

EDITORIALS

Furse's Fresh Flashes

THE LAST LYNCHING LETTER

The Tuskegee Institute recently announced that, for the second straight year, there was no lynching in the United States in 1953. The Institute said it believed that lynching has now ceased to be a "barometer for measuring the status of race relations" in this country.

As a result of this conclusion, the Institute announces that it will abandon the "Lynching Letter" it has published for some forty-one years. Other reports and statements will be issued but the lynching letter seems to have gone to its resting place.

Certainly, there is no finer commentary on the condition of race relations in the South than this report, which should be given widespread circulation abroad. Though the problem of race relations are never solved in entirety and though there is, of course, progress still to be made, it is gratifying to know that mob violence as a means of solving this problem has practically come to an end.

To all those rabble-rousers, Communists, and otherwise, who would stir up anti-American sentiment abroad with exaggerated stories of race tension, the Tuskegee announcement must be a bombshell. The fact that mob lynchings are no longer occurring in the United States must be a great disappointment to Communist agitators in Asia, as well as in other countries.

Aside from this satisfaction, it is highly satisfying to know that the conscience of the people of this country has taken care of this problem as it should have been done. This latest example of progress in the field of race relations can only indicate further progress and heartening news from this field in the future.

COMIC BOOKS AND EDUCATION

From England comes word that Dr. Michael Lewis, director of Nottingham University's Institute of Education, has defended comics as an aid in teaching children to read and enlarging their vocabularies. Dr. Lewis told a teacher's conference group children who read comics are often encouraged to read other books by the adventurous strips.

Dr. Lewis said twenty per cent of the words in comic strips are new words to children and therefore, the strips are conducive to enlarged vocabularies. He said only six per cent of the words were slang or misspelled. Dr. Lewis also found modern children more intelligent than their predecessors and claimed that radio and television were encouraging children to read more about things they saw or heard through these media.

No doubt the country's children will be delighted by this report, although it must be noted that the sensational and degrading comic books, so often seen on the U. S. newsstands, are not as prevalent in Great Britain. Nevertheless, the words of the University professor are a defense of comics, which are firmly entrenched in American life, anyhow, and are encouraging to those who have felt that the effects of comics on children are detrimental.

THE LOCAL PAPER LEADS

In the comparatively recent past, the local newspaper was about the only place where merchants could advertise their wares. Since then, other important media have come into existence—notably the radio and television. But, the newspaper is still the dominant factor in the field by a wide margin.

A recent survey indicates that the typical department store allocates 80 per cent of its advertising dollar to newspapers, nine per cent to television, four per cent to radio, three percent to direct mail, and four per cent to other media.

The local newspaper offers the surest

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Honest error is to be pitied, not ridiculed. —Lord Chesterfield

The Plattsmouth Journal

Official County and City Paper

ESTABLISHED IN 1881 — Published Semi-Weekly, Mondays and Thursdays, at 416 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Cass County, Neb.
Three Times Winner Ak-Sar-Ben Plaques for "OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE" 1949 — 1951 — 1952
Presented Nebraska Press Association "GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD" (Second in 1951 — First in 1952 (16 Cities Over 2000 Population))

RONALD R. FURSE Publisher
HARRY J. CANE Editor
FRANK H. SMITH News Reporter
SOPHIA M. WOLEVER Society Editor



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.

Woman went into a drug store up the street here the other day for some face powder. "Mennen's?" asked the clerk. "No, Wimmen's," she replied. "Want it scented?" "No, I'll take it with me," she said.

Experience is what you have left after everything else is gone.

We never fully appreciated television until we found it could keep a woman from talking for at least two hours.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says her negative personality was developed in a dark room.

Think we'll start a TV matrimonial agency. That way, prospective love-birds could see what they were getting.

When a man gets too old to set a bad example, he begins to give out with advice.

A hospital is a place where people who are run down wind up.

Some very scientific chaps claim the inside of the world isn't as hot as claimed. In our unscientific and humble opinion, neither is the outside.

means of reaching the masses of the people — whether with a news story or an editorial opinion or an advertising message. And that's why merchants place it first when dividing up their advertising appropriation

Down Memory Lane

10 YEARS AGO

(Editor's Note—Memory Lane items for this issue of the Journal are again featuring items from ten years ago during World War II as recorded by the Cass County Echo, serviceman's newspaper of the war years.)

Cpl. Eugene Hamilton recently arrived overseas where he is an airplane mechanic in the Army Air Force. . . Lt. R. F. Hirz is now a company commander with the Treadway Bridge Company at Camp Gordon, Ga. He entered service two years ago this May and was graduated from the school of engineering with a second lieutenant's commission a year ago. . . Capt. A. E. Roland has been transferred to Maryland where he will attend officers intelligence school for a month. . . Valdis "Tex" Chovanec is in boot training at Farragut, Idaho. . . Charlotte Steinkamp, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Steinkamp, is a member of the United States Nurse Cadet Corps in training at Baton Rouge, La. . . Style-Craft Sportswear Company is coming to Plattsmouth and will start production here in the immediate future. Thirty-two women will be employed in the American Legion building where the company will manufacture robes. . . An anthem, written by Jean Knorr, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Knorr, is among those selected for presentation by a choir in New York City. She is a student at Union Theological Seminary in New York. . . L. A. Caldwell has been named Red Cross home service chairman for Cass county, succeeding Judge A. H. Duxbury.

The past year of 1953 was a busy one for the Sheriff's office. During the year 273 persons were detained or held in custody. From these persons, fines amounting to \$11,041.06 were assessed by the courts for their violations.

The main violations committed were drunken drivers 49, intoxications 53, burglaries admitted 23, speeders 19, check artists 13, reckless drivers 11, and sex offenders 10. Petty and grand larcenies admitted were 10.

The average daily count for the year of 1953 at the county jail was 4.

During 1953, the sheriff's office collected and turned over to the County Treasurer \$18,867.88 in delinquent taxes. Answering calls, collecting taxes, and conducting investigations required approximately 30,000 miles of travel in 1953.

There were 227 accidents reported in Cass County from Jan. 1 to Nov. 1. Out of these reported accidents were 8 fatalities and 131 injuries.

Violent and accidental deaths during the year of 1953, were very high. Total deaths from all causes were 23. Breaking this figure down we find that we had 4 drownings, 1 suicide, 8 auto fatalities, 1 train fatality, 3 gun fatalities, 1 death by fire, 1 by electrocution, 2 by farm machinery, 1 by wood alcohol and 1 by quarry accident.

During my seven years in office in Cass County, the number of violent and accidental deaths total 111 for the county. Total automobile accidents during the same period of time were 1,225, from which resulted 40 deaths and 80 injuries.

Crime in general was down in the county for 1953. The largest burglaries shifted from business establishments to farm homes. Check artists continued to reap the heaviest losses in the county among all crimes committed.

The rescuator is credited with saving three lives during 1953. Also, two eight-hour tanks of oxygen were consumed by persons requiring emergency oxygen.

Sheriff Bechtel of Perkins County reports that, on the night of Jan. 18, unknown persons

Be My Valentine!



Finally Benson pointed out that by stopping the butter sale, the administration would only lose money for the American taxpayers, since the butter would not keep indefinitely. While the butter would be sold a little cheaper than the U. S. support price even so, it was argued, this was better than a total loss. Benson Overruled

No one at the cabinet meeting disagreed with Benson on any of the points he raised. The only point where they differed was regarding the reaction of the American public. And almost every member of the cabinet who expressed himself said that to sell butter to Russia at a cheaper price than to the American housewife would create a nation-wide furor.

The support price for butter paid by the department of agriculture today is around 67 cents a pound. The world price for butter, offered by Russia, is around 46 cents a pound. This difference of 21 cents a pound, the cabinet finally decided, would bring a very sour reaction from American housewives.

However, the sale was not entirely killed—as Harold Stassen indicated later. And here is the strategy being discussed for the future.

By April 1, Secretary Benson has to make up his mind whether he will support dairy prices during the coming year. And according to present tentative thinking inside the administration, he will reduce support prices. Benson himself has been a great friend of the dairymen, but administration policies are to reduce farm prices somewhat and he will go along with that policy.

This will put the new price of butter nearer the Russian offer of 46 cents a pound, in which

case, it's argued, the Soviet sale would be more favorably received by the public. Actually the butter already accumulated, and which will be sold, will still be priced at 67 cents, but new butter purchased under the new price-support plan would be cheaper.

Security Officer Quits Guarding the United States is an extremely delicate, difficult job, and a lot of preparation went into the welcome of Turkish President Celal Bayar who has just arrived in Washington.

President Celal Bayar represents one of the best friends the United States has anywhere in Europe or Asia. Likewise he happens to be a stubborn foe of adjacent Soviet Russia, which has long coveted the famed waterway connecting the Black Sea with the outside world over which Turkey stands guard.

U. S. officials, therefore, are not unmindful of the fact that a secret Communist attempt on the Turkish president's life while visiting in the U. S. A. would be interpreted in Turkey as coming from an American and could seriously disrupt relations between the two countries. It was the Nazi-inspired murder of King Alexander of Yugoslavia, while visiting in France before the war, which disrupted Franco-Yugoslav relations and became one step in the march of events leading to war.

Chief job of guarding the life of the visiting president has been that of State Department Security Officer William Huskey, who planned the protection of the king and queen of Greece and various other dignitaries.

Huskey happens to be a Democrat. His new boss in the state department, Scott McLeod, happens to be not only a Republican

can but a close friend of Senator McCarthy, and has been busy as a street cleaner sweeping out every Democrat he could lay hands on.

McLeod, however, never knew what Huskey's politics were, until one day before the arrival of the Turkish president.

On that day Huskey quit. Ironically, he took a job with the Democratic national committee.

Note—State department higher-ups at first were in a furor over Huskey's departure. He finally showed them that plans for protecting the Turkish president had been so well prepared his resignation would not increase security risks.

U. S. officials heaved a sigh of relief as yesterday passed without President Syngman Rhee carrying out his threat to move South Korean troops north. January 27 was the deadline the hardheaded little leader of South Korea had set for his offensive.

Actually U. S. officials knew in advance that Rhee would not carry out his threat. They also know that Rhee now has in mind another troop movement which he probably will carry out. He has postponed his offensive for three months, until April 27, and at that time intends to send ROK troops north of the 38th parallel. However, he will halt them before they reach Communist defenses on the edge of the neutral zone.

There is one all-important reason why Rhee is willing to pull his punches, and it's the same reason why the United Nations is not likely to resume ground warfare in Korea ever again. If war is resumed it will be via the air and with atom bombs.

The reason is the steel-and-concrete "maginot line" which the Chinese have built across the Korean peninsula. No army could possibly storm it without devastating loss of life, and it's no secret that even the U. S. army has given up any thought of wasting lives on its labyrinth of underground defenses. Instead, if it ever becomes necessary, we will do what the Germans did with the French Maginot line and circumvent it.

Rhee, therefore, will march his troops up to the Communist Maginot line and then stop.

Note—As far as the U. N. is concerned, Allied intelligence does not expect any resumption of Korean fighting, possibly for intermittent local flare-ups along the battle line.

Legislative SIDELIGHTS

by BERNIE CAMP

Do You Know a Candidate? During 1954, Nebraska will participate in two elections—a primary and a general election. The primary election will be held in August and the general election in November.

While 1954 electionwise is an off-year, it is still important because all members of the U. S. House of Representatives and one-third of the U. S. Senators stand for election re-election. Nebraskans this year will pick and elect new members of Congress or reaffirm their faith in present members. Nebraskans will choose one U. S. Senator—the seat now held by Senator Dwight Griswold on a short-term basis.

At the state level, Nebraskans will pick a governor—either reaffirming their faith in Governor Robert Crosby, if he indicates a readiness to try again for the office; or choosing a successor to him. The names of state officials will be up to face the electorate; as will the 43 state legislators.

County Commissioners and Supervisors and other county officials will likewise face the voter as they do every two years.

No one seems to be worrying much now about what candidates try for which office in 1954, but it would appear to be a good time for citizens to cast about and compare the record of incumbents against what they think others might do.

If you as a citizen and voter know some individual you feel would make a good and desirable candidate for public office—national, state or local—it's a good time now to "talk him up." Discuss the possibility of this individual's candidacy with your friends. Find out if there are a number of people who agree with you that it is desirable to ask the individual to be a candidate. If you find there is support for your "choice," contact him and urge him to run for office; assure him that you will work for his success and tell him of others who know will work to get him into office.

Urging others who agree with you to contact him and tell him of their support.

Perhaps the incumbent in office is doing a satisfactory job. It still does no harm to let him know that you know he is doing what you consider a good job; and that you will support him if he runs again.



By Stanley James, Journal Washington Reporter

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 — The worldwide contest between the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which has at times involved open military operations, is slowly settling down to words and intrigue and infiltration.

The thought is becoming pretty general in both Washington and (reportedly) Moscow that the U. S. and the U.S.S.R. had better avoid further serious military clashes. The United States is not likely to limit its retaliation against aggression next time and therefore any new incident could mean a new world war.

The history of communist rule in Russia shows the Reds are in a surprising degree when the question is one of precipitating a major war. That is still their watchword. The Russians encouraged the North Korean attack on South Korea in 1950 because they thought: 1. The U. S. had written off South Korea as outside the strategic defense area of U. S. forces, and 2. They thought the United States would not interfere even though North Korea's attack was open aggression.

Those calculations proved wrong and they have made Russian leaders more cautious not less cautious. The Korean War was a costly one for the Reds. They lost a million soldiers which they could afford to lose, but they also lost tens of thousands of motor vehicles and other mechanical equipment, which they could not afford to lose.

Worst of all, they stirred the United States into mobilization and rearmament. Now, in 1954, that U. S. rearmament is about completed. Respecting strength as they do, and seeing what the United States did in South Korea even when not prepared to go into action, the Russians are less inclined to touch off incidents that might cause wars.

They are giving in slowly on some issues, such as the return of 186 naval vessels to the U. S., sent the Reds under lend-lease and they are showing some signs of turning their thinking to domestic affairs rather than international aggression. Premier Malenkov, for example, has shown more interest in improving living and working conditions for the oppressed and miserably-housed Russian people than has been evidenced by a Russian leader in twenty years.

Many Americans think he is acting to forestall serious unrest in his country. Whatever the reason or reasons, the United States and the USSR have their own domestic problems and both countries realize the other possesses considerable military strength and atomic bombs. The U. S. also possesses even more destructive weapons.

The contest between them, then, seems to be settling down to a long, drawn-out struggle for advantage. Peace prospects are improved because the United States position is no longer one of military weakness.

Curiously, this new strength, which has slowed Soviet aggression, is causing some key U. S. allies in Europe to turn toward Russia in their political orientation. France, for example, is using this lull to see if she

might work out a rapprochement with the USSR, which might also stop the fighting in French Indo China. The French are also afraid to rearm Germany, despite assurances from the United States and Great Britain. And they desperately want the Indo-China war ended. Russia can see it that fighting and technical aid to rebuild France from the devastation of World War II. Now that our aid is to be sharply cut the French feel more inclined to warm up to Russia than they have in seven years.

It will mean a break with U. S. policy and may cause sharp disagreement in French political parties and the Chamber of Deputies, but the temptation has some Frenchmen leaving pretty far to the East.

The recent Nash-Kelvinator-Hudson merger announcement leaves any two sizable automobile producers left in the independent field. Packard and Studebaker. Talk has been heard lately that a merger of these two companies is in the offing, but as this is written, nothing official has been announced.

What the independents are up against is the prospect that the Big Three in the automotive field (G. M., Ford and Chrysler) will sell ninety-two per cent of the cars sold this year. The independents' share of the total market has been steadily dwindling. If the trend continues, the independents will be squeezed out, but mergers may be the answer to that fate. At least some companies seem to think so.

Packard, one of the oldest manufacturers in the business, more than doubled its sales in 1953 and seemed to be bucking the trend. Studebaker also appeared to be in good condition, but sales slowed in the late months of 1953 and now there's speculation whether there won't be one more merger, before the regrouping ends.

WHOLESALE FOOD PRICES Reached the highest point in two and a half years on the Dun & Bradstreet index on January 12th. The index was 2.6 per cent above the figure for the preceding week and well above the index for the same period a year ago. Sharp increases in coffee and cocoa contributed to the rise, with wheat, barley, beef, hams, bellies, tea, eggs, raisins, prunes, steers, hogs and lambs also higher. Only flour, corn, rye, oats, lard, butter and cottonseed oil were lower.

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WEEKLY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Breed of Feline

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| 1 Depicted breed of cat | 2 Roman emperor | 3 Artificial channel | 4 Alleged force soft, — fur around its neck | 5 Pause | 6 Scope | 7 Ruthless | 8 Smooth and unspirated | 9 Chemical suffix | 10 Perch | 11 Tax | 12 River in Belgium | 13 Director | 14 Mementoes | 15 Craft | 16 Finch | 17 Pedal digit | 18 Tux | 19 Stutter | 20 Transpose (ab.) | 21 Hebrew letter | 22 Electrical unit | 23 Bridge | 24 Pace | 25 Vehicle | 26 Minute skin opening | 27 Agnate | 28 Flower | 29 Year between 12 and 20 | 30 Lease | 31 From | 32 Diminutive of Edward | 33 Written form of Mister | 34 Toiled | 35 Lung disease (ab.) | 36 Consume | 37 Biblical city | 38 Charge | 39 Expunger | 40 Sack | 41 Rounded and cylindrical | 42 Colors | 43 Exclamation of sorrow |
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Here's the Answer