

EDITORIALS

Plugging For A Sales Tax?

In our estimation those who have been working for a sales and income tax in Nebraska should take a closer look at what would be in store for the average taxpayer should such a law be placed on the books.

First, the taxpayer should become reacquainted with the fact that two years ago he voted that "should a sales tax be enacted, it could only be used for replacement of the state property tax." This little clause could be the undoing of many a home owner—in fact a majority of home owners.

At the present rate of taxation, the state collects slightly over \$8 per thousand valuation on real property. This means that if your home is on the assessor's books with a valuation of \$1000, you pay \$8.09 property tax to the State of Nebraska. A home valued at \$2000 pays \$16.18 and so on. However, a check of the books shows those home owners crying the loudest for sales tax relief are mostly in a bracket of one to two thousand dollar valuation homes, meaning of course that right now they are contributing \$8 to \$16 a year in taxes.

What would happen to them should a sales tax be passed?

It is not a pretty picture. Instead of contributing \$8 to \$16 to the spenders, they would each cough upwards of \$40 to \$80 each year, or better than 500% more in taxes than they are paying now. Farm owners would be no better off than city cousins. They, too, would contribute a good share more through a sales tax than the eight mill state property tax levy under the present system. Doubt it? Then get out your tax receipt and multiply your tax assessment by .0089. How much did you spend last year? Take that figure and multiply it by .02. Subtract the first figure from the last and you'll come up with your increase in taxes under a sales tax plan.

We recently traveled through seven states having a sales tax law. Not one person we talked to could say anything good about it. It was a replacement tax, too, when enacted. But, right now most of them are paying as much or more in real estate tax as Nebraskans and carrying the added burden of a two to three per cent sales tax, and in many places, an additional city sales tax.

The same will happen to Nebraskans if Senators are allowed to pass a sales tax law.

First solution to Nebraska's tax problems is to repeal the so-called 50 per cent bill passed four years ago. That's when property owners' trouble began. Under this law real estate taxes have more than doubled while most other property has been cut in half. It will continue to grow worse as long as this asinine law remains on the statutes.

You do not cut spending by contributing more tax dollars each year. Only way to cut spending is by refusing to go along with every cockeyed scheme the tax spenders butter up as "tax relief" and present to an unsuspecting public.

We would advise our readers to buttonhole their Senators and ask them to spend at least as much time on studying ways to cut taxes as they are now spending in an effort to increase them.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

If we had no faults, we should not take so much pleasure in noting those of others.
—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.

Contents of The Plattsmouth Journal are the sole property of this newspaper and use of, or reproduction, in whole or in part, is expressly forbidden to any person, persons, or publications other than legal newspapers (as defined by Nebraska statutes) without written consent of the publisher.

Three Times Winner Ak-Sar-Ben Plaques for "OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE" 1949 — 1951 — 1952
"Honorable Mention" 1953
Ak-Sar-Ben First Place Plaque for "OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO AGRICULTURE, 1955"

Presented Nebraska Press Association "GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD" First in 1952 — Second in 1951 and 1953 (In Cities over 2,000 Population)

RONALD R. FURSE.....Editor and Publisher
EARL S. DAPP.....News Editor
MARGARET DINGMAN.....Woman's Editor
H. M. JOHNSON.....Advertising Manager
JANET PTAKE.....Bookkeeper
DON WARGA.....Shop Foreman



PHONE 241

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$4.00 per year in Cass and adjoining counties, \$5.00 per year elsewhere, in advance, by mail outside the city of Plattsmouth. By carrier in Plattsmouth, 25 cents for two weeks.

Entered at the Post Office at Plattsmouth, Nebraska as second class mail matter in accordance with the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Furse's Fresh Flashes

When opportunity knocks at our door it simply means the door chimes aren't working.

A local man got up enough courage to go back to the hospital for a check up. Main reason was that he wanted to get another look at the nurse.

We could never make a music critic. After looking at some of these damsels appearing on shows, we care little whether they can sing or not.

A Plattsmouth husband we know will sacrifice most anything to assist his wife around the house. Other day he gave up his afternoon pinochle to stay home and steady the stepladder while his wife painted the kitchen ceiling.

With Violet cuddling in his arms, He drove his car—poor silly; Where once he held his Violet, He now holds his lilly.

No matter what kind of an organization you can think up, somebody will join it.

Fishermen may be good, but for real lying, it will soon be time for some of our expert gardeners to get their chance.

It's a trustful wife who gives her husband letters to be mailed.

Down Memory Lane

20 YEARS AGO

Casco Creamery renewed its lease from stockholders of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Co. Reports of the meeting showed that 208,046 pounds of butter have been made in the creamery in the past year. The creamery has purchased 63,461 pounds of poultry for which it paid \$9,519.15. 2,500 cases of eggs were bought for \$15,105, \$51,507.18 was paid local farmers for 166,592 pounds of butterfat. The creamery paid \$4,500 for labor and supplies.—Burlington station was visited by burglars looting and destroying candy and gum machines. The pay telephone of the Lincoln Telephone Co., was torn from the wall of the waiting room.—Fred P. Busch was re-elected as president of the Ad Club, Charles Pease, vice president and W. H. Puls, treasurer.—Board of county commissioner made the estimate of expenses for the coming year at \$169,000.—Plattsmouth defeated Glenwood in basket ball by a score of 25 to 20 at the Glenwood armory, McCarroll was high with 8 and Wooster with 7 points.

30 YEARS AGO

WCTU held a "Victory Day" meeting at the home of Mrs. R. B. Hayes. Rev. Sortor was chief speaker on "Prohibition and why we have the WCTU....Happy Hundred club held a banquet at which Lute Morse of Lincoln and J. W. Searson were the speakers. The banquet was held at the First Presbyterian Church.—Ice cutting on the Missouri River was started and seems of a good quality, Mahlan Richardson is securing the ice for his patrons at Pacific Junction. Loyal ice packing has practically ceased since the erecting of the ice manufacturing plant in this city.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

by DREW PEARSON

DREW PEARSON SAYS: GOP SENATORS SUDDENLY REVERSED THEMSELVES ON PROBING STATE DEPARTMENT; TEN-YEAR-OLD SENATE PROBE SHOWED SAUDI ARABIAN AIR BASE UNNEEDED; HAS AMERICAN MONEY BEEN SPENT CHIEFLY TO BENEFIT ARABIAN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY?

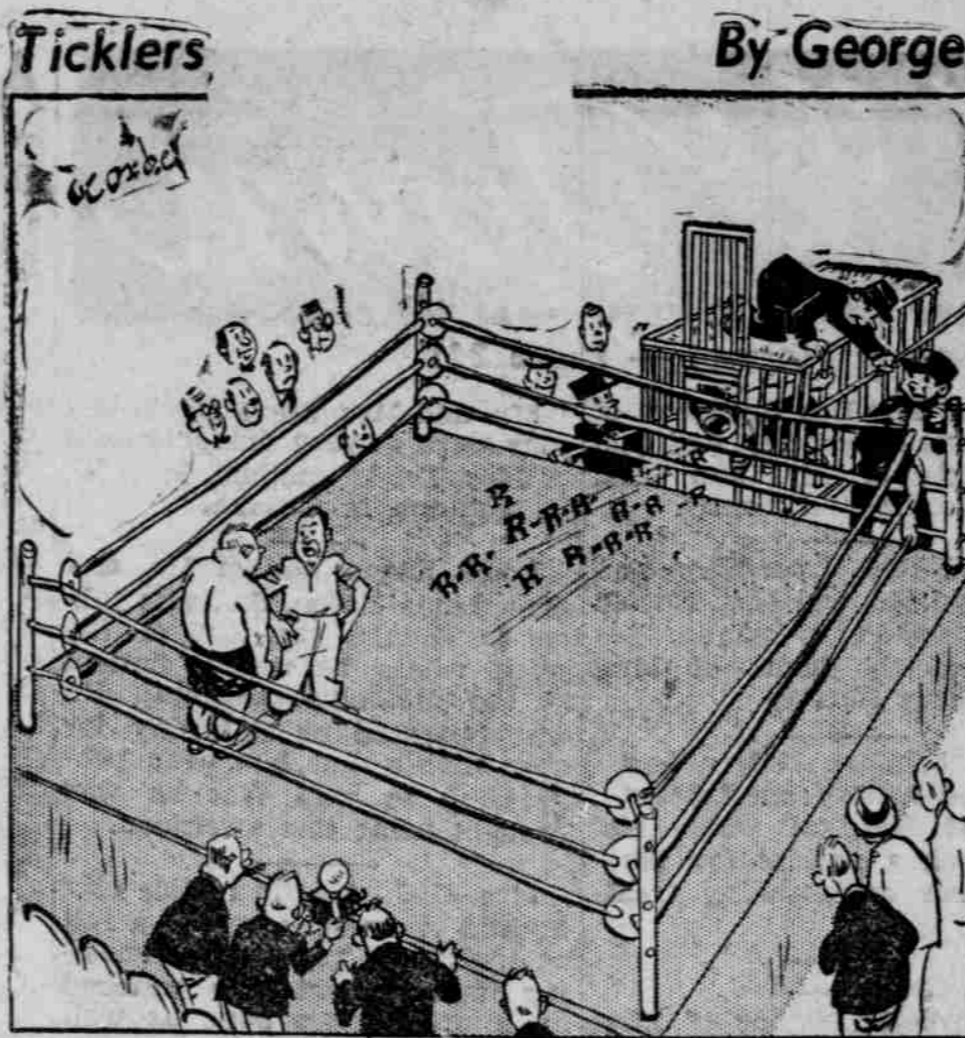
Washington — One of the healthiest recent decisions of the Senate is to investigate American policy in the near east, dating back to the Truman Administration. The decision was reached after a closed-door debate that the public doesn't know about.

For some time Republican senators had argued, both privately and publicly, against any probe of Dulles's policies. Senator Aiken of Vermont argued that such a probe would be dangerous, would destroy the Secretary of State. Senator Fulbright of Arkansas, who initiated the idea, argued that if such an investigation would destroy him, then Dulles's policies were seriously lacking.

Finally, in closed-door session, Sen. Dick Russell of Georgia spoke up, calm and brief. He had not said much before.

"Now, gentlemen," he asked, "Do you really wish this country to believe that you don't want the people to know about the conduct of our foreign affairs? Do you want this to be a strict party vote against any investigation?"

There was a sudden hush on the Republican side, followed by whispers. GOP Senators suggested a delay of 48 hours, then 24 hours, obviously to consult. Finally they agreed to come back at 10 a. m. next day.



"He's up for this match."

At that time they voted unanimously to proceed with the full investigation of the Near East under both Eisenhower and Truman.

Why U. S. Base? This column would be delighted to suggest to the Senators where they can get some important information. Part of it is covered with dust right in their own files. Very important, for instance, is why the U. S. air base in Saudi Arabia was actually established.

President Eisenhower discussed with King Saud last week a renewed lease of this base, and it was reported that the King wanted a sizable amount of American arms in return. However, senate records of the old Brewster investigation committee show good reason to believe that this base was originally established not because it was of any military value, but to please the American Oil Companies which already have reaped a fortune from Saudi Arabia.

Sensors will find in their files a report by Brigadier General Donald P. Booth, assistant to the undersecretary of war, dated 1946, which is classified secret. To it, General Booth attached the following warnings: "It is believed particularly important that this classification (secret) be respected. If there is any part of the subject matter which you wish to declassify for publication, it is requested that the matter be referred to the War Department and the State Department for clearance."

I can reveal, however, that Booth's report showed that the British in July 1944 blocked the U. S. base until May 5, 1945 on the ground that they, the British already had four bases in Arabia which we could use. May 5, 1945 was one day before the war ended in Europe. And on that day it was decided to go ahead with the Dhahran base on the belief that it would cut off air miles in flying from Cairo to Karachi. State Department Wanted Base

One week later, the war in Europe being over, the war departments suddenly reversed itself and wanted to cancel the Saudi Arabia base. It saw no reason for it. But the State Department argued otherwise. For reasons not specified but understood to be the protection of American oil companies, the State department demanded that the base be built.

The State department carried the argument up to President Truman, and on Sept. 28, 1945 he okayed the base, provided a new contract was drawn, giving the United States all postwar air rights, and provided Congress voted the necessary funds.

However, Sen. Owen Brewster of Maine, then head of the Senate investigating committee, was unable to find that Congress had ever authorized the \$4,000,000 spent on the base. Furthermore, he reported that no new contract was drawn.

"The Army presented King Ibn Saud with an airplane," Brewster remarked at that time, "and it looked as if the airfield was built to please the King—so his plane would have a place to land."

Senator Brewster also turned up amazing evidence showing how the oil companies dominated American policy in the Near East. This will be described in a subsequent column. Note—since then, a ring of American bases has been built in Turkey just as close, if not closer to Russia, than Saudi Arabia. The United States also holds a series of bases in Greece, almost as close to Russia. All this make it appear that the Saudi Arabian base is even less necessary today than when the War department turned thumbs down in 1945. The real purpose, it appears, is to supply a base for the planes and personnel of the Arabian American Oil Company and have a protective American base near its property.

Truman Doctrine
Senators may also want to go back to another incident in the Truman administration—the manner in which Standard Oil



Perhaps the best known wagon road in Nebraska Territory was the Omaha-Fort Kearny Road, generally called the Military Road.

This grew out of Secretary of War Jefferson Davis' plan to expand the wagon road system in the West as an aid to military transportation, and on his recommendation Congress in 1855 appropriated \$50,000 to improve the old Mormon Trail from Omaha to Fort Kearny, thus making it possible to bring military supplies up the Missouri River by steamboat as far as Omaha, rather than having to transport them by land all the way from Fort Leavenworth.

It was fifteen months before the Army got around to doing anything about improving the road. In June of 1856, however, Captain J. H. Dickerson of the Quartermaster Corps surveyed the route and entered into a contract with Matthew J. Ragan for bridging the Omaha Branch, the two Papillon creeks, the Elkhorn River, Rawhide and Shell creeks and for grading on the west bank of the Elkhorn River. After paying for this work and defraying the expenses of the survey, there was about \$4500 left in the appropriation. This Captain Dickerson recommended should be expended by the Army in improving various portions of the road.

Captain Dickerson felt that when the work provided for in the appropriation was completed the road to Fort Kearny would be a good wagon road during the greater part of the year. To render it passable at all seasons an additional \$25,000 would be required to improve the road at many small sloughs and low places which often became miry after heavy rains.

Captain E. C. Beckwith, who succeeded Dickerson as the officer in charge of improving the road, passed the recommendation for an additional \$25,000 on to the War Department and the War Department recommended favorable action to Congress. Congress considered the matter but failed to provide additional funds. Even more important, Congress refused to accede to the recommendation from the

REALTY TRANSFERS

- Fred Rehmeier & Alma Alfreda to Robert M. Cox, 1-5-57, N 1/2 NE 1/4 34-11-11, \$100
- Arnold French & Dorothy I. to Richard D. Tincher & Marlene, 1-8-57, Lot 24 Blk 3 Valley View Add Plattsmouth, \$12000.00
- Lester B. Dalton & Florence M. to Fred W. Howland Jr. & Jean, 1-12-57, Lot 9 Blk 149 Plattsmouth & E 26 ft. Lot 4 Blk 41 Young & Hays Add Plattsmouth, \$100
- Wayne D. Wiles & Viva M. to George P. Wiles, 1-1-57, Und 1/12 Int. SE 1/4 8 & NE 1/4 17-11-12, \$100
- Tillie Schwartz to Ruth Schwartz, 1-3-57, Lot 11 Blk 14 Nehawka, \$100
- Arthur G. Nance & Clara N. to W. S. Hardaway & Cuba M., 8-20-56, N 1/2 Lot 9 & all 10 & S 1/2 Lot 11 Blk 28 Elmwood \$100
- Alfred Block & Norma to Eldon R. Moore, 11-28-56, Lot 6 Blk 1 Chases Add Weeping Water, \$100
- Blodgett & Krajacic Inc., to Carl P. Ofc & Jayne S., 1-16-57, Lot 20 Blk 3 Valley View Add Plattsmouth, \$100
- Albert Dankleff to State of Nebraska, 11-13-56, Pt E 1/2 SE 1/4 21-10-11, \$1194.00
- Wm. Kehlbeck & Minnie to State of Nebraska, 11-15-56 Pt W 1/2 SW 1/4 22-10-11, \$730.00
- Frank Hohenshell et al to Alice Mae Detsauer, 1-12-57 W 1/2 NE 1/4 & N 27 a of W 1/2 SE 1/4 & Lot 2 SE 1/4 NE 1/4 23-12-9, exchange of property.
- Rose Mosser Gdn to Glenn A. Rutledge, 7-19-44, Lot 4, Blk 9 Nehawka, \$194.44
- Lewis & Louisa Lorenson to J. Marion Stone, 1-18-55, Lot 5 & 6 Blk 89 Weeping Water, \$50.00
- Hilltop Farms Company to C. H. Oldfield, 1-15-57, W 24 ft. Lot 1, C 20 ft. Lot 1, E 80 ft. Lot 1, All Lot 2 Blk 18 Eagle, \$100
- Herman Gakemeier to Norman H. Gakemeier, Geraldine E. Yardley & Eugene E. Sutton, 1-23-57, SW 1/4 30-12-11 & E 1/2 NW 1/4 31-12-11, \$100
- Herman Gakemeier to Laverna M. Roeber, 1-23-57, W 1/2 NE 1/4 29-12-10, \$100
- Wallace T. Brown & Edith M. to Kenneth E. Trively & Vivian Y., 1-24-57, Pt. Lot 91 SE 1/4 SW 1/4 18-12-14, \$100
- Central States Land Co., to Betty Henry, 1-7-57, Lot 8 & 9 Blk 2 Stadelman's Add Plattsmouth, \$100
- Frank Hohenshell et al to Nellie Crease, 1-12-57, S 53 a of W 1/2 SE 1/4 & E 27 a of N 1/2 SW 1/4 23-12-9, exchange of property.
- Frank Hohenshell et al to Frank Hohenshell, 1-12-57, W 53 a of S 1/2 NW 1/4 & W 53 a of N 1/2 SW 1/4 23-12-9, exchange of property.

Call Your News And Social Items to 241

Ten-Word INTELLIGRAM

Check the correct word:

- 1—Nike, Talos and Petrel refer to (guided missiles) (land artillery).
- 2—Turkey is a member of (NATO) (the Baghdad Pact) (both).
- 3—(Radio Free Europe) (Voice of America) is a government-sponsored agency.
- 4—Iran, Iraq and (Pakistan) (India) are Moslem countries.
- 5—Britain's acting prime minister during Anthony Eden's leave of absence is (Selwyn Lloyd) (R. A. Butler).
- 6—The injunction President Eisenhower used in the longshoremen's strike is provided for in the (Fair Labor Relations) (Taft-Hartley) Act.
- 7—Winner of the National League's Most Valuable Player award for 1956 is (Don Newcombe) (Sal Maglie).
- 8—Tommy Dorsey's records have sold over an estimated (10) (110) million copies.
- 9—Oligarchy is government by the (few) (aged).
- 10—The geographical center of North America lies in (Wisconsin) (North Dakota).

Count 10 for each correct choice. A score of 0-20 is poor; 30-60, average; 70-80, good; 90-100, excellent.

Decoded Intelligram
1—Guided missiles, 2—Both, 3—Voice of America, 4—Pakistan, 5—Butler, 6—Taft-Hartley, 7—Newcombe, 8—110, 9—Few, 10—North Dakota.

Bill Presented To Raise Gas Tax Income

Senator Monroe Bixler of Harrison has introduced a bill that would make several changes in the gas tax and also the allocation of funds for the state and counties.

The bill would boost the gas tax from six to seven cents a gallon, giving the added cent to the state highway department. Counties would continue to get the one cent as at present, from the gas tax, applied under the Schroeder mail route bill. Under the legislation proposed the one cent given the counties under the Schroeder act would go into the county general fund to be used as the county commissioners might see fit.

"From all appearances," the Harrison senator commented, "the county commissioners have never been complying with the law (mail route act) because it has been impossible to do so."

Under the mail route law, counties must use 80 per cent of the receipts from the act for working toward the middle. Senator Bixler said this provision of the law is difficult to follow. A study by Lincoln Journal shows that in eight years, counties received \$34.7 million for improving mail routes but there is no complete record as to how the funds were spent. In this survey it was shown that in only one of the eight years for which records were studied did all of the counties turn in the reports required.

"County Option" On Sales Tax Is Proposed

Sen Terry Carpenter of Scottsbluff has introduced in the legislature a "county sale and use tax", that would make the tax optional with the counties.

Counties that adopted the sales tax would have to use the revenue as a replacement for property taxes collected by the counties or by their political subdivisions, the measure specifies.

Exceptions would be made in the case of certain school districts overlapping county lines and in the case of political subdivisions which need more money than a sales tax produces to meet the obligations of bonded indebtedness.

The people of a county could vote on the adoption of a sales tax either by the order of the county board or after submission of petitions signed by 10 per cent of the legal voters of the county.

A Classified Ad In The Journal costs as little as 35 cents

