

EDITORIALS

ON DUMB WOMEN

Viscountess Astor, Virginia-born lady, who often makes the headlines with her quips, recently spoke out on women, 1953-version. The first woman to sit in the British Parliament blasted her own sex in a speech before an organization which has long pressed for women's rights.

Viscountess Astor says: "Women today take everything for granted," and that they "have a dumbness about them because they do not know why we got the vote." She also said that women seem to get dumber and dumber.

Lady Astor is obviously bitter at the members of her own sex, all the reasons for which we do not pretend to know. However, it seems to us that she is off the track on the issue of woman's mentality. Instead of getting dumber and dumber, all the evidence seems to indicate that women are making progress in every major field and that they are more capable and more intelligent than ever before.

And as for the dumbness—because they do not know why they got the vote—that charge is a legitimate one concerning many members of the opposite sex. So we cannot agree with Lady Astor, especially when she says glamorous women make her sick.

Obviously, some fellow members of her own sex have ruffled the feathers of the British M. P.

HORSE-RACING AND BASEBALL

It was recently revealed that horseracing has been attracting more and more spectators and that it is probably going to draw more spectators this year than baseball. The report prompted some to conclude that horse-racing is fast becoming a national pastime.

While Derby month is no time to belittle such a claim, it appears to us that the wagering factor in horse-racing is partly responsible for the huge crowds. Those who like to wager money on the outcome of a sport cannot do so at a baseball park. They go to the track, where the windows are opened before each race and where the men and women behind them are glad to accept their bets.

Perhaps the greatest single factor in the development of baseball is the way the sport has been kept clean and out of the hands of gamblers. With few exceptions, baseball and gambling have remained at arms length. The fan in a baseball park is there to watch the players perform. Although there is no way of knowing how many baseball fans bet on their favorites, it is a safe assumption that the great majority in each park are merely spectators.

The sport of kings would draw even more racing fans were the laws against betting repealed in many of the states. Aside from that, neither baseball nor horse-racing draws the most spectators. It is not generally known but basketball outranks them both.

RECORD TAX HAUL

The Internal Revenue Bureau recently reported that it had collected \$58,500,000 in all forms of taxation in 1952. That is about twelve and a half billion dollars more than was collected in 1951.

The largest single source of revenue was produced by Federal individual income and employment tax collections. They rose about twenty per cent over 1951, and totaled \$35,995,895,681. Next in line came taxes from corporations, which increased thirty-four per cent over 1951, and totaled last year \$22,139,733,198.

Aside from income taxes, the largest single tax source was cigarettes, which pro-

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Men never wish ardently for what they only wish for from reason.

—La Rochefoucauld

The Plattsmouth Journal

Official County and City Paper

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Published Semi-Weekly, Mondays and Thursdays, at 410 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Cass County, Neb.

Three Times Winner Ak-Sar-Ben Plaques for "OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE" 1949 - 1951 - 1952

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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.

Furse's Fresh Flashes

A psychologist is a fellow who uses \$2 words to explain a failure caused by laziness.

It is the love of other people's money that is the root of all evil.

We are fast approaching that season when the wife can put anything on a lettuce leaf and call it a salad.

About the only thing that can cure you of arguing with your wife is arguing with your wife.

A local man says it's a relief to be cured of his insomnia. Says he lays awake half the night now thinking how he used to worry about it.

They arrested a guy out on the golf links here Sunday—he was driving while intoxicated.

Sometimes it would be a good idea for people who listen to public speakers to get up and talk back.

Hard work never killed a man, but the country is full of cripples who were injured trying to dodge it.

duced \$1,579,599,382. That was over \$200,000, more than cigarettes produced in 1951.

The biggest tax-paying states remained unchanged and are New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Michigan and California.

There is a possibility that 1952 taxes will remain a record tax haul since some taxes are scheduled to be reduced in July of this year. Certainly there will be no \$12,500,000,000 increase in taxes this year, if any increase at all, as was recorded in 1952 over 1951.

Down Memory Lane

10 YEARS AGO

Fred Vincent, chief air raid warden here, has announced that an air raid warden class will be organized here for training. Mr. and Mrs. Roy O. Cole celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary at their home Sunday. Martha Gorder, daughter of Mrs. Etta Gorder has been commissioned a lieutenant in the WAAC. The Fred H. Sharpnack family has moved to Cleveland, Ohio. Glen Parker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Noah Parker, is recovering following an attack on his person by a swarm of bees. Miss Hazel I. Kelley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. F. Kelley, and Lt. Stuart J. Sedlak, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Sedlak of Plattsmouth were married May 18th. Oscar James Sandin will graduate as bandmaster from the U. S. Navy School of Music.

20 YEARS AGO

Vern Hutchison has been elected worthy president of Aerie No. 365, Fraternal Order of Eagles at Plattsmouth. H. L. Thomas was named vice president. Charter member James Rebal was elected treasurer. Unemployment is on the decline in Cass county. Full employment at BREX, reopening of a crushed stone company at Weeping Water, and increased employment at Norfolk Packing Company mark the decline. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Blunt are the parents of a son born May 11. Dr. G. H. Gilmore led an archaeology party on a search south of Murray where they uncovered many relics of early homes in the area. Miss Ann Sanders and Miss Helen Smetana were hostesses at a shower honoring Mrs. Lawrence Storch, the former Dora Sonnenschen.

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

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DREW PEARSON SAYS:

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION DEFEATED BY GRAIN DEALERS ON QUESTION OF GRAIN INSPECTION; CLEANUP OF RAT-INFESTED WHEAT HALTS UNDER PRESSURE; TORNADO DESTRUCTION SIMILAR TO BOMB EXPLOSION.

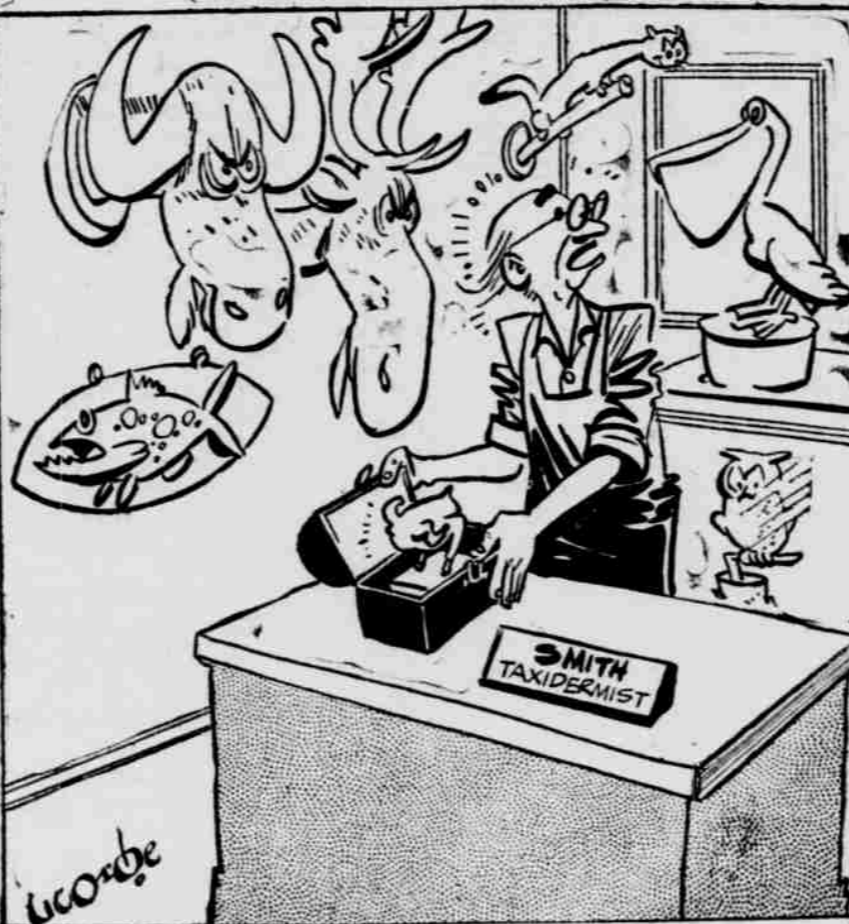
WASHINGTON — One of the most amazing backtracks of the Eisenhower administration took place very quietly a few days ago when it reversed a program for keeping rat droppings and weevil waste out of wheat and other grain sold to the American housewife.

The rat-cleanup program had begun last fall, Oct. 15, 1952, under the Democrats, and on April 6 was widened by the food and drug administration under the Republicans. It was then extended to weevil-infested grain.

However, one of the first official acts of Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby after she became a full-fledged member of the Eisenhower cabinet was to suspend this grain-cleanup program by an order issued May 1. The food and drug administration is under her. Simultaneously Secretary of

Ticklers

By George



"Okay you guys, which one of you jokers mounted my lunch?"

Agriculture Benson, who was co-operating in the grain cleanup, also dropped the program.

The sudden reversal came after 45 carloads of wheat had been seized for having an excess of rat droppings. It also came after the program was vigorously opposed by big grain dealers, with several of them protesting direct to the White House.

Pressure against the cleanup program was also exerted by Sen. Andrew Schoepel of Kansas, who in turn was pressured by Walter Scott of the Kansas City Commodity Exchange. Kansas City grain dealers went so far as to threaten that they could not handle the southwest grain now stored in farm bins if the government persisted in its new program. They advocated a voluntary cleanup by the grain industry instead.

The government's grain cleanup actually had got under way with the encouragement of many millers and all the bakers. With their cooperation, the food and drug administration last fall set standards whereby grain containing more than one rat dropping per pint of grain was condemned for human consumption but classified as O. K. for animal consumption. Likewise grain containing more than 20 surface weevils or other insects, dead or alive, per 1,000 grams of grain would be declared unfit for human consumption, but could be used for animal food.

The grain trade objected to this partly on the ground that it set up two standards for grain: That for human consumption and that for animals. Grain dealers also claimed that their own voluntary cleanup program was sufficient.

However, Food and Drug Commissioner Charles Crawford and his assistant, George Larrick, went ahead with the cleanup program. Immediately there arose an angry demand from the grain lobby that they and two assistants, John L. Harvey and M. R. Stephens, be fired. For a time Mrs. Hobby was on the verge of doing so.

Then, as the scandal over firing Dr. Allen Astin of the bureau of standards got hot, advisers cautioned that the Eisenhower administration couldn't afford another firing scandal, and Mrs. Hobby decided to let them remain.

Government Has Weevils Too
Thereafter, pressure was brought on the agriculture department and on the White House direct. The Commodity Credit Corporation, the arm of the agriculture department which stores grain under the price-support program, was warned that some of its own grain would be declared unfit for human consumption. Under the new inspection program, Secretary Benson was told by grain dealers that about \$25,000,000 worth of government grain would be declared weevil-infested.

A meeting held at the department of agriculture, attended by some of the biggest grain men in the country, also dropped veiled threats that they wouldn't store the bumper crop expected this summer which the government must handle for farmers.

Simultaneously, the senate agriculture committee under the prodding of GOP Senator Young of North Dakota hauled up George Larrick, food and drug deputy commissioner, gave him a stiff senatorial third degree. Testifying against him was William F. Brooks, executive secretary of the National Grain Trade Council.

Finally, Mrs. Hobby and Secretary Benson tossed in the towel. They issued joint statements abandoning federally inspected grain, said they were going back to the old system of "voluntary cooperation" to prevent grain contamination.

Freak Tornadoes
The weather bureau, which predicts the weather but does not make it, has no pat explanation for the record number of tornadoes sweeping across the south this year—except this: "How can we land on the ground without getting below a thousand feet?" snorted one pilot. As a result, both scheduled and nonscheduled airlines, aircraft manufacturers and labor unions, private plane owners and airport managers forgot their internal bickering and chipped in to counteract public indignation.

Legislative SIDELIGHTS..

by BERNIE CAMP
Information Director
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Price Support Plans
In a previous column, it has been pointed out that farm price support plans have been so much emphasized that the average consumer and taxpayer, and probably the majority of farmers, has gained the idea that the right price support program will solve all farm problems. Also pointed out has been the fact that a most every farm organization and commodity group and many individuals each has its or his own pet farm price support plan which is supposed to solve the ills of agriculture.

In general, price support plans fall into variations of the following major proposals:
Two-price systems which contemplate setting up one price for domestic sales and another price for export sales. Some of these two-price systems involve the government to a comparatively minor role.

Domestic allotment plans are set up to give each producer an allotment of the total market, for particular commodities or for a group of commodities. This allotment is based upon cropping history and entitled the holder to sell his quota in a supported market. Such quotas or allotments tend to attach to the land and freeze patterns of production.

Export-Import tie-in plans which have never been clearly worked out supposedly would set up certificates for importers of American farm products which could be used to pay import duties on products they sent to the United States. In effect, such certificates would operate as subsidies on exported American farm products or import subsidies on products imported to the United States.

Production payment plans involve letting the whole supply of a crop move into the free market to sell at what price it will bring, with the government paying the individual farmer the difference between the market price and the support price. Such a plan would probably entail complicated administrative machinery and setting up a system of policing government payments so as to avoid fraud and misrepresentation.

Price support plans are generally considered as being of two types: (1) flexible supports in which the support price varies with supply and demand; and (2) high fixed supports which become rigidly fixed guarantees of price for farm commodities. Both types of price support are more or less based upon support given to crop prices through government purchases on non-recourse loans, both of which have the undesirable feature of causing government owned surpluses which, short of war, do not find a ready market, except at great loss to the government. The higher the price support and the more rigidly fixed it is the more necessary it becomes to set up controls on production and marketing to prevent the government becoming swamped with stored farm commodities.

The late McNary-Haugen bill of the late 1920s was based upon a two-price system which would set up elaborate purchase and sale price support machinery, with an Equalization Board which would contract with private and cooperative agencies to

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carry out the basic operation. This sort of plan operated by providing for collection of a "surplus disposal fee" the funds of which were used for the purchase and disposal of surpluses at a loss in which amounted to a system of pro-rating the net loss back to individual farmers.

The National Grange has at the present time under consideration a modernized two-price system which would set up a system of certificates to pro-rate surplus costs in the agricultural system. The proposed program considered by the Grange is labeled a "self-financing" two-price system of farm price support. The plan contemplates relatively little governmental "cooperation." (The plan will be explained at a greater length in a coming column.)

The recent highly controversial Brannan Plan was a production payment plan in which the crop would have been permitted to move to market with the government making up the difference between the selling price and the parity price which would provide equality with the rest of the economy. The Brannan Plan also contemplated, however, certain controls or limitation on the amount of commodities for which government payments could be made.

The plan set up a total of approximately 1800 units to which each farm was entitled.

Fertilizer Gives High Grain Yield On Poor Land
Corn yields up to 100 bushels per acre are possible on land formerly thought too poor to grow corn, when crop is fertilized on the basis of soil tests.

Dr. M. D. Weldon, extension soils specialist at the University of Nebraska says that in reports given by the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee, corn yields averaged 92.3 bushels per acre over a six year period in 208 Missouri tests when nitrogen, phosphate and potash fertilizers were added according to the soil needs.

This was an increase of 35.4 bushels above the 56.9 bushel average obtained on unfertilized or inadequately treated fields.

The tests were conducted on a wide variety of soils in various sections of Missouri. In some years, yields went over the 100 bushel mark in some tests.

G. E. Smith, agronomist in charge of the tests, said: "Well fertilized corn had from five to 15 per cent at harvest than corn not fertilized. Apparently the increased fertility improved germination, emergence of the seedling, survival of the corn plant, more rapid growth of the tillered corn probably resulted in less destruction of it by cultivation."

Dr. Weldon says that adequate fertilization, the levels of soil fertility in soil types become of importance. In the Missouri tests containing less plant nitrogen yielded nearly as high as in sections where soils higher in nitrogen and matter content and had producing superior crop yields.

PRESIDENTIAL TOUR
President Eisenhower tentatively scheduled to make speeches away from Washington from June 10 through 14. On June 10, he is to arrive in Minneapolis, June 11 in Rapid City, S. D.; June 12 in Rapid City, S. D.; June 13 in Rapid City, S. D.; June 14 in Oysterville (Long Island) N. Y.

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