

# EDITORIALS

## Furse's Fresh Flashes

### LIFE SPAN RISES

A major life insurance company recently reported that the average American wage earner's life had increased by more than four years in the last decade. This finding is based on 1952 figures for industrial policy holders.

The average length of life for the American wage earner is now sixty-eight and one-half years. If the rate increase continues, by 1962 the average wage earner's life span will be over seventy-two years.

When considering this figure as an average, one can easily see the progress being made in this direction. Despite a record motor vehicle toll in 1952, the death rate among wage earners last year was near the all-time low recorded in 1950. The death rate for every one of the major chronic diseases of middle and later life declined. This is especially encouraging and includes such diseases as heart, artery and kidney diseases, in addition to cancer and diabetes.

These figures cover the American wage earner. The increasing pace of a faster life, increased tension and other added tensions of modern-day life have not combined to offset the progress being made in the medical field. We wonder, however, if the mortality rate for executives and business managers, and especially editors, is not still rising. From all outward appearances, it would seem that the fast pace of modern life is causing a heavier toll in this class, although we will be glad to correct our assumption if figures prove otherwise.

In the meantime we suggest that all business men slow their pace, and extend their lives along with the wage earners.

### SAFETY AND GROWING UP

One of the hardest facts that parents have to face is the realization that sooner or later their children will become independent and venture into traffic alone. It is also a fact that most of us dislike to admit that our own youngsters might be among those whose indifference to the simplest precautionary measures make the most only a hazard to themselves but a downright threat to those driving cars on our streets.

It is certainly true that learning how to walk and play safely is mighty essential these days as a part of a child's normal growing up process.

The safety departments urge parents to impress the following rules on their children: 1. Remember always that streets are for cars—and not for scooters, tricycles, roller skates or play. 2. Cross the street at the corner only, and wherever possible at a corner with a traffic signal light or traffic officer on duty. Look both ways, then for turning traffic, and cross only when the way is clear. 3. Never forget that bicycles are subject to the same rules and regulations that govern automobiles. This includes careful observance of signs and signals.

### GIFT FOR RED CHINA

Prime Minister Nehru of India is presenting Premier Chou En-lai with a fifteen-year old elephant as a gift from India's children to the children of China. The elephant was aboard a Hong Kong to Peiping boat at the last report.

Named Asha, the elephant will have been on the seas about twenty days when she reaches her destination. The interesting part of the transportation problem was what food and how much, would be carried on board the ship for the elephant.

The elephant-keeper finally settled on the following figures: 1,600 pounds of grass and leaves; 800 pounds of hay and straw, 800 sugar-cane stalks, and a con-

A taxpayer is a government worker with no sick leave, no vacations, no holidays, and no accumulated time off.

A local woman says she's going to give a party just for the utter enjoyment of not inviting someone.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says if some girls try to get a husband with all the attributes they admire, they'll have to marry a committee.

One of the benefits of the large turn over in government key officials is that it will bring down the price of after-dinner speakers to a more reasonable level.

A Plattsmouth man says he always sees eye to eye with his wife. He probably means that since his marriage his vision has been corrected.

Some accidents are classified unavoidable for the simple reason that a damn fool can't help driving that way.

Which reminds us of a good slogan for drivers who drink: Jug not that ye be not jugged.

This spring weather we're having is just like a baby—one minute it's dry and the next minute it's wet.

considerable amount of water. Assuming that this was enough food for Asha during the voyage, we are inclined to wonder whether she got sea-sick on the trip. And if Asha knew where she was going, we are sure that wouldn't help matters any.

## Down Memory Lane

### 10 YEARS AGO

Miss Dorothy Seimers, daughter of Mrs. Anna Seimers of Otoe, became the bride of Lorenz Meyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Meyer of Otoe on April 14. The couple will reside in Plattsmouth. . . Pfc. Ferdinand Detlef, son of Mrs. Amelia Detlef, has completed an intensive course in aviation mechanics. . . A hog shed on the Glen Todd farm near Murray was destroyed by fire. . . Four Murdock boys, Carl Weber, Bobby Race, Buddy Race and Donald Race were trapped in a box car which they were exploring at Murdock. . . Plattsmouth City Council has passed an ordinance providing for issuing \$221,000 in bonds to purchase the water department. . . Carl A. Marshall was among 500 University of Nebraska students honored for high scholarship. . . Mrs. F. R. Gobelman has been selected president of the Plattsmouth Woman's Club.

### 20 YEARS AGO

Vernon Boetel, two-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Boetel was severely burned when he fell backward into a tub of hot water. . . Stuart Porter placed second in the invitational track meet at Tarkio. In dramatics, George Adam, William Wetenkamp and Greth Garnett were among the top contestants. Mary Swatek, Gertrude Vallery, Louise Rummel, Florence Schutz, Loa Davis, Elinore Smetana and Marie Meisinger are practicing teaching in rural schools. . . Sparks from the Nebraska Basket Factory falling on the roof of an adjacent building, caused minor fire damage this morning. . . An oil truck and its contents, registered to C. E. Morris of Union, was stolen. . . Maynard McCleary has been elected captain of the high school basketball team.

## The Washington Merry-Go-Round

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W PEARSON SAYS: SECRETARY DULLES HAD SOME DIFFERENCES REGARDING EISENHOWER SPEECH; BUREAU OF STANDARDS RUCKUS MAY CRIPPLE VITAL DEFENSE WORK; DIPLOMATIC GRAPEVINE REPORTS MALENKOV DEPOSED.

WASHINGTON—It's significant that the "big speech" delivered by President Eisenhower last week was prepared and launched while Secretary of State Dulles, the alleged chief architect of American foreign policy was out of town.

It's also significant that there was some difference of opinion between the man who supposedly guides foreign affairs and a White House adviser who has become extremely close to Ike—C. D. Jackson, former publisher of Fortune magazine.

At first Dulles didn't entirely like the idea of the speech. Jackson pushed it hard. And it's barely possible that the speech might not have been delivered had it not been for the much-publicized Dulles press honor which the president of the United States officially denied.

This included the background statements on Korean peace terms and on Formosa which Dulles dropped at a gathering of newsmen, and which quickly rever-

## Ticklers

By George



"There goes Gillis the inventor! They say his head is chock-full of ideas!"

berated around the globe. Prior to this, Dulles had intimated to Jackson that he should keep his nose out of state department business. After the Dulles flub, however, Jackson had the upper hand.

Dulles' skepticism regarding the speech was based on the reasoning that senators wouldn't like it, that it too closely patterned the "milk for every hot-tentot" idea of Henry Wallace, and that the United States needed to take a more cautious approach.

Jackson, on the other hand, argued that the United States couldn't play second fiddle to the Russians regarding world peace, that we must either grasp the present opportunity to lead the world, or quit kidding ourselves about world leadership.

Dangerous Hair Pulling: One of the most important and secret weapons of the defense department may get sabotaged as the result of the hair-pulling contest over the bureau of standards.

Secretary of Commerce Sinclair Weeks, who fired Dr. Allen Astin, director of the bureau, is played at the defense department because it has been referring work to the bureau which Weeks thinks should be done by private enterprise.

But the defense department, in turn, is worried over the fact that some of its most delicate experiments would be crippled if some 200 bureau scientists resign in protest over unfair political accusations.

How strongly the defense department feels about the matter is illustrated by a secret warning to Secretary of Defense Wilson by the research and development board. This is the organization which has charge of new inventions for the army and navy. Reporting to Wilson on the proximity-fuse studies of the bureau of standards, the research and development board said:

"This closely knit program cannot be disturbed without major disruption in the national defense program. If dissolved, years would be needed for its re-establishment."

It so happens that the proximity fuse, so essential to guided missiles, was developed in the bureau of standards during the war under Dr. Astin, the man now being fired.

Furthermore, it's an ironical fact that Dr. Astin's work once had a great deal to do with saving General Eisenhower's military position in the latter stages of the war.

When the Germans broke through the Allied line at Ardennes and pushed us back in the tragic battle of the bulge, Eisenhower's military prestige hung in the balance. It was at this moment that tons of proximity fuses were flown to Europe and used against the advancing Germans. It was their first use in the European ground war, and they had a lot to do with turning back the German advance.

Now, the man who developed the proximity fuse is being fired, though he happens to be a Republican, and was first appointed under a Republican administration. Hitherto politics has played no part in the delicate scientific experiments of the bureau of standards.

Note—To date, Dr. Astin has had six attractive offers to go into private industry, in each case the proposed salary offered him being about double the \$13,800 he has been getting from the government.

Mystery of Malenkov The diplomatic grapevine is buzzing with the electrifying report that Stalin's heir, Premier Malenkov, has already been deposed. Speculations is that he'll continue to serve as figurehead premier until the new bosses are entrenched, then he might follow the precedent set by Lenin's heir, Premier Rykov, who was shot as an enemy of the people in 1924 on Stalin's orders.

This bootleg report, smuggled out from behind the grim, gray walls of the Kremlin, seems to get some substantiation from the following events:

1. The startling release of the nine doctors who had been accused of poisoning Andrei Zhdanov. Pravda has attacked the former state security minister, Semyon Ignatiev, for political blindness in pressing the "false charges." Yet Ignatiev was known to be a Malenkov man, was just elevated by Malenkov to the "five-man secretariat of the Communist party's central committee. Instead of resting comfortably on Malenkov's coattails, however, Ignatiev was suddenly put in the doghouse.

2. Malenkov's announcement that he was "voluntarily" giving up the post of Communist party secretary. This post, which is the source of Stalin's massive power, the key to controlling the iron-disciplined, hard-core Communist organization. Viewed in this light, Malenkov's announcement was tantamount to abdication.

## LETTER BOX

The Journal welcomes letters from readers for this column on any subject. Your name must be signed to all articles. Intended for publication, however, by request, I can be omitted from the letter appearing in print. (Content of letters necessarily express the opinions of this newspaper.)

April 14, 1953

Dear Sir: Just a few lines to let you know I am leaving this command and am coming home for discharge. I leave here May 2. I would appreciate it if you would stop sending the Journal until I get settled and then I will have you start sending it to me again.

I think a great deal of your paper and am always looking forward to receiving it. I have enjoyed my tour of duty here in Omaha very much but am anxious to get home again. Will get on by and see you when I get home.

Sincerely,  
LeRoy P. Hill

May 15, 1953

(Explained Below)  
Editor Plattsmouth Journal

Dear Sir:

It just came to my mind this morning that my subscription expired today. They say that life begins at eighty but I am afraid that memory is not always renovated with that so called life. But after over 76 years of life in Nebraska and more elsewhere, the Journal is one of the bright spots in our old age.

Thank you for an over-all picture of Cass county twice a week, and even if we have gone on, there will be others coming on who will enjoy your newsy paper.

Heck man. Talk about memory after all my effort. I looked at the address of my last paper and found that the 15th was right but the month was May instead of April. For cats sake don't drop dead because some one paid a month in advance of date. Maybe a little money will buy some patches for those winter pants, that judging from the weather this morning, you will need for sometime yet.

As for me, thank the Lord, old age and a gas furnace. I can stay inside till my air conditioned clothing will be in order.

O. C. Zink,  
Lincoln

## Defense Bond Sales Higher in Cass County

Total sales of Defense Bonds in Cass County for the Month of March were \$118,838.75. It was announced today by Walter H. Smith, Chairman of the Bond Committee for the County.

At the same time, Wade R. Martin, chairman of the State Advisory Committee, announced that total sales in the State for the month were \$9,098,568.89.

"Perhaps the most significant fact in the report for the past month," Mr. Martin said, "is the fact that sales to individuals account for a large part of the total. Such sales were 41.4% higher than for March a year ago."

Mr. Martin also announced

formation from inside the Kremlin is that an uneasy alliance exists among the top bosses, that the powers have been evenly divided. Only time will tell who will get stabled in the back and who will come out on top of the heap.

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PAGE FOUR  
Monday, April 20, 1953

that for the first quarter of 1953, Defense Bond sales nationally were 22% higher than a year ago, while in Nebraska sales increased 33% over the same period last year. "Such a record certainly speaks well for the judgment and thrift of Nebraska people," Mr. Martin concluded.

Bowman WD 2-19-53, S 60 L 5 & 6, B. 10, Plattsmouth, \$1000.00  
Wm. F. Peterson & Edna D. Chester A. Sporer & Helen M., WD 4-3-53, L. 16 & 17, B. 4, Murray, \$1800.00  
Stella Nichols to Earl Nichols, WD 9-15-52, L. W 1/2 NW 1/4 12-10, \$1.00.

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