgaria today, the "good old times" really were the "good old times."

In the United States, we talk about it but no one really would go back to the so-called "good old days", with all the inconveniences.

★ ★ ★

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Nature in an absolute manner wills that right should at length obtain the victory.

— *Immanuel Kant*

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Official County and City Paper

— ESTABLISHED IN 1881 —

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Furse's Fresh Flashes

There is an old saying that "Most people can't stand prosperity." Right now most people don't have to.

★ ★ ★

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, tells us it is not always the coldest girl that gets the mink coat.

★ ★ ★

The only medicine that does a woman more good than harm, is a dress.

★ ★ ★

A great writer named Taine says there are four varieties in today's society: The lovers, the ambitious, the observers and the fools. We'll wager the fools are the happiest.

★ ★ ★

We wouldn't mind the wife having the last word if she wouldn't keep repeating it.

★ ★ ★

In most cases the chip on a guy's shoulder is just bark.

★ ★ ★

Young things who tear up the street in automobiles usually do not pay the repair bills.

★ ★ ★

The trouble with cheap labor is that you get too many self-made men.

★ ★ ★

A Plattsmouth man gripes every time he seeks advice from a lawyer. He says the lawyer just reads it out of a book and charges him a whopping fee. He should realize the lawyer is the only one who knows what page its on.

★ ★ ★

Man is that foolish creature who shortens his life by working so hard to acquire things that shorten his life.

★ ★ ★

The best way to save face is to keep the lower end of it shut.

Down Memory Lane

20 YEARS OLD

The resident property occupied by Mrs. Dollie Young and family was badly damaged by fire that destroyed the roof of the house . . . The D.A.R. is joining the crusade to relieve suffering in drouth stricken areas in Nebraska . . . Mrs. J. R. Jahrig and Mrs. Otto Keck were hostesses in honor of Miss Isabel Marshall at a miscellaneous shower . . . F. I. Rea, Frank M. Bestor, R. W. Knorr, Henry Herold, William Baird, Frank H. Smith, T. H. Pollock, C. C. Wescott, A. H. Duxbury and E. H. Wescott were named chairmen of the various committees of the Chamber of Commerce . . . Floyd M. Cole of Weeping Water has filed as a candidate for the office of county sheriff . . . John Conis observed his fifth birthday anniversary at a party . . . Plattsmouth costs per pupil to operate local schools is $15 below the state average.

★ ★ ★

10 YEARS AGO

Miss Inga Reichstadt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Reichstadt was married to Mr. Glen William Pankonin, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pankonin . . . Carl J. Schneider is the general chairman of the local defense bonds and stamps committee . . . Barbara Lamphear was elected president of Theta Rho club founded recently by the local Rebekah lodge. Other officers are Catherine Conis, vice president; Hazel Essert, secretary; and Betty Hamblin, treasurer . . . Glenwood outscored Plattsmouth 31-23 in a game featured by 32 fouls. Hilt was high for Plattsmouth with 10 points . . . Mrs. John Kalasek entertained Thursday evening in honor of Mrs. Harold Shafer, a recent bride.

★ ★ ★

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

(Copyright 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

DREW PEARSON SAYS: SEN. KEFAUVER STAYS IN OHIO PRIMARY WITH LADY SECRETARY; MILITARY WASTE REVEALED IN MOROCCO; PRESIDENT TRUMAN ALMOST FACED MILITARY COURT-MARTIAL.

Washington.—The vehemence of the undercover "Trumanite" drive to stop Kefauver is illustrated by the way wires were pulled backstage among Democratic leaders in Ohio.

Ohio primary law requires delegates to be pledged both to a first and second choice. Originally, therefore, Murray Lincoln, statesmanlike head of the Ohio Farm Bureau, was offered the No. 2 spot on the Kefauver ticket. But Lincoln declined when pressure was brought from Washington. He was told he would have to resign his advisory post on the State Department's Point 4 program; so Lincoln said no.

Following this, anti-Kefauver strategists in Ohio conceived the idea of volunteering a top Democrat for the Kefauver ticket, then having him suddenly send a telegram to the Ohio Secretary of State on Feb. 6, the filing day, saying he was unable to go along with some of the Kefauver delegates and therefore pulling his name off the ticket.

This would have left the Senator from Tennessee high and dry. It would have invalidated all Kefauver petitions and taken him out of the Ohio primary altogether. Also it would have made him look like a rank amateur not in a class with party professionals.

However, Tim Hogan, Kefauver's Ohio manager, got wind of this sly strategy, and after a hurried conference with Congressman Wayne Hays, it was decided to take no chances. Instead of a big shot as No. 2 on the Kefauver ticket, the name of Marie Harrington Krim of Martins Ferry, Ohio, was inserted.

So Ohio Democrats, when they vote in the primary, will cast their ballots for Kefauver and a lady who, while completely unknown, happens to be the personal secretary to Congressman Hays and can be trusted.

Note—Opposition to Kefauver in Ohio came from the "Trumanites"—those around Truman who passionately want him to run again—rather than the President himself. Actually the President has expressed friendly sentiments toward the Tennessee Senator, even gave him suggestions during their recent talk on how to conduct his campaign. Among other things, he suggested that not much was to be gained by featuring Kefauver's victory over the Crump machine, also warned him to avoid early contacts with scaly people, said that his geographical location, Tennessee, meant that he should win the support of the south.

Military Waste

The full scandal hasn't been told, but three U. S. Air Bases in French Morocco have suddenly been abandoned in the middle of construction. Over one million dollars had already been spent on the three bases—when suddenly the Pentagon changed its mind and decided not to build them.

The Senate Preparedness Committee is quietly investigating who is responsible for this expensive boner. One report is that the airstrips weren't built on solid ground and sank into the sand; Another report is that the rainy season flooded out at least one base. Chairman Lyndon Johnson, Texas Democrat, has demanded a full report.

Stalin Gets Mad

If we get discouraged over government waste and efficiency here at home, it might pay to look at an official report from Moscow that Marshal Stalin has secretly visited Russian shipyards in the Baltic to find out what's holding up his plan to build a powerful fleet of super-battleships.

American observers report that Stalin was furious at the excuses his Admirals have been giving for Russia's failure to turn out a single new battleship since 1939.

Therefore, accompanied by 200 secret police, he personally inspected the naval installations where three 50,000-ton battleships are under construction. The inefficiency and blunders he saw, especially at Gdynia, infuriated him even more, and Stalin has now ordered a complete purge of the Russian Admirals responsible.

Truman's Near Court-Martial

The nation's Commander-in-Chief, Harry S. Truman, is just a little proud of the little-known fact that he was once almost court-martialed. The story came out the other day when Congressman Dan Flood of Pennsylvania called with other colleagues at the White House.

"Tell them about the time I came to the rescue of an artillery unit from your home town of Wilkes-Barre during the first World War," Truman suggested to Flood during their talk.

"That's right," said Flood. "I was too young to be there, but Wilkes-Barre vets who fought in that action still talk about it. They were pinned down by German artillery after crossing a river in France and it looked like they were done for."

The Pennsylvanian went on to relate how Truman, then a field artillery captain, swung his outfit over in the nick of time and "knocked hell out of the Germans."

"You're still a hero in my home town," added Flood. "I guess that's one battle you'll never forget."

"Indeed I won't forget it," emphasized the President. "I was almost court-martialed. My commanding officer was furious at me for firing out of my sector without permission. That was the worst bawling-out anybody ever gave me."

Washington Pipeline

Taft forces are secretly putting out an imitation of the red, white and blue "I like Ike" campaign button. However, instead of the words "I like Ike," the bootleg Taft buttons are worded "No Like." . . . Maj. Gen. Frank E. Lowe, the former Maine National Guardsman, has complained to Jim Lucas, alert Scripps-Howard reporter, that Truman was never shown the cable he sent him just before the Wake Island conference with MacArthur. If Truman had been shown the cable, says General Lowe, the MacArthur-Truman conflict never would have happened. Real fact, however, is that Truman was shown the Lowe cable. However, it was so long and rambling that it didn't make much sense, and he probably didn't read it . . . It looks as if Attorney General McGrath would finally move in on the Maryland Senate campaign of 1950 where the Senate Elections Committee unearthed all kinds of corruption. McGrath has been sitting on the Senate report for over a year—so far doing nothing . . . Secretary Charles Sawyer has picked a crackerjack press spokesman for his Commerce Department—Nils Lennartson, who has been Secretary of the Air Force Finletter's shadow for the past 18 months.

LEAP YEAR

VETERANS' COLUMN

By RICHARD C. PECK
Cass County Veterans' Service Officer

Lapsed and Expired G. I. Insurance

Recently enacted Federal legislation (PL 23, 82nd Congress) affecting U. S. Government and National Service Life Insurance, has created some misunderstanding on the part of some veterans as to the exact meaning of the terms "lapsed" and "expired" as it applies to their insurance policies.

Richard Peck

A permanent policy will lapse if premiums remain unpaid when due. It does not expire. A term policy may lapse due to non-payment of premium and in addition, it may expire (at the end of the term period for which it was written). A veteran who has a term policy and desires to keep his insurance protection in force must either cnovert to a permanent plan or renew for another term before the expiration of the current term period. Veterans who allow their term USGLI to expire without converting it to a permanent plan or without renewing it for an additional term period, are no longer eligible for any type of Government Insurance.

A lapsed policy is not necessarily dead. However, it must be reinstated (put back into force) before it provides any insurance protection. Reinstatement may be accomplished by meeting the prescribed health requirements, and by paying the required premiums. In the case of a lapsed term insurance policy, the reinstatement must take place before the term expires. To reinstate a permanent type of policy, in addition to meeting the health requirements, all back premiums, plus interest, must be paid.

If a policy (either term or permanent) has been in a state of lapse for three or more months, the veteran must pass a physical examination to get his insurance back in force.

Legislative SIDELIGHTS..

by
BERNIE CAMP
Information Director
Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation

(Legislative Sidelines is made available to your local newspaper as a service of the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of this newspaper).

The Peoples' Choice

"It is intolerable that any President should be permitted to determine who should succeed him-himself or another—by patronage or coercion, or by any sort of control of the machinery by which delegates to the nominating convention are chosen.

"There ought never to be another presidential nominating convention; and there need never be another. Several of the states have successfully solved that difficulty with regard to the choice of their governors, and federal law can solve it in the same way with regard to choice of Presidents. The nominations should be made directly by the people at the polls.

"Conventions should determine nothing by party platforms and should be made up of the men who would be expected, if elected to carry those platforms into effect."

That statement was made almost 40 years ago by an American lawyer and professor of jurisprudence and political economy ,a man who was himself at that time President—elect of the United States—Woodrow Wilson.

The United States, looked to by the world as the shining example of democratic processes, is not always democratic in its processes of government. Democracy implies that in elections there is complete freedom of choice on the part of the voters among candidates for public office. This is certainly not true in the selection of men to fill the most important office on the national scene—the presidency.

American political parties meet in convention, putting on a great show of selecting a presidential candidate. The average member of the party has little actually nothing—to say about the choice of the party candidate. The nomination for what is probably the most important elective political office in the world can be determined by a small group of men through "horse trading" conferences in hotel rooms hazy with cigar smoke. On occasion, when the party leaders have been unable to agree among themselves, they have compromised on a "dark horse" candidate of which the voting public knew little or nothing and had little opportunity to learn once the party propaganda machines started "Deifying" him.

The Constitution of the United States (Article II, Section 1) originally provided that each state should appoint in a manner to be determined by the state legislature a number of electors equal to the number of senators and representatives the state sent to Congress. These electors, which could not be a senator or representative or employee of the national government, met in their states to elect by ballot two persons, one of which could not be a resident of the state. The person receiving the greatest number of electoral ballots among the states was then elected president of the United States; and the next highest the vice president.

The 12th Amendment (ratified in 1804) provided that distinct and separate ballots should be case for president and vice president.

Otherwise, no change or amendment of the Constitution has been made to make possible a greater voice of the people in presidential elections. As a matter of fact, there is nothing in the Constitution to prevent the president and vice-president elect being of opposing political parties; although custom and agreement have dictated that the two officers be of the same party. Actually, the Constitution makes no mention of political parties or their activities.

Originally, in the Constitution of the United States, it was provided that U. S. senators were to be chosen by the state legislatures. However, that provision was changed by the 17th Amendment in 1913, which called for U. S. senators to be elected by direct popular vote.

Thus, this could be considered a precedent for providing that the president be: (1) elected by direct popular vote; or (2) by a system of primary elec-

(Continued on Page 5)

THIS WEEK IN Washington

WHILE MOST Republicans and some political commentators gauged the Presidential message to the congress as "politically weak" and a "toned down" appeal for all he has asked before, most Democrats and some other analysts suggested that it was a "shrewd" political speech. And while the President was more "pacific," the President still stressed all his Fair Deal program somewhere in the message "for the record."

It appeared likely the President had in mind a special session of this congress to be called some time between the July conventions and the November election, at which a stern message would be directed calling for all those "necessary" legislative acts he asked in his Fair Deal Program, also "for the record," giving him a chance again to stump the nation at the "whistle stops" and lay the blame on his Republican opposition in the congress.

The thinking here is that President Truman will be a sure candidate for re-election, and he has said he will announce his intentions prior to the GOP convention opening in Chicago July 2.

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Despite the personal popularity of General Eisenhower, his reluctant admission of his Republicanism and his firm declaration that "under no circumstances" would he ask for relief from his present job in order to participate in any preconvention campaign, have put a crimp in campaign plans of some of his backers. Despite his statement, there is a persistent rumor that the general may return to this country, possibly in March.

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Some see in the President's dissatisfaction with the present agricultural law and his call for less costly measures to carry perishable products, a renewal of his insistance for the so-called Brannan plan, although he did not mention it by name.

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Indication are that, since this is a presidential election year, this congress will be another "spending" congress and that more money will be appropriated for the defense plan, for continued foreign aid, for civil defense and for defense housing. Indications also point to a renewal of price controls, a determined fight to eliminate the "Capehart" amendment and the "Herling" amendment restricting the present law, although the chances are that very little tightening of the act will get through.

What other domestic legislation will be successful is doubtful, although it was evident that both house and senate leaders are in opposition to any general tax increase on individuals. There may be some increase in other forms of taxation. As a matter of fact, the inside view is that President Truman may not even ask for any great tax increase in his budget message.

In this congress, the line-up is 231 Democrats, 201 Republicans and one independent in the house; 50 Democrats and 46 Republicans in the senate. Election of Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire as senate GOP leader by a vote of 26 to 15 represents the split in the Senate Republicans with the 26 for Bridges in the camp of Senator Taft for the presidency, and the 15 supporting Senator Saltonstall, Massachusetts, in the camp of Eisenhower.

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It appeared a new probe was about to get under way, this one into the security exchange commission, the first in the 18-year existence of the SEC.

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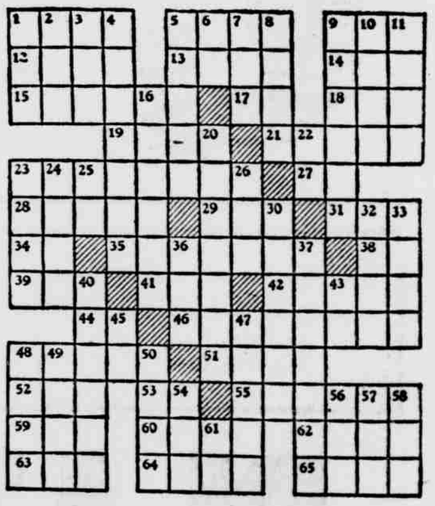
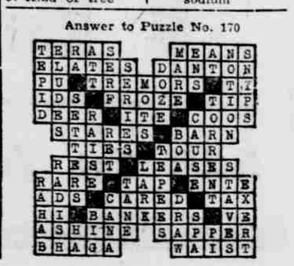
Another attempt may be made at this session for an over-all budget bill in this congress, instead of the five or six separate measures which is usually the case. The National Committee for Strengthening Congress has again called the lawmakers' attention to the fact that it is still operating under obsolete methods and has not solved four basic problems under the reorganization act. One is lack of proper organization, lack of responsibility, failure to control money and misuse of time. For instance, in the house alone, it takes about one month of time for roll calls and quorum calls. Electric voting machinery would cut this time to a minimum, according to the national committee.

Crossword Puzzle



HORIZONTAL
1 Disposed of for price
5 Transgressions
9 Flying mammal
12 Turkish regiment
13 Bad
14 Holland commune
15 Dried grape
17 Toward
18 Metal container
19 Chart
21 Chick pea (pl.)
23 City in Penn.
27 Indian mulberry
28 Kind of lily
29 Rodent
31 Small rug
34 Aloft
35 Kind of turtle
38 Jap marine measure
39 Encountered
41 Native mineral
42 A bird
44 Pronoun
46 Exquisitely charming
48 Small openings
51 Smell
52 Thick, black substance
53 By
55 To talk foolishly
59 Girl's name
60 Unaccompanied
62 Famous river
63 Things in law
64 Rip
65 Contest

VERTICAL
1 Sixty sixties, Babylonian numeral
2 Palm leaf (var.)
3 Medieval type of short tale
4 Dissipates
5 Upper chamber of Parliament in France
6 Four (Roman numerals)
7 Insect's egg
8 To plod
9 To render quiet
10 First man
11 A number (pl.)
16 Mindanao Moro
20 Submarine projectile
22 Sun god
23 Dross
24 Adhesive bandage
25 North Syrian diety
26 Short sleep
30 Fright
32 Seed covering
33 Prong of an antler
36 Goddess of vengeance
37 Loud, deep prolonged sound
40 Obstacles to spiritual progress
43 Size of shot
45 French for "and"
47 Queerer
48 Heavenly body
49 Route across an ocean
50 To season
54 Part of foot
56 By way of
57 Kind of tree
58 Confederate general
61 Symbol for sodium

Puzzle No. 171

Answer to Puzzle No. 170