

JOURNALisms

Mail is a little jolting this week. First letter opened this morning emphasizes "Fishing and Hunting in Canada" in bold letters and offering us lodging, free boats, free meals and even a guide if wanted. This kind of stuff is what makes it so tough running a newspaper. You get these kind of offers in exchange for some publicity — if you accept and go, you're accused of never staying at home, getting rich, and livin' high off the hog. If you refuse, your friends refer to you as a sucker or the egotistical, indispensable man. We're filing this one for future reference.

Now comes a note from Kenneth L. Boardman, United Salt Works, Sheki Othman, Aden (Arabia). He tells us he has a hobby of collecting newspapers and magazines of different states in the USA. He wants a complimentary copy of The Journal. Well, even if it costs us four-bits to mail it, we want Plattsouth represented in his collection. Any one in the salt works of Arabia is entitled to some consideration, but we raise our eyebrows a trifle at his statement about his hobby. About all we know of Arabia is what we've seen in the movies. Bob Hope in the "Arabian Knights" didn't indicate a hobby of collecting newspapers.

Still another. We do not wish to imply our self-importance, but, by gosh, this old Journal does get around. This one from Mario Massa, Caixa Postal, 1222, Porto Alegre, Brazil. S. A. Mario says: "I should be very glad if you had the kindness of sending me price list of your newspaper's subscription, as well as some copies as a matter of experience. Waiting your information, I am, Sincerely yours, Etc." Bet we put Postmaster Les Niel in a dither when we try to get postal rates on copies of The Journal to these places. On the other hand that name "Mario" sounds like we should deliver it in person.

Plattsouth high school band members got off to a good start on their trip to Enid, Okla., Tuesday. It was an enthusiastic group that arrived in the Burlington station about 2:30 p. m., loaded with baggage, musical instruments, lunches, and other paraphernalia, for the five day stay. Plattsouth is proud of these kids, but so are many others. Eddie Egenberger arrived just before train time with a big box of ice cream treats, a gift of Fairmont Creamery Co. Sam C. Daniels, division passen-

ger agent for the Burlington, went all out to see that the group had top accommodations. A "vista-dome" was taken off the Minneapolis run for one car as a special treat. (Seniors and juniors ride it one way; sophomores and freshmen occupy it on the way back). Mr. Daniels rode the train as far as St. Joseph to be sure all accommodations were satisfactory and everybody (and things) accounted for.

Best sight was to witness quails of sponsors on the trip as train time approached. Their troubles started with the "all aboard" signal. Girls left suitcases in the waiting room. Parents seeing the kids off gave porters and sponsors a hand in getting them aboard. Chas. Land, deputy sheriff, decided at the last minute to go along. We thought that nice—he can take care of the sponsors—the kids will take care of themselves.

We would like to give a "pat-on-the-back" to Rotarians who thought up the idea of giving that grand piano to the high school music department, and a word of appreciation to all members who dug down in their pockets for the cash to pay for it. This wonderful instrument, far out of financial reach of the school budget at the present time, adds class and distinction to Plattsouth's outstanding auditorium. Overheard one of the band members say, "Boy, is it swell. It's just like the one Liberace plays. It is wonderful when folks financially able become brimful of the giving spirit. You can't hold that kind of a community back."

Enough time has elapsed that we feel it safe to print a little itemizing that accompanied a birth announcement to this office some time ago. We'll eliminate the names so friend husband won't be too harsh on the writer:

Baby " " overdue a week. Has black hair and an angel form petite; "Course we think she's mighty sweet; "Cause she looks like " " And that's quite a feat!

Of course, we don't know the circumstances, but doubt we'd say that. —RRF

12TH DIVORCE HER LAST?
KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — In granting Mrs. Edna Hunt Tankersley's twelfth divorce, Domestic Relations Judge Richard Douglass said that, as far as he's concerned, it's her "final decree." Her eleventh divorce, granted on September 29, was from the same man. The couple remarried November 6.

WALKING IS HER JOB
WATERTOWN, Mass. — Joan E. Trott, 26, has walked a distance equivalent of from Boston to Los Angeles during the last year, although she has not left town. For five days a week, she is a shoe-tester for a rubber firm. After a day's work, she often spends half the night dancing.

Band Takes Off For Enid



Amid suit cases, band instruments and uniforms, this group just climbed from cars and await the "All Aboard" signal at Burlington station. Left to right (back row) are Charles Kearns, Ella Mac Nielsen, Mrs. L. A. Amato, Jim Pence, Mrs. K. P. Pence, Shirley Story. Seated: Sally Amato and Brenda Ofe.—Journal Photo.



Souvenir and nick-knack counters will see a big rush of business during the band trip if the jumping-off place was any indication. Here band members crowd the comic book and souvenir shop at Burlington station before departure. Left to right: Ruby Wilson, Eilene Wiysel, Nancy Perry, Bob Carr, JoNon Albin (partially hidden), Ron Furse, Jim Grosshans and Bob Beverage.—Journal Photo.

ment to allow the establishment of a state tax commission. At present the top tax board is the State Board of Equalization, composed of the governor, state treasurer, state auditor, secretary of state, and state tax commissioner. All but the tax commissioner are elected and critics of the present system charge that politics often makes them timid in enforcing taxes. Also, the elective officers can't give full time to taxes and aren't well acquainted with the problems. This bill had relatively little opposition and passed 37 to 12. This places on the ballot a proposal that county assessors either be elected or appointed. At present the constitution requires that they be elected. Students of the Nebraska tax system say that it is doubtful that it can be improved as long as assessments are made by a county assessor who must run for re-election every four years. If the voters approve this amendment, it would not mean a change necessarily. That would be up to the Legislature. The State Association of County Assessors has advocated this move. The bill got steady opposition from senators who claimed it would take away many local jobs. It was finally passed by a 30 to 11 vote.

LB 3. Under this bill Nebraska voters will have a chance to decide whether they want a partial or complete exemption of household goods from taxation. At present there is only a 20% exemption on this item. Advocates of the bill said that Nebraska assessors have to spend 90 per cent of their effort to get listings of this category which produces only about 2 per cent of the tax. Surprisingly, this bill kicked up plenty of opposition. Some said it was a "rich man's bill" because it would exempt more furnishings from taxation in a wealthy home. It takes 25 votes to put a constitutional proposal on the ballot and this measure passed by a bare 25 to 15 vote.

LB 4. This proposal is called the "heart" of any tax reform program. It also occasioned the most vigorous scrapping in the past special session. Under this proposition voters would decide whether they want to relax the rigid "uniformity of assessments" clause in the constitution to allow new standards for assessing real estate and other tangible property. Advocates say it is necessary to take real estate out of its current "assessment straitjacket." Under the present constitutional provision, real estate must be assessed at current market value, a difficult figure to find many times. Tax experts say it would be better to be able to use long term average sales prices, income from the land or building, and other factors. Opposition was most vigorous from the railroads and other groups which apparently figured it might harm special formulas for taxation granted them through the years. The bill was killed in committee.

received 32 to 2 after days of debate, and finally passed by a 39 to 1 margin which belied the bitter struggles over it.

Provisional Cost
Still to be answered was the question of who will foot the bill for carrying an educational campaign to the voters on these measures. The state's grain and seed dealers were expected to help. They had sought an amendment under LB 4 to allow a different method of taxing grain. But this was junked at the last minute as the opposing groups in the Legislature sought a compromise on some bill they could get passed. It was still considered possible that some real estate groups, or the Nebraska Education Association, or the Chambers of Commerce might pick up the tab.

Slap and Backslap
In the closing days of the session Gov. Robert Crosby made two appearances before the Legislature, both completely different.

One afternoon he appeared to tell the Legislature it had exceeded its authority in asking to appear before it to explain the State Board of Equalization 1955 motor vehicle assessments. Crosby said that under the American form of government the theory of separation of powers of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government must be upheld.

Most senators reacted well, agreeing that they had "stuck their nose in other's business." Some said that all they had asked was information, however, and didn't deserve this slap. The next day as the session adjourned Crosby appeared and complimented the Legislature on a good job. He said he knew it had been a "most difficult" session but said it was important because it got tax issues out into the open where they could be debated before the citizens of the state. He said if it hadn't acted nothing could have been done about taxes until 1957.

—Journal Want Ads Pay—

Masonic Home News

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Lowther were happy to have Mr. and Mrs. S. Ray Smith, Hartington, Nebr., Mrs. Alta Young and son, J. L. Young, grandson, Larry, of Murray, Nebr., call of them the past week.

Miss Betty Hill, teacher of School Dist. No. 45, and her pupils, gave a very good program for the folks of the Home. It was greatly appreciated.

Dr. Cecil N. House, D.D.S. and Mrs. House of Lincoln, Nebr., showed their pictures of their trips through the northern states to California and Yosemite to the members of the Home. The folks enjoyed seeing the beautiful pictures.

Mrs. Alice Morrison went to Plainville, Nebr., to visit her daughter for a few days.

Mrs. Christine Frederiksen is spending a few days in Omaha with friends.

Mr. M. E. Smith had his daughter, Mrs. F. W. Sacks of Wichita, Kansas, as a guest last Wednesday.

Mrs. Blanche Strickler was guest of honor at the Willard Sorority Annual Banquet in Lincoln, Nebraska. She is the only living Charter Member of the Sorority.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Lowther had as their callers Saturday, Mrs. Julia Troop, Plattsouth and Mr. Parr Young of Nehawka. Those celebrating their birthdays the past few days were Mrs. Nellie Malstrom, 74; Mrs. Anna Martin, 76; Mr. Henry Dethlefs, 89; Mr. T. Gordon Sanders, 69; Mr. Joseph Meyers, 82; Mrs. Sarah Edmundson, 89; Miss Laura Cotton, 88. New admittances to the Home are: Mr. Ralph Graham, Lincoln; John E. Kent, Richland, Nebr.; Mrs. Clara Finlayson, Omaha; Mrs. Lizzie Goodloe, Stella, Nebr.

NOTICE!!

Leslie Potts is no longer in our employ, therefore is not authorized to make any transactions connected with our business.

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It was a jam and a scramble to get aboard the train at departure time. Here band members and sponsors, loaded to the hilt, crowd along side their special coaches in a hurry to find a seat for what, to many of the band members, was their first train ride.—Journal Photo.

--- Extension --- Notes

Fertilizer—Unlocks Subsoil Moisture
Fertilizer is a key that can unlock vast subsoil moisture reserves to thirsty corn plants, says Dr. Mark Weldon, extension soils specialist at the University of Nebraska, referring to studies by University of Missouri agronomists. How fertilizer can be used as "drought insurance" where there are reserves of subsoil moisture is explained by G. E. Smith, University of Missouri agronomist. Missouri tests, Smith said, show that corn plants getting a full feed of nitrogen, phosphate and potash fertilizer developed a strong root system capable of probing down from three and a half to six feet to take water out of the subsoil. Unfertilized corn plants on the same soil were so poorly developed they could barely get down two feet, he said. Yet be-

low them were subsoil moisture reserves sufficient to provide water needed for high yields. During last year's drought, corn yields on fully fertilized fields ranged from 75 to 80 bushels per acre. On unfertilized fields the corn was made only 18 bushels per acre, Smith reports. He recommends these two moisture-conserving steps, in addition to building up the soil's fertility with needed nutrients: 1. Plow the land on the contour to keep runoff at a minimum. 2. Leave the land rough. That will help hold rains that might otherwise get away and it will give the water time to soak in to the soil. Weldon points out that even though Nebraska soils would not ordinarily need the potash, these recommendations will generally hold true in this state.

Have THRU THE CLASSIFIED PAGES!

Capitol News

LINCOLN—As members of the Nebraska Legislature arrived home this week after a three week special session on taxation, the upcoming problem seemed to be to explain their tax reform program to the voters.

In what was termed by many "the toughest session ever" the Legislature hammered out five proposals for amending the constitution to bring about a better tax system. None of these will have any effect, however, unless they are approved by Nebraska's citizens in the November general election.

Even if the constitutional amendments are adopted by the voters, this will only mean that the 1955 session of the Legislature can sit down and write new tax laws. In other words, the constitutional amendments—with one exception—are permissive. The one exception is not, strictly speaking, a part of the tax reform program. It is a proposal to place in the constitution a clause that if the state ever gets a sales or income tax the revenues must first be used to replace that part of the property tax which supports state government. Property taxes for schools, cities, and counties, would still be in effect, of course.

This proposal, known as Legislative Bill 7, was approved by a 29 to 11 vote. Its advocates say it will provide a safeguard for citizens so that if a state sales or income tax is ever levied it won't be an "extra tax." It would have to be used first to replace a present tax, they say. Opponents of the bill in floor debate attacked it because they said it would confuse the voters, who wouldn't know whether a vote for it was a vote for the sales tax or against it. Most of the core of this opposition came from Omaha, long a foe of any sales tax.

Tax Reform Proposals
But the heart of the tax program was contained in four other proposals which the Legislature placed on the November ballot. Advocates of the measures said they are necessary to knock out certain restrictive clauses in the constitution which stand in the way of efforts to improve the Nebraska tax system. They are: LB 1. This would allow the voters to approve an amend-

part-by-part proof...

Plymouth

is your "best buy" in the lowest-price field!

Recently a 1954 Plymouth and current models of the other two best-known low-price cars were taken apart by Plymouth engineers and compared, part by part. Standard "stock" models were used. We've listed some typical findings below.

Plymouth is "best buy" in many ways. Here are just a few!

- Front Wheel Brakes**
Plymouth engineers provide two hydraulic brake cylinders in each front wheel to ensure smooth stops without "grabbing." The other two low-price cars have only one.
- Seat Springs**
Plymouth uses coil seat springs, for longer lasting support. The "other two" have a zigzag platform type. Also, Plymouth's "springs-on-springs" design adds more comfort.
- Piston Rings**
Plymouth has four rings on each piston; the "other two" have three. Result: decreased carbon deposit, more consistent power output. Increased oil economy, too!
- Micronic Oil Filter**
Standard on most Plymouth models. Keeps abrasive dirt out of the engine, reducing wear and achieving greater oil economy. Extra cost on the other two low-price cars.

And dozens of other part-by-part comparisons prove Plymouth is your "best buy"! See us today... and get the facts!

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