

# EDITORIALS

## MAKING IT EASY FOR TAXPAYERS

The Internal Revenue Bureau will have completed an eight-month reorganization by tax time next year and taxpayers needing help with their returns will be offered better service and more hours of help by the various field offices of the Internal Revenue Bureau. Since some 57,000,000 tax returns are expected next year, compared with 54,000,000 this year, the longer office hours and better service will be appropriate.

Assistant-Commissioner Justin Winkle, of the Bureau, says that field offices won't close their doors in the face of taxpayers just because official office hours are over during the tax-paying period. Telephone queries will be answered in the evening, during lunch hours and on Saturdays. All offices will stay open until midnight the last night before returns are due.

Many other innovations are to be tried this next tax-paying season by the Bureau, including the use of monitors who question taxpayers before they line up and divide them into different lines for various categories of information. This will prevent some people from standing in line for several hours and then being told they were in the wrong line. Chairs and benches are to be put out in halls to help the aged and infirm and prevent them from having to stand in line for long hours.

All this indicates that Uncle Sam is trying to make it easier for us to part with our money. While we welcome these improvements in the Bureau's service, we look forward to a still greater service which should be performed as soon as possible. That is the reduction of taxes. While no one should object to paying higher taxes while American boys are dying on the battlefields of Korea, if there is wastage which can be eliminated or economies which can be made without jeopardizing the lives of our soldiers, the time is appropriate for such action. A reduction in tax rates would not only ease tax problems for the average citizen but would also ease the burden on the Internal Revenue Bureau—and solve the problem in a manner which is even more simple than the improvements now being made by the Bureau itself.

### AIR CRASH SEASON

The recent series of air tragedies is not altogether surprising, although the number of such tragedies in the last few weeks is disquieting. Despite the claims that planes can fly through all kinds of weather, it can usually be observed that the first extremely bad weather of the fall and winter increases the toll of air fatalities.

In spite of all the instruments for bad-weather flying, instrument-flying is still a job fraught with more dangers than are encountered in fair weather flying. Though many of the planes which have crashed recently have been military transport planes, the number of lives lost in these accidents is appalling and the future holds out the prospect that, as the size of these planes increases, each accident may claim a larger toll.

Thus, as the size of air transports increases, the number of accidents must be reduced. One of the worst features of recent military air transport accidents is the fact that many of the planes were flying on schedules which did not involve the war effort or the transport of men or materials to and from Korea.

In such operations, there is no reason why the fatality rate should be appreciably larger than that of the commercial air lines, though it appears that military air transports is becoming extremely hazardous. Perhaps, the number of flights is increasing as the Air Force acquires more planes but the air tragedies nevertheless

### THOUGHT FOR TODAY

It is no small art to sleep; to achieve it one must keep awake all day. —F. W. Nietzsche

## The Plattsmouth Journal

Official County and City Paper  
— ESTABLISHED IN 1881 —  
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## Furse's Fresh Flashes

A doctor says the best way to enjoy perfect health is to rise every morning at five and take a cold bath. Wonder what's the next best way?

We've often thought a sailor was just a plain dame fool.

Note to women: The best reducing exercise is to place both hands on the edge of the table and push back.

The idea of getting something for nothing isn't new—that's what the pioneers were doing when they settled this country.

An explorer tells us that a tiger won't harm you if you carry a white cane. Probably depends on how fast you carry it.

Keeping a secret from some people is like trying to smuggle daylight past a rooster.

Our preacher was amazed last Sunday when he asked all in the congregation who liked sin to stand and 14 people got up. They thought he said gin.

The only guy who isn't bothered with back-seat drivers is the fellow who drives a hearse.

A local man says he would never have become a millionaire if he hadn't had a desire to see if there was any size income his wife couldn't live beyond.

## Down Memory Lane

### 10 YEARS AGO

Announcement has been made of the marriage of Warren F. Taylor and Miss Dorothy Elliott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Elliott of Plattsmouth. . . . Otto Lutz was elected president of Mynard Community Club. Other officers are Mrs. Louis Kief, vice president; Pauline Wilson, secretary; and Charles C. Barnard, treasurer. Lutz succeeds Richard O. Cole. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Charles Koke are the parents of a son, Verlin Leroy. . . . Virgeen Bethards of Plattsmouth and Eri Price, also of Plattsmouth, were married at Nebraska City. . . . Mrs. L. S. Devoe and Herman Meisinger have been elected Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron of Home Chapter No. 189, Order of Eastern Star. Associate Matron and Patron are Mrs. Howard Wiles and L. S. Devoe. Miss Malinda Friedrich is conductress and Mrs. Carl J. Schneider, associate conductress. Miss Mary Petersen, treasurer, and Miss Clara Weyrich, secretary.

### 20 YEARS AGO

Dana X. Bible, head coach of the University of Nebraska, will speak at a Plattsmouth high school football banquet here on December 9. . . . Cass county had 38 extension clubs active during the past year with membership of 652 women in a variety of project clubs. . . . 140 girls in Cass county are participating in 4-H club activities. . . . Bernard Galloway, coach at Dorchester, has been a guest at the home of his parents. . . . The marriage of Miss Gladys Bushnell to Edgar Glaze will be an event of early December.

remain disturbing.

It may be true, as some air lines contend, that newspapers over-play air crashes, since they are spectacular events. The fact remains, however, that few people survive major air crashes, whereas, survivors are often numerous in other major transportation mishaps. Considering the fact that crashing into a mountain-side at 300 miles an hour is a fairly rapidly-developing event, the newspapers cannot be blamed for prominently displaying such tragedies. The answer lies in reducing them and not in minimizing the publicity given them.

## The Washington Merry-Go-Round

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DREW PEARSON SAYS:  
EISENHOWER PREFERS EARLY BREAK WITH TAFT IF RIFT INEVITABLE; DURKIN APPOINTMENT LARGELY ACCIDENT OF POLITICS; NIXON WANTED TO ATTEND IKE-TRUMAN CONFERENCE.  
WASHINGTON—Sources close to General Eisenhower say that if the president-elect had to have a break with Senator Taft, he would rather it came early than late.

Though he did not expect or want the disapproval of the powerful GOP senate leader over new Secretary of Labor Durkin, nevertheless Ike figured a break was probably inevitable and, if so, he would rather battle it out with Taft during the first two years of his administration rather than the last two years.

Meanwhile the most interesting thing about the headline-making Durkin ap-

## Peace, or War?



pointment is that it was largely accidental.

It came about partly because Ike and advisers, having almost completed the cabinet, looked it over and found no one representing minority groups. It was a cabinet comprised solely of protestants, and wealthy protestants at that. So it was decided that the secretary of labor must be either Catholic or a Jew.

Prior to this, Governor Alfred Driscoll of New Jersey had been considered, though he happens to be a Presbyterian. He felt he must remain in New Jersey.

The Plumbers Union

Also considered was ex-Senator John Danaher of Connecticut, a Catholic, but he was opposed by Governor Dewey.

Anna Rosenberg, an expert on labor relations, was also considered, but counted out because she not only is a Democrat but closely identified with the Truman administration as assistant secretary of defense.

In the end, Eisenhower advisers couldn't seem to locate an outstanding Catholic or Jew who was also a Republican. So when A. F. of L. President George Meany recommended fellow plumber Martin Durkin, a Catholic, he was selected even though a Democrat.

What Eisenhower advisers didn't know, apparently, were two things:

1. That Senator Taft would be so bitterly opposed.  
2. That Durkin's union is one of the few indicted by the justice department for monopoly practices and make-work operations.

The indictment was brought in 1940 and dragged on until 1947 when finally dismissed.

One charge brought by the justice department was that the Plumbers Union would not permit plumbing fixtures manufactured by Sears, Roebuck to be used on any of their jobs. The justice department also charged that the union conspired with plumbing manufacturers, went in for feather-bedding, and coerced, boycotted, and refused to work on jobs where the competitive fixtures were used.

Durkin became president of Plumbers Union in 1943, three years after the suit was brought. Since the case was dismissed, some of these practices have been outlawed by the Taft-Hartley act.

Taft Blows  
Friends of Senator Taft say that privately he blew off more steam over the appointment of Sinclair Weeks as Secretary of Commerce than Durkin as Secretary of Labor. For Taft remembered all too vividly how he had helped make Weeks chairman of the finance committee of the Republican party following which Weeks, at a crucial moment of the pre-convention campaign, telegraphed members of the finance committee and the GOP National Committee urging that Taft withdraw his name from the race.

Taft had also given Eisenhower a list of his recommendations to the cabinet, from which, however, not one name was selected; and Taftites say this was a breach of the Morningside Heights agreement on patronage.

Though Taft got credit for appointing his distant cousin, Ezra Taft Benson, as secretary of agriculture, and George Humphrey of Cleveland as secretary of the treasury, actually he irritated neither. Meanwhile, he was convinced that Dewey was passing on if not picking the entire cabinet.

So when all this was climaxed by the Durkin-Sinclair Weeks appointment, Taft really boiled over.

Restless Nixon  
A telephone call from Miami to Augusta when Eisenhower was still resting there has convinced Ike advisers that the president-elect is going to have trouble with the new vice president as well as Senator Taft.

The phone call was from Senator Nixon hinting that Eisenhower might want him to accompany him on his historic



RED YACHT RACES—Russians like yacht races, too, as seen in the above picture. Seen enjoying the sport is a group of Soviet sailors, competing in the Leningrad competition of the all-Union races. Their fin-keel boat has just taken the wind, moving them ahead in the contest off the port of Leningrad, in which over 470 sportsmen took part.

meeting with President Truman at the White House.

Nixon seemed quite miffed when Eisenhower indicated that he could take care of himself with President Truman without any help.

Meanwhile, the vice president-elect keeps emphasizing that he will not be content merely to preside over the senate—the traditional duty of the vice president. He not only wants to attend cabinet meetings but wants to be given executive responsibility.

In justification, he claims privately that he carried the west—particularly California—for Eisenhower. Some of Ike's advisers point out, however, that thousands of voters wanted to know whether it would be possible to vote for Ike and not Nixon.

Note—Those who have watched General Eisenhower during the brief month since his election say that though a bit green on some government procedure, he is a man who learns fast and is going to run his own show.

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

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## JOURNALism

This little story we're about to tell just doesn't belong in the Letter Box. But, first read the letter:

Murray, Nebr.  
Dec. 1, 1952

To whom it may concern:  
To the writer of the article in the Plattsmouth Journal of November 27 titled "Power and Phone Service Hit—Cass County Paralyzed," etc.

I have outlined the part I disagree with (see enclosure of your item).

The phone crew and the Consumer repair unit spent the night in our house—you said a barn. If it's a barn here's my account of the story of that night.

About 2:30 on that stormy night we were aroused by a human "horse" which came tramping up on our porch and "neighed" the lament—"There's six of us who are stalled and can't go any farther and were wet and cold. May we come in and get warm?"

Being human "horses" we rolled out of our stalls and I donned my cotton house coat—(pardon, barn coat). My husband pulled on his blue denim harness—we trotted down the stair runway, opened the barn door and saw the frostiest looking human "horse."

After pickering and whinnying (between shivers) his story of how the repair "team" couldn't get through the drifts—he repeated they were wet and cold and did we have some extra stalls.

We neighed a yes answer and he carttered off—floundering through drifts to lead the rest of the team to safety of our humble barn.

We got down our dusty old relic of a kerosene lamp and turned to the heater.

Presently we heard hoof beats and up struggled six half frozen human "horses." They practically stamped to the warm stove and began removing wet frozen "harness" and horse (over) shoes.

We neighed greetings and talked some "horse-sense" about how it wasn't fit outside for man or beast.

After an hour or so of this we decided to retire to our stalls. We trotted off and bedded down for the next four hours until daylight.

When my mate plodded down the runway stairs he saw how each "nag" had picked a stall and bedded down. All came through without incident except one horse who disturbed a small sleeping dog who growled—"Go get your own stall—I was here first!" The horse apologized and moved over. Another horse complained a bit about a "Charley Man" but a bit of movement did away with that.

Then the old hag mare of the house prepared a breakfast of bacon, eggs, toast, butter, cereal and cream. Rather odd fare for horses but not a single "nag" complained.

Then pickering good natured Furse play jokes—the team deemed their work harness, neighed thank you to the broken down old mare "cook" and trotted reluctantly into the cold to work.

Two returned to the "barn" for lunch at the invitation of my sway backed mate and

chomped on potato soup, sausage, crackers, butter, pork and beans, rice, raisins and cream, and coffee with apparent relish.

There is our version of the story. And, oh yes, our barn is a bit drafty, but we have hot and cold running water and a bathroom. Also radio and a television for our three colts and ourselves for entertainment. Quite a barn hey boys?

Yours until the "cows" come home and you print a correction for this letter if you dare.

Mr. and Mrs. Dude Hiatt  
Murray Corner,  
Murray, Nebr.

P. S. To the guys who were here—Don't take this to heart. As we read the account it struck a funny bone and sort of comically recalled our "home." We couldn't resist a reply.

What a guy can't get into running a newspaper, i.e., everything but a barn. Editor Cane insists this was a nightmare. Our apologies to Mr. and Mrs. Hiatt, it was a slip in notes while hurrying to get a storm story in The Journal with most lines of communications down.

We like the little postscript to The Journal: "We really enjoy the paper. No hard feelings here. . . ." It's the first time in months we've been called on the carpet and not had our hair pulled out at the same time. It is people like the Dude Hiatt's that make this world such a pleasant place to live in—calling their home a barn is nearly as undignified as some of the things they've called Truman.

See how easy it is to fill a column like this. A newspaperman will scrape the bottom of the barrel attempting to write a column, then nice people like the Hiatt's come along and do it for him. Next time we want to get away from it all—this couple has a job—RRF.

HEART-MASSAGE SAVES BOY  
CHICAGO — Hand massage of the heart of a 4-day old baby boy was credited with saving the child's life. The baby's heart stopped beating while he was undergoing an operation for a diaphragmatic hernia. Surgeons immediately made an incision in the baby's breast and began massaging the heart by hand.

A heart beat, detected within a minute, returned to normal within two minutes. No brain injury because of the stopped heart has been noted in the child, now seven months old.

A Classified Ad in The Jour-



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