

# EDITORIALS

## COMMUNIST PARTY AND LABOR

Congressional investigating committees have revealed that Communists are keeping control of certain key unions in U. S. defense plants. Even though these unions are Communist-dominated, under U. S. labor laws, they continue to get Government cooperation.

Most disturbing of all is the fact that, even when they are controlled by Communists, the unions are not listed as subversive. Yet testimony from key union officials, who have repudiated Communism, shows that the Communist Party in the United States controls these unions. Testimony further shows that Communists make up only a small percentage of the total union membership but that these Communists are extremely active and through organization and ruthless tactics, manage to exercise actual control.

Some of the unions under Communist control are in a position to do this country serious harm in case of war with Russia. While Americans do not wish to infringe on the freedom of union members, it is clear that the time has come for some sort of action in this dangerous situation. Exactly what can be done is a question which is now before Congress, and whatever action Congress takes is sure to be criticized by some labor groups. The situation, however, is intolerable and, if the United States is to be safe from the threat of serious sabotage, Congress must make a positive start toward cleaning up the Communist-dominated labor unions.

Results of last Tuesday's balloting was discouraging to many residents of this school district if comments handed this newspaper is a barometer. A number of persons who have devoted many hours of their time and effort in trying to make Plattsmouth a better community, improve its services to humanity and keep the city on the path of progress, have found themselves burdened with a defeatist attitude—and that is bad.

We try not to let ourselves believe that Plattsmouth residents are any different than human beings residing elsewhere in Nebraska or the midwest. We are still of the opinion that a big majority of local people think just as much of their kids, are just as proud of their home community as they are anywhere else in the world and will prove it at the ballot box if presented with a clear, well thoughtout proposal.

We are not trying to insinuate that the recent defeated program of school modernization was not sound, was too elaborate, or was not within the means of Plattsmouth taxpayers. We are of the opinion, however, that too many of our residents favoring the first proposal failed to go to the polls and cast their vote. Carrying 54 per cent of the total vote case, should prove to the most pessimistic that Plattsmouth will go along. A modified version submitted at Tuesday's primary was too confusing, gave many voters the wrong impression and, coupled to a large degree with untruthful propaganda, induced them to vote "No."

A majority of citizens are well aware of the great need for additional class room space in our schools. Most of us know that added facilities must be provided. Most of us also know that Plattsmouth needs and must have an auditorium without delay if this town is to even hold its own in competing with other nearby communities. There is no demand for real estate or apartments in any town that cannot offer more than a gong on a courthouse clock.

We would like to offer our solution to this dilemma. We believe the only possible way Plattsmouth will see these dreams come true is through organization—not of any single club or group, but by every person in Plattsmouth interested in the development and expansion of our town joining together and appointing, or elect-

THOUGHT FOR TODAY  
What is done hastily cannot be done prudently  
—Publilius Syrus

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## Furse's Fresh Flashes

After waiting two hours in a local doctor's office, a local man left with a parting word to the others that he thought he'd go home and die a natural death.

Alcatraz reminds us of that pen with a life-time guarantee.  
It is easier to preach by the mile than to practice by the inch.

It is reported that man's life expectancy has increased 20 years since 1900. It is regrettable that we haven't found some way to use those extra years to better advantage than at present.

If you build a big business, you're a sinister influence. If you don't you're a darned failure.

We wonder how many brides can bake their cake and eat it too?  
Just read where a plumber called to fix a stopped up drain found \$60,000 stuffed in the pipe. That should have paid at least part of his bill.

Next to a pair of honeymooners, there is nothing as inseparable as a couple of wire coat hangers in a darkened corner of the hall closet.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says if she ever finds she's not the only "pebble on the beach" she'll become a little bolder.

A local matron has not only kept her girlish figure—she's doubled it.  
ing a "Planning Commission" or a "Greater Plattsmouth Committee" to study the needs of this community. On this commission should be at least two members of every organization in the city, including the BREV, City Council, School Board, Fraternal, Civic, Veteran and Rural.

When this commission is organized, it should be its duty to hold regular meetings in an effort to lay out a long range program of civic betterment and improvement. It should be the obligation of each member sitting in the group to carry plans back to the body they represent for analysis, criticism and suggestions. Following an analysis of what Plattsmouth needs in the way of public building improvements, placing first needs first, plans can be developed agreeable to a vast majority of citizens.

With proper planning and cooperation among all residents in every age group, in every financial bracket, there is not limit to the future growth and welfare of this community—and the time to start is now.

## Down Memory Lane

20 YEARS AGO  
C. E. Pool, O. C. Hinds and Frank E. Wood have been named to a committee to assist with the Federal Seed Loan plan in Cass county. . . E. H. Worthman, C. A. Gauer and John Busche were elected to the village board at Louisville. . . John Galloway is leaving for Las Vegas where he will be employed. . . Mr. and Mrs. Louis Burbee of Union are the parents of a son. . . Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Giles of Nehawka moved to Plattsmouth this week. He will operate a filling station here. . . Thirty-five sophomores had perfect attendance during the third quarter to lead all upper classes. . . Department Commander Robert D. Flory was a guest of Plattsmouth Legion Post.

10 YEARS AGO  
Robert R. Hayes was elected mayor of Plattsmouth at the election held Tuesday. Albert Olson was elected clerk and M. D. Brown, treasurer. City councilmen are H. A. Nelson, Don Seiver, Frank Rebal, John E. Schutz and Edward Gabelman. Residents also voted in favor of purchasing the water plant. . . E. H. Bernhardt and Robert Cappell were elected to the school board. . . Plattsmouth Golf Club elected Milo Hoppe president and Randall Bigsby secretary-treasurer. . . Miss Jacqueline Wetenkamp is home for Easter vacation from Doane college. . . R. N. Opp, W. H. Porter and Charles Attebery were elected to the Union Village Board. . . F. H. Freeman was elected mayor of Eagle. . . Mr. and Mrs. Robert Slavicek are parents of a son.

## The Washington Merry-Go-Round

(Copyright 1949, By the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)  
DREW PEARSON SAYS: STEEL TALKS BETRAY FAULTY COORDINATION; PUTNAM AND WILSON CLASHED OVER TACTICS; CHIEF MOBILIZER RESENTED TRUMAN'S ORDERS.  
Washington.—Inside story of how the steel wage talks got fouled up would have been a comedy of errors if it had not been so crucial to the country. A better name might be a tragedy of errors.

## Ticklers By George



"This is tough on gran'pap. He's just afeered of a bath as he is of the bar!"

After it was all over, Ed Johnston, former Economic Stabilizer, asked Nat Fensinger, head of the Wage Stabilization Board:

"What happened to the coordination we used to have down there? You and I used to confer on the telephone every day, and when you had a tough wage dispute I used to come down and sit with your board and explain why wages couldn't be increased because we couldn't increase prices."

The wage board chairman replied that he had been in touch with both his chiefs, Mobilizer Wilson and Economic Stabilizer Putnam, in advance of the wage decision. Technically this was true. Actually their coordination was woefully haphazard, as indicated by the following inside story.

When Charles E. Wilson served in Washington during World War II, he realized the futility of having wages, prices, all regulated by independent agencies. So, when he came back to Washington after Korea, he told Truman that, to check inflation, he had the idea of having one man, Truman agreed. Thus Wilson became the most powerful man in Washington. This power to check inflation was well correlated under Stabilizer Johnston. But when he bowed out here, the tragic story of what happened in regard to steel.

### The Steel Story

Actually, Wilson, Wage Chairman Fensinger, and new Economic Stabilizer Putnam had agreed in advance that steelworkers were entitled to a total 16-cent package, increase including holidays and fringe benefits. Union leaders knew this, which was why one top CIO leader, on hearing that the wage board reported a 25-cent hourly package, remarked: "That's not a package. That's a carload!"

The day before this 25-cent recommendation was announced by the wage board, Wilson, Fensinger and Putnam had met, and Fensinger had reported to Putnam that the 27-cent hour total pay and fringe benefits hike, "It's the best I can do," he reported.

"If it's the best you can do," Wilson's philosophy reply. At the time there was no consultation with Price Stabilizer Ellis Arnall, and apparently no great worry over increasing steel prices.

Next day, Chairman Fensinger persuaded his wage board to reduce the package from 27 to 25 cents, and the first results were announced. Hide-and-Seek in New York. Simultaneously, Ben Fairless, head of the giant U. S. Steel Corporation, invited Economic Stabilizer Putnam to meet with the Iron and Steel Institute. Putnam went to New York, then suggested that his chief, Mobilizer Wilson come up to New York also. The situation was somewhat embarrassing.

Putnam was supposed to deal with the steel executives in his office in Washington, on an official basis, not informally in New York. However, Fairless phoned Wilson in Washington, asking him to come to New York, and Wilson took the next plane. Meanwhile, Putnam told the steel moguls he didn't want to meet with them until Wilson arrived, so he waited elsewhere.

Through a fluke, Wilson got to New York and went to the iron and steel meeting direct, without Putnam. His Economic Stabilizer waited, not knowing his chief had arrived. And during the session between Wilson and the steel industry, they sold him the idea of increasing the price of steel to compensate for the increase in steel wages.

When Putnam heard about this later, he was sore. Undoubtedly he was sore at being left out of the talks, but more important, he pointed out that that his job was to keep down inflation and that a hike in steel prices would mean hiking the price of almost every other industrial commodity. He said he wanted to take the matter up with President Truman in Key West.

## Legislative SIDELIGHTS..

by BERNIE CAMP  
Information Director  
Nebraska Farm Bureau  
Federation

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

### Like Topsy

It's an ancient "wheeze" to refer to someone as "just grown like Topsy," but that "wheeze" is a description that aptly fits the description of the development of American foreign aid commitments throughout the world.

Some weeks ago, this column estimated that foreign aid might, conservatively, total 75 billion dollars for the past dozen years. On the basis of figures recently made available this figure was extremely conservative it develops.

Counting the beginnings of foreign aid in 1940, the total given, authorized or requested now totals \$5 billion dollars—approximately one-third of the nation's debt.

Each foreign aid program was to be the last, but now under the Mutual Security Program, which succeeded the ECA which terminated January 1, Americans are pledging themselves to the fifth round of foreign aid.

Foreign aid began in 1940 with President Roosevelt's quiet gift of World War I rifles and ammunition to the hard-pressed British following the disaster at Dunkirk. This was followed by Lend-Lease which began in March 1941 with an appropriation of seven billion dollars.

Four years later at the termination of Lend-Lease, American taxpayers had given a total of 40 billion dollars, with eleven billion of the total going to help Russia, now recognized as our only likely enemy if a third World War breaks out. Britain got 24 billions from Lend-Lease and other nations a total of 5 billion dollars.

Lend-Lease was followed with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, which was originally set up to spend one billion dollars, but went through six billion dollars before it was completed.

When UNRRA was terminated, a loan program was launched; in fact it got underway before the relief program terminated. Britain got a special 3.8 billion dollar loan; France, 1.5 billion dollars. The American taxpayer was then assured in January 1947 that only a modest relief program would be necessary from then on. Less than 6 months later, Congress rushed a special 400 million dollar grant for Greece and Turkey to bolster those nations against the threats of Communist aggression. That was in May 1947. A month later, the Marshall Plan was proposed and foreign aid programs became "big business" again.

The Marshall Plan was formally launched in April 1948. It was first scheduled to last until 1952 and cost a total of 17 billion dollars. The Plan, however, operated only through 1951 and was then replaced by the Mutual Security Program. The Marshall Plan actually spent about 13 billion dollars for foreign aid.

Mutual Security, authorized in 1951, aims to provide military weapons and billions in economic help for the allies of the United States around the world. The first installment in the present budget year scheduled to take care of about seven billion dollars by June 30, a gain of more than 50 per cent over the preceding year. If Congress gives its approval the next fiscal year 1951-52, will see the expenditure of 19.5 billion dollars for foreign aid most of it military. Thus in a two year period MSA, if it gets all the program has scheduled, will spend more than the Marshall plan was supposed to cost in four years.

Aid to Europe and Britain during the World War II years was approximately 32.8 billion dollars, some of which was later recovered under Lend-Lease. If the MSA gets all the president's budget asked for by the end of June, 1953, 34.6 billion dollars will have been spent for foreign aid since 1945. Those figures do not include the 11 billion dollars in aid given to Russia, during the war.

Now, those who pretend to know something about such things will not predict when foreign aid might end. This information is presented the readers of Legislative Sidelights not in the spirit of criticism, but because it is believed the men and women in Nebraska, the taxpayers, who will pay the bills for these programs should know how their money is being spent.

It may be that these expenditures in the past, every dollar, have been necessary. It may be that every dollar of future foreign aid expenditures is and will be necessary. The American taxpayer ought, however, to know and appreciate the extent of the American contribution to "protecting the peace around the world."

### TAXATION PROBLEM

If our forefathers thought taxation without representation was bad we wonder what they would think of it today with representation.

## Test Your Intelligence

- Score 10 points for each correct answer in the first six questions
1. A "barrel" is a: —weapon —boat —dog —dance
  2. The 22nd amendment to the U. S. Constitution has to do with: —alcohol —presidential terms —civil rights —congressional immunity
  3. The N. A. A. C. P. is concerned primarily with: —racial equality —religion —sports —hydroelectric power
  4. According to the legend Romulus and Remus were cared for by a: —shepherd —warrior —special nurse —wolf
  5. "Semper Fidelis" is the motto of the: —Navy —Coast Guard —Marine Corps —Army
  6. The vice president of the U. S. is: —President of the Senate —postmaster general —Speaker of the House —keeper of the gate
  7. Listed below are four famous ships and opposite them, scrambled up, their captains. Match them, scoring 10 points for each correct answer.  
(A) Bon Homme Richard —Christopher Columbus  
(B) Santa Maria —Fernando Magellan  
(C) Half Moon —John Paul Jones  
(D) Trinidad —Henry Hudson
- Total your points. A score of 0-20 is poor; 30-60, average; 70-90, superior; 90-100, very superior.

## Realty Transfers

- Walter Rhoades & Lulu M. WD 3-15-52, L. 5 & N 6 1/2 L. 6, B. 172, Plattsmouth, \$1,000.
- Fred H. Vincent & Elizabeth to Fred H. Vincent & Elizabeth, WD 3-15-52, L. 6 Ex. N 6 1/2 & L. 7, B. 172, Plattsmouth, \$1,000.
- Charles L. Card & Vieta M. to Walter Marolf & Helen, WD 3-15-52, L. 163 to 172 & L. 318 to 323, Greenwood, \$1,000.
- Agda W. Borjesson to Chester W. Morgan & Margaret, WD 11-15-51, SE 1/4 & NE 1/4 SW 1/4 & SW 1/4 NE 1/4 8-10-12, \$260,000.
- Floyd H. Gerbeling to Elizabeth C. Gerbeling, QCD 1-15-52, L. 5, B. 33, Y & H Add, to Plattsmouth, \$1,000.
- Ervin H. Albert & Doris to State of Neb., WD 10-1-51, Frc. N Pt. NE 1/4, 24-12-11, \$3,000.
- Richard C. Peck, Exec. to Loren Roper, Harry & Willie, Ex. D 3-17-52, SW 1/4, 19-10-11, \$26,500.00.
- Robt. T. Long & Helen to August Gall & Charlotte, WD 3-18-52, L. 11 & 12, B. 53, Plattsmouth, \$550,000.
- Donald A. Wiles & Bernice to Lucille Kirk, WD 3-4-52, SW 1/4 SE 1/4 & S 1/2 NE 1/4 SE 1/4, 31-11-11, \$12,500.00.
- Herman A. Kuehn & Hattie to Richard A. Kuehn & Wanda M., WD 9-14-51, N 1/2 SW 1/4 14-10-10, \$18,000.00.
- Robt. R. McDonald & Julia to Dumke & Stohman, WD 1-28-50, S 40 of W 2/3 L. 4, B. 18, Avoca, \$300.00.
- Sophia Emshoff same above, WD 11-22-50, L. 5 & 6 & S 1/2 L. 7, B. 2, Avoca, \$400.00.
- Elmer Hallstrom & Vera, same as above, WD 10-19-49, L. 1 & 2, B. 3, Avoca, \$500.00.
- Will A. Minford & Marion to Ogla O. Wiles, WD 12-12-51, L. 12, B. 42, Plattsmouth, \$450,000.
- Ogla Wiles & James E. to Ralph M. Wiles & Golda M., WD 3-19-52, L. 12, B. 42, \$1,000.
- E. A. Wurl to Herbert A. Freeburg & Ethel, WD 3-18-52, W 1/2 L. 6, B. 35, Plattsmouth, \$10,000.00.
- Dale Wohlfarth Tr. to Paul Richter, T. Deed 3-14-52, L. 3 SE 1/4 SW 1/4 14-11-13, \$680,000.
- Nellie J. Neitzel to Charles F. M. Guthmann, WD 2-9-52, 1/5 Int. NW 1/4 3-12-12, \$500,000.
- Elwood M. Buttery & Alma A. to Galden R. Rhoden & Clara A., WD 3-17-52, Ls. 4, 5, 6, B. 98, Plattsmouth, \$340,000.
- Robt. I. Rea & Velma to Homer H. Shrader & Bertha, WD 3-21-52, L. 14, 15, 16, B. 16, Latta's 1st Add. Murray, \$1,000.
- William Rummel & Margaret

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