

# EDITORIALS

## Furse's Fresh Flashes

**AERIAL REFUELLING BY NIGHT**  
The Air Force announced recently that the problem of refuelling jet planes in the air at night has been solved. This announcement comes only a short time after the announcement of the development of the daylight aerial refuelling system, which was first developed by the U. S. Air Force.

Turner Air Force Base, in Albany, Ga., recently reported 15 E-48 Thunderjets had completed an after-dark refuelling mission without mishap. While it was not the first such mission to be completed, it was a test mission designed to determine the feasibility of night refuelling on a large scale.

The fifteen Thunderjets of the 307th Squadron, 31st Strategic Fighter Wing, took off from Albany and flew to Luke Air Force Base in Arizona. During the return flight, they were met by a KC-97 tanker plane, which carried enough fuel to service the 15 Thunderjets.

The successful conclusion of this technique overcomes one of the last of the obstacles in the way of aerial refuelling, a process which may revolutionize aerial warfare tactics. It has been thought for some time that night refuelling would be an especially tricky operation and that some time might be required to overcome this barrier.

## COLD WEATHER AHEAD?

Miss Eunice Merton, of West Richfield, Ohio, says the coming winter will be one of the hardest on record. Miss Merton predicts the weather by watching bugs, bushes, animals and other natural phenomena.

Relying on the indications and clues, given by these various phenomena, she comes to a conclusion, which she feels is as accurate as those of trained weather observers.

Recently there have been many signs to indicate a cold winter ahead, she says. Among the mare the heavy coats grown by animals, the high level at which hornets have hung their nests—to keep them free from high snow drifts. Another sign, according to Miss Merton is a great hole in the Milky Way, which is letting cold air in from outer space. As a result, this weather prognosticator says the coming winter will be very severe, and you can make your plans accordingly.

## 1953 SURGERY: INCA-STYLE

Reports from Lima, Peru, state that two Peruvian surgeons recently performed a successful brain operation using instruments made by the Incas, 2,000 years ago. The surgeons, Francisco Grana Reyes and Estaban Rocca, are reported to have decided some time ago to try out the Inca technique.

A phase of the operation was the use by the surgeons of a tourniquet which applied to the patient's head had almost completely stopped the flow of blood, with no ill effect. Usually, in brain operations, the flow of blood is profuse.

The Peruvian surgeons are not the first to try an operation with Inca tools, but it is the most successful yet performed in modern times, as far as is known. For sometime the two doctors had studied hundreds of ancient skulls, many of which are found at Caracas, on the coast of Peru. In this town it is believed the Incas had either a major surgical center or a school of surgery, since so many instruments and so many skulls have been discovered there.

Some of the skulls show the effects of operations which removed parts of the skull several inches in length or width. In modern surgery the removal of large parts of the skull is considered an extremely dangerous operation and often results in death to the patient.

## THOUGHT FOR TODAY

*You praise the townsman's, I the rustic State; admiring others' lots, our own we hate.*  
—Horace

## The Plattsmouth Journal Official County and City Paper

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In the good old days, big spenders spent their own cash, not the peoples.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says the average American girl needs no defense—she can take care of herself.

Honesty is more often a policy than a principle.

It is interesting, sometimes, to hear a man speak frankly about his own excellence.

Planning to make money and getting it into the bank account are two very different undertakings, we have found.

Legislation is not the cure for every economic and social ill — Jail sentences would help more, one of our priceless citizens observes.

## Down Memory Lane

### 10 YEARS AGO

Ladies articles of apparel were taken in an early morning break in at Ladies Toggery here this morning. Fred P. Busch discovered the theft. . . Stockholders of the Alvo, Nehawka, Greenwood and Otoe county National Farm Loan associations have approved merger of the units. The group will be known as the Cass-Otoe Farm Loan Association. Announcement was made by Orest P. Cook, president. Other officers are H. L. Bornemeier of Alvo, vice president; C. W. Martin of Greenwood, Roy O. Cole of Plattsmouth, directors. . . Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Smalley announce the marriage of their son, Theodore, to Miss Wanda Johns at Portland, Ore. . . Richard Petring, formerly of Plattsmouth, has been commissioned an ensign in the United States Navy.

### 20 YEARS AGO

Rev. G. A. Pahl has been installed as minister of St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed church at Plattsmouth. . . A one-ton truck stolen from Mullen & Sons meat market was recovered on the old ferry road southeast of the city. . . Jolly Workers Club was organized here with Mrs. Helen Meisinger president. Other officers are Mrs. Ed Tritsch, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Louise Vallery and Mrs. Emma Kaffenberger, project leaders; Mrs. Pearl Meisinger, social leader; and Mrs. Marie Rummel, reporter. . . Elmwood and Plattsmouth Reserves battles to a scoreless tie here. . . Mrs. Howard Capwell of Elmwood has been named president of the Cass County association of Nebraska Council of Christian Education. Martin Bornemeier of Murdock is vice president; and Mrs. Bernice Marquardt of Avoca is secretary.

## The Washington Merry-Go-Round

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**DREW PEARSON SAYS:**  
DROUGHT-STRICKEN FARMERS BOIL POLITICALLY; ELECTRICITY CUT OFF BY POVERTY-RIDDEN FARMERS; BENSON CONSIDERED TOO DELIBERATE.

(Editor's Note—Drew Pearson continues today his series of columns on the farm situation and the economic hardships the farm belt is suffering.)

WASHINGTON — Down in southwest Missouri the other day, an Ozark farmer, looking out at his parched fields, summed up drought and politics this way:

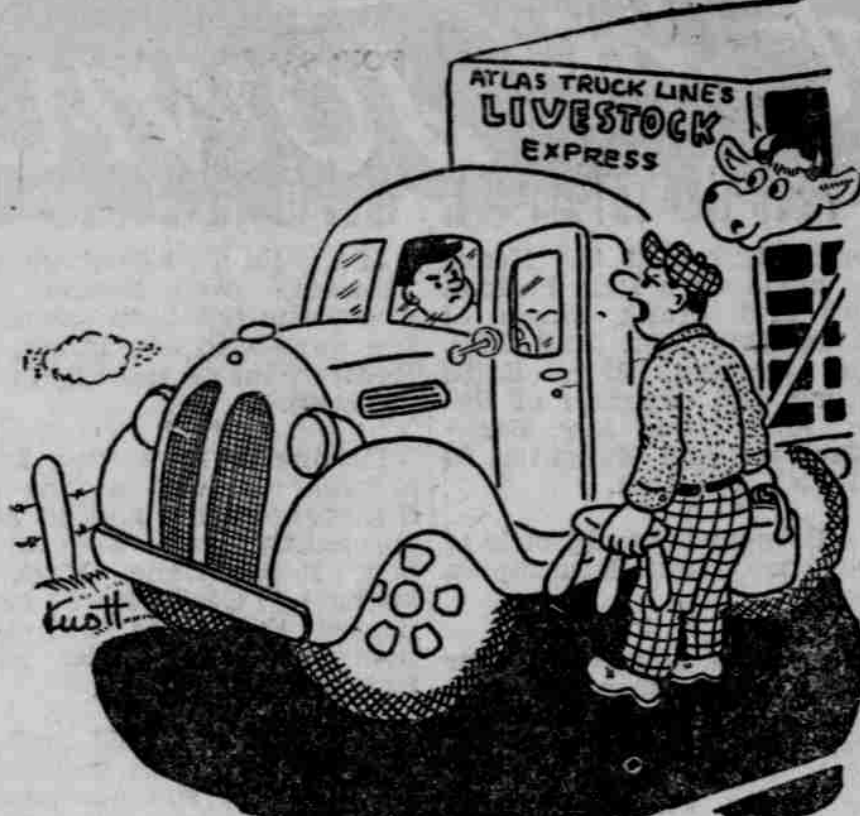
"I remember the drought we had back in 1930 when Herbert Hoover was president. It was so dry here and down in Arkansas that the tree toads hardly stayed alive. And Senator Thad Caraway began hollering about it even louder than the tree toads. They was too weak to holler much. Despite the hollering, President Hoover wouldn't do anything. He sat and thought. And the louder the senators hollered the more he sat and thought.

"That drought was the beginning of Mr. Hoover's trouble. The farmers just didn't forget how he sat in the White House and did nothing when their farms were being sold at auction. And I don't think they'll forget a couple of years from now either."

This opinion is probably a little stronger than that of the average farmer—but not much. And when 17 per cent of the farmers using REA electricity in Howell County, Missouri, have their meters taken out because they can't pay their bills; and when 100 families move out of Taney County; and when dairymen are selling half their herds to keep the other half alive, you can understand why they are bitter.

They are not particularly bitter against President Eisenhower. They feel that, as a soldier, he doesn't understand these problems, that he has a right to delegate farm decisions to others. However, they do feel bitter at his secretary of agriculture.

Much of this bitterness may be unjustified; nevertheless it is very real, very potent, and will be a very definite factor in the next election.



"COME ON, MILLER—IT'S MILKING TIME."

the U. S. department of agriculture initiated its emergency program was noted today by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson, announced his department on July 14. Yet prices had not increased.

Prompt action stabilized the cattle market, got beef into consumption, and has since resulted in an improved market," said Benson on Sept. 19. Yet, on Sept. 15, prices had already dropped to \$15.80, the lowest of all.

That is why southwest cattle farmers look at the burning sun and their parched fields and wonder which is worse — lack of rain or the perennial, unsupported, inaccurate optimism of a secretary of agriculture who believes that words rather than acts will cure farm depression.

Walter H. Smith, Chairman of the U. S. Savings Bond Committee in Cass county, announced today that sales of Savings Bonds for the first nine months of the year totaled \$684,858.75. This amount is 106% of the 1953 quota for the county.

At the same time it was announced by Leland R. Hall, State Director of the Savings Bond Division, that sales in Nebraska for the same period amounted to \$70,650,242.63.

"Nebraska has now reached 108.5% of its 1953 quota. This fine record was made possible through the efforts of hundreds of patriotic citizens of the state. Fifty-eight counties have exceeded their quota and it is possible that every one will be over the top before the year ends, although the drought will have some effect on bond sales," Hall said.

Nationally the Savings Bond Program has made marked improvement in 1953. September, 1953, was the best September since World War II. The first nine months of 1953 set the record for any corresponding period in the past seven years. Total sales for this period in Series "E" and "H" Bonds were \$3,290,169,000, or an increase of 23.7% above those of the corresponding nine months of last year.

Consumer credit increased \$217,000,000 in August to \$27,434,000,000, according to the Federal Reserve Board. The increase was about one-third less than the rise in consumer debt in the same month a year ago. The August increase was almost entirely in installment credit.

San Leandro, Cal. — While fighting a grass fire, William Wolters, 49, chief of the Alameda county fire patrol, brushed against a 4,000 volt power line. The shock threw the chief into the air. He fell and rolled down a hill. After treatment for shock, he took the rest of the day off.

JIM REEVES WAS TELLING ME SO MANY RELATIVES VISITED HIM ALL LAST SUMMER IT NEARLY DROVE HIM TO THE POORHOUSE!

HE HADN'T HAD ANY GUESTS THIS YEAR!

NO, HE WROTE 'ALL HIS RELATIVES AND PUT A STOP TO IT!

HERE'S MY SURPRISE, DEBBIE!

I HEARD YOU WHISTLE AT THAT LADY! HERE—GIVE HER YER OLE PRESENT!

THE WELL KNOWN WOLF WHISTLE!

OKAY, WISE GUY—TAKE IT EASY BOSS—TAKE IT EASY BOSS!

## Capitol News

LINCOLN—Just what action will be taken by the newly appointed State Advisory Highway Commission was a subject of discussion at the Statehouse this week.

Gov. Robert Crosby named the seven man group which was established by the 1953 Legislature to advise the State Highway Department. Although some people had wanted a board with actual executive powers, this proved impractical because of a constitutional requirement that executive officers live in Lincoln.

The seven men named are: Arthur L. Coad, Omaha banker, Democrat.

C. E. Metzger, Cedar Creek farmer and cattle feeder, Democrat.

Merle Kingsbury, Ponca attorney, Republican.

Arthur Albrecht, Deshler farmer, Democrat.

W. O. Collett, North Platte real estate broker, Republican.

Don Hanna, Valentine rancher, Republican.

Fred Attebery, Mitchell rancher, Republican.

Under the law Crosby had to pick at least three men from the opposite political party of the rest.

The governor call this a "well balanced" group. He said if there was any emphasis it was on agriculture since Nebraska is a farm state. Crosby remarked that he had consciously tried to stay away from people who had been involved in the various highway fights of recent years.

But what do the commissioners think?

Reporters who called by telephone learned that most of them were going into the task with open minds, anxious to "learn the ropes." Most seemed to think the State Highway Department could stand improvement.

Coad remarked, "That was the idea behind the Legislature establishing a commission, wasn't it?"

But Coad added that he didn't expect to upset the applicant but thought that the ideas of the commissioners could be of use to the department.

Old hands like ex-state senators Metzger and Hanna said they had the feeling of getting back into the thick of highway disputes again. Metzger commented, "This should take a lot of heat off the department. It will put it on us."

Although Albrecht remarked that he thought there was "a lot of spending that could be helped," the consensus of the new commissioners seemed to favor the present highway users taxes.

Metzger said, "They're absolutely necessary. You can't get good roads without money."

Collett said that he thought one advantage of the commission was that its members could give outside viewpoints to the highway engineer.

"We know more about the troubles and road problems around our home areas—especially the laterals and cross-country roads," Collett affirmed.

Metzger, however, made the point that too many people think just about their own roads. He said he thought the commission could bring a statewide approach to the problem.

"Already people are contacting me about the road close to their place. They just don't see the whole picture," said the former state senator.

**Health Board Starts**  
The new State Board of Health also got underway. Dr. J. E. M. Thompson of Lincoln was elected chairman and Dr. Joseph Burt, dean of the University of Nebraska College of Pharmacy, vice chairman. This group is an executive body and its members are all from Lincoln.

By the way, one of the constitutional amendments Nebraska voters will find on their ballots in 1954 will be a proposal to knock out the requirement that executive officers have to live in Lincoln.

## Ten Word INTELLIGRAM

Check correct word in these sentences:

1. The Black Death that killed thousands in England was a (German weapon) (an epidemic).
2. Puce is a (color) (tropical fruit).
3. Hong Kong belongs to (Communist China) (Great Britain) (French Indo-China).
4. A Saluki is an (Abyssinian prince) (a breed of dog).
5. A nautical mile is (longer) (shorter) than a statute or land mile.
6. Harriet Quimby is famed as (America's first woman pilot) (a suffragette leader).
7. Stotink is a (Finnish seaport) (Bulgarian coin).
8. A refectory is a (kind of mirror) (dining hall).
9. Tamarack is a (tree) (musical instrument).
10. Classification of animals and plants is called (taxonomy) (taxonomy).

Check your answers, scoring yourself 10 points for each correct choice. A score of 0-20 is poor; 30-60, average; 70-80, superior; 90-100, very superior.

- 1—Epidemic. 2—Color. 3—Great Britain. 4—Breed of dog. 5—Longer. 6—America's first woman pilot. 7—Bulgarian coin. 8—Dining hall. 9—Tree. 10—Taxonomy.

Decoded Intelligram

## Explosive Situation

The blow up of an ammunition truck on Dodge Street west of Omaha created a furore which reached Statehouse offices. Gov. Crosby said he was checking the situation to find out why the shells reportedly had their fuses in them. State Engineer L. M. Ross said he didn't see what the State Highway Department could do. He said laws regulating these trucks would have to be passed by the Legislature. Besides, most of them are engaged in interstate commerce and couldn't be prohibited by the state.

But it did raise an old issue in the State Railway Commission. The commission last December granted temporary permits for hauling explosives to Watson Brothers and Union Freightways truck firms. But somehow the board had never gotten around to making them permanent. This would require a public hearing.

That interstate-intrastate question is involved here also. These truck firms claim that they are engaged in interstate commerce because even though they haul the explosives between two points in Nebraska the ammunition is eventually headed for some place out of the state.

If the commission were to agree however, this might knock the Red Ball company out of the business. They have intrastate but not interstate authority to haul goods.

Watson Brothers and Union Freightways have also taken the matter to court along another route. They are protesting the commission's decision that Red Ball has a right to haul explosives under a "General Commodity" grant back in 1937. They contend this is changing the rules in the middle of the game.

Observers say there must be a lot of money in hauling explosives. Judging from the way these firms are battling over the privilege.

As to whether ammunition hauling can be taken off the highways, officials are doubtful. They point out that the Defense Department wants it this way. In fact, there was a bill before the Legislature to reduce the amount of explosives which could be hauled in any truckload. A group of officials came from Washington to argue against the bill and it was killed.

Indications are that even if someone tried to prohibit such hauling, the Defense Department would step in and order the block removed on grounds of jeopardizing the country's defense.

**Final Answer**  
What may be the final answer to the long dragged out school land

## MURRAY

Mrs. Dede Hiatt Correspondent

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Brubacher were week end guests at Creston in the home of their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kugler.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lancaster and Mrs. Harry Brickett made a call on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Royer after receiving word of the death of the Royer's daughter Jo Ann Royer, in an accident Mrs. Lancaster and Mrs. Brickett are cousins of the Royers.

Cass County's Greatest Newspaper — The Plattsmouth Journal

## Vic Vet says

VETS ARE YOU PLANNING TO ASK VA FOR DENTAL TREATMENT? REMEMBER THE DENTAL CONDITION MUST HAVE EXISTED AT TIME OF DISCHARGE OR BE ACQUIRING A SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY.



For full information contact your nearest VETERANS ADMINISTRATION office.