

# The Daily Record

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## A Splended Spirit

The Daily Record wants to take this opportunity to praise and commend the fine citizens of Benson for their wonderful spirit and their willingness to work for a school cafeteria.

It seems that when the Johnston County Board of Education was handing out funds for building purposes they neglected to provide this badly-needed project for Benson.

In most school districts, the citizens would probably just keep on arguing with the politicians to come forth with the money and provide the building.

Not so with the public-spirited citizens of Benson. They're going ahead on their own.

At the last meeting of the Benson Parent-Teacher Association, the citizens voted to sponsor a number of community events to raise the necessary funds.

They're going to put on basketball games, a barbecue, plays and various other events.

The old-timers are going to forget their age and get out on the basketball court and perform—aches and liniment notwithstanding—and do their best to provide better facilities for their boys and girls.

We're going to be watching those projects with a great deal of interest and pride. With such a splendid spirit, we know the citizens of Benson can't fail.

Their example should be an inspiration to all the rest of us never to give up.

## Pity The Poor Potato Producers

We find ourselves in complete sympathy with the white potato growers in Idaho, refused a further price boost, and nobody can blame them if they do hold their potatoes off the market.

And we are quite aware of the high cost of food and the high cost of living.

The present OPS price for 100 pounds of Idaho white potatoes is \$3.95, since the government rolled back the price of potatoes 26 per cent. Furthermore, the potato farmers had a poor crop.

These potato farmers very rightfully claim that the government has discriminated against them. Few commodities have been rolled back 26 per cent.

The irony of the situation is that the government didn't roll back the price of fertilizer used to produce the potatoes; the government didn't roll back the cost of labor to plant and harvest the potatoes; the government didn't roll back any price except the price of potatoes.

This action of the OPS was in line with President Truman's recent speech to Congress in which the nation's chief executive called for a reduction in prices but made no mention of holding down wages.

It is pure ridiculous and utter nonsense to think that a farmer, a man in business or anybody else can raise the cost of producing any item and then cut the price of the item. Nobody makes that kind of profit any more. And nobody enjoys any profit that's left.

Such an argument is as foolish as trying to argue that white is black or that black is white. Nobody has ever successfully gone against the law of economics. Nobody ever will.

Nobody can blame the Idaho potato farmers for holding their potatoes off the market. The working man has the right to strike; to refuse the public those potatoes is the only weapon the farmer has. Sometimes, an issue can cut both ways. This is one of those times.

The unfortunate thing is that a great per cent of the bureaucrats in Washington know nothing about the laws of economics or the hazards of business because they've been too busy living off the taxpayers.

## Frederick OTHMAN

WASHINGTON — Uncle Samuel, as you doubtless have read before, is the world's biggest storekeeper. He's also the world's sloppiest. Keeps all the wrong stuff on the right shelves, while his inventory records are in such a shambles that he's wasting at least a billion dollars a year of our money.

That's official; it isn't Othman talking. So now we've got about 4,000 men, mostly military, working on a catalogue of the stuff Uncle Sam has. This is a Herculean job. It'll take maybe four or five million different items, but at least they'll have a list of what they've got.

Admiral Joseph P. Taylor, in charge of compiling the master catalogue for the Maritime Board, was telling the House Executive Expenses Committee, some of the fantastic things he discovered in our military stores. Take, for instance, the fact that the various procurement agencies had established 12,000 different catalogues of various shades.

Some of these bushings cost \$9. Some cost \$65. You can imagine the surprise of the admiral's assistants when they discovered that all eight batches of bushings were identical.

"Some in bins only five feet apart," he continued.

Rep. M. G. Burnside (D. W. Va.) said that wasn't the way he heard it. There weren't eight stores of duplicate bushings under different catalogue lists, but 208.

Correct, agreed Admiral Taylor. Eight in the Navy, 200 in the possession of other outfit using bushings.

He said he's seen a good deal in the newspapers lately about the duplications, the peculiar prices paid for similar materials, and the general confusion between various purchasing agents. The reporters who dug out these facts, he said, hadn't seen anything yet.

They discovered, for instance, that the military services had between them at least 15,000 categories of lumber. Some of them suggested that a war could be won easier, perhaps, with fewer grades of lumber. The admiral agreed.

## These Days



## Sokolsky

### THE POSITION OF DOUGLAS MacARTHUR

The fact is that in many parts of the United States a notable grass-roots movement has appeared for "MacArthur for President." In some places, the support for the candidacy of General Douglas MacArthur is stronger than that for any other candidate.

To all who have inquired of him concerning this, General MacArthur has replied that he is not a candidate and that of those who are currently in the field, he favors Senator Robert A. Taft.

It has been suggested by some that General MacArthur assert that he would not under any circumstances be a candidate. It is not in the nature of General MacArthur to presume what he would do in circumstances of which he currently has no knowledge. However, it is apparent in all conversations that he is sincere in his lack of aspiration for the post and in his support of Taft.

In his letter withdrawing his name from the New Hampshire primaries, General MacArthur makes his position quite clear:

"In reflecting upon my own responsibility of citizenship, I have felt that I could contribute infinitely more to the high purposes involved if not personally seeking political office through the entry or use of my name in connection with any State primary."

But in that same letter, he goes further to define the type President whom he would prefer. This paragraph, it would seem to me, might form a model for candidates of all parties this year or any other year. I quote:

"Every American citizen shares equally the constitutional responsibility of doing all in his power to restore and preserve our sacred American free institutions and to secure a reorientation of policy patterned to serve our impelling national needs and requirements. To this high purpose the immediate demand upon the citizen lies in the selection of a national leadership of demonstrated capability in the science of civil government, of unimpeachable dedication to our country's constitutional precepts and great traditions, and one whose wisdom is founded upon broad administrative experience, with the moral courage to lead and resolve the public issues of the day without compromise of principle."

General MacArthur is a literary stylist and uses words to express rather than to repress thought. This use of the phrase, "reorientation of policy patterned to serve our impelling national needs and requirements," clearly means that they have been damaged. It is an overt assertion that the Roosevelt and Truman Administrations have failed in the maintenance of a basic American philosophy.

Similarly, his phrase, "a national leadership of demonstrated capability in the science of civil government," excludes General Dwight Eisenhower, who has never had anything to do with civil government in this country. It comes as close to a direct attack on Eisenhower's candidacy as MacArthur has yet made. Senator Tobey correctly caught the fitness of this idea as applied to General Eisenhower.

I am certain that his statement is only laying a basis for similar and more pointed attacks, ending in the case of General Eisenhower's name, although General MacArthur is reticent about starting a five-star general's battle as part of a political campaign. He relieved General Eisenhower when the latter was a junior officer associated with him in the Philippines. He will not discuss that or Eisenhower's activities in connection with the Bonus March, for which Herbert Hoover and MacArthur have had to accept full credit or discredit, whichever it may be.

Further, the use of the phrase, "without compromise of principle," is General MacArthur's way of attacking "Me-tooism," particularly in relation to the foreign policy. Before this campaign is over, the meeting at the President's office on April 9, 1951, on the subject of the dismissal of General MacArthur, will have to be discussed openly. The question will have to be considered as to who was there, what was said, and why General MacArthur was dismissed. This is still a closed book and the General has never been told precisely why he was dismissed.

In this connection, "The Freeman" magazine is now issuing a supplement entitled "Prelude to Disaster," dealing with the dismissal of General Douglas MacArthur, which I prepared for the record of the Russell Committee report. This establishes beyond doubt that the Joint Chiefs of Staff agreed to MacArthur's program for handling the Korean War.

The political position of General Douglas MacArthur cannot be ignored, as it now has the support of large segments of the Republican Party and influences large numbers of Democrats. What it will amount to in delegates and votes has, of course, yet to be seen.

## MISTER BREGER



WASHINGTON — What the average citizen may not entirely realize about the huge new budget facing the nation is that 63 per cent of it is for the military. This includes mutual security aid to Europe, primarily military, and care of veterans.

Thus a 17 per cent chunk of taxpayers' money remains for civilian purposes, including the coast guard, which is semi-military, the FBI, secret service and other domestic policing agencies of government. While some further pruning may be possible in the civilian branches, especially in regard to the pork-barrel, rivers-and-harbors bill which no congressman wants to cut, nevertheless, the major opportunity for saving, if any, is to be accomplished, must be from the military's 63 per cent chunk.

Yet the military have been least cooperative about even the most rudimentary principles of efficient spending.

Not merely the simple question of bidding against each other. One of the great pleas for unifying the Army and Navy was that it would save money; that the two branches of the armed services could pool their buying, not duplicate a list of thousands of items, such as towels, blankets, rope, pulleys, wrenches, all about the same whether used in the army or navy.

This, however, has not happened. Instead of working together on "army-navy buying," there is now a third competing service, the air force. It is true that much air force material is purchased for by the Army, but efficient, unified buying, as done by a private business firm, just does not exist.

**BUYING CARPENTERS' SQUARES**  
For instance, the army to some extent competes with itself. Its catalog of commodities contains six different numbers for each Army branch—the Signal Corps, Ordnance, Transportation, Engineers, Chemical Warfare, and Quartermaster Corps. Under this arrangement, such an item as a carpenter's square has six different numbers, according to the specification of the signal corps, ordnance, engineers, etc.

On top of this, the Air Force has to have a seventh number for the commodities it wants. And the cost of reprinting Army catalogs to add the Air Force's seventh number is about \$1,500,000.

Congressman Herbert of Louisiana, now studying armed services inefficiency, estimates that millions of dollars could be saved by revamping this antiquated system of listing different competing prices for this Army-Air Force material.

Take the relatively simple question of buying carpenters' squares. There are only 12 inches in a foot, whether it be an Air Force square, a Navy square, or any Army square. Nevertheless, a carpenter's square for the Quartermasters

"I know the source of the leak, and it wasn't anyone on the staff," snorted Anderson. He accused the official reporters who record the committee sessions of leaking. (Note—You're not even warm, Senator.)

O'Mahoney then suggested banning these official reporters. If no record is kept of closed-door meetings, he reasoned, Pearson will have trouble reporting what happened.

But the usually genial Gene Millikin was pessimistic. "I'll bet you two to one that all that will result from this will be a story in Pearson's column that the committee was stamped."

Note—The reason this columnist frequently reports what goes on at closed-door committee sessions is that more and more important business affecting the nation is transacted at these sessions.

It used to be that the most important debates took place publicly on the floor of the House or Senate. But as the work of the United States government has grown bigger and more complex, it has become necessary to transfer vital

Corps costs 65 cents; for the Navy \$2.00; for the Army \$1.90; for the Signal Corps \$2.10; for the Army Engineers \$1.48; for the Air Force \$1.40; and for the Army Transportation Corps originally \$4.35, though this was hurriedly corrected last week to \$2.19.

I have seen all these carpenters' squares. They are all the same size, and as far as I can see almost identical. They all have 12 inches to the foot. Yet the price is different. Thus the mere paper work of buying separately and maintaining separate numbers in catalogs take extra time and money.

This may sound like a small saving. But when you multiply this inefficiency by millions of items and get up to big expensive weapons, it runs into tremendous amounts of money.

**CLOSED DOOR SESSIONS**  
The Senate Interior Committee held a super-secret meeting the other day and voted to stop printing secret transcripts in an effort to keep Drew Pearson from finding out what goes on behind closed doors.

As a test, no secret transcript was kept of the meeting that decided to ban secret transcripts. However, this column is able to report what happened.

Able Senators Clint Anderson of New Mexico and Gene Millikin of Colorado fussed and fumed over this column's word-for-word reports of what they had said behind closed doors. Philosophic Chairman Joe O'Mahoney of Wyoming agreed that it was an outrage, but added: "I have interviewed every member of the staff, and I am sure they are all in the clear."

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## Walter Winchell

MAN ABOUT TOWN  
Orson Wells' current romance is Rita Hayworth's double in Rome. She is Italian Airlines hostess Gina Ludovici. Joan Crawford's most ardent Romeo is San Francisco socialite Bradley Fuller, who wings the pack. Martha Stewart's movie husband has finally agreed to file. An amicable abrogation. It's a boy for the William Lowes. He's Look's m.e. The Marcus Goodriches (Olivia De Havilland) are sorry to disappoint the rumor spreaders. The John Wayne melting will feature a Mexican movie actress. Marilynn Maxwell, the thrush, has that Lohengrin look. He is Rock Hudson, a click in "Band in the River." Gary Cooper and Pat Neal are still cooing. Mrs. Cooper's coast rendezvous are with Peter Lawford. Vikki Dugan, the cover girl at Ciro's, Miami Beach, established Fla. residence for her freedom.

The Cables: Anthony Eden and the woman all London expected him to wed (Mrs. Lionel Fitzsimmons) have cancelled it. Jean Paul Sartre and Emmy Werner, an American, have Paris buzzing. Just resigned Ambassador to Spain Griffis and Paulette Goddard have had enough. Edda Ciano, Mussolini's dight, is involved in a triangle about to break in Italy. Marcel Cerdan's widow may marry with Murvin Marvin, a U. S. businessman. Prince Sidi Buka, 14 year old Kenya Colony Potentate, married two belles last week.

Gen. Eisenhower's former Girl Friday, Kay Summersby (now working in a local dept. store), jilted Taft forces attempting to "woo" her. Architect Jeffrey Fulton is building Clarissa, Newton's castles in the air. She's a college grad. Virginia Hill's new agony followed threats to snatch her children. Mickey Rooney's persistent pleas for a reconciliation with Martha Vickers, his ex, are stymied because of a sport's announcer. Madcap Merry Fabray is back to sue a renowned dermatologist for a \$50,000 investment that didn't jell. Betsy Cushman, ex-El Morocco Catechist, and Peggy Yancy, who clashed over a French foodle, will fight it out in Supreme Court. Joe E. Lewis says he hasn't made a bet since April, the bookies' worst news since Kefauver.

If Gypsy Rose Lee decides to change groups—first call goes to Roanoke, Va. high school teacher.

New York State license registration (for the first time) requires the color of your car. All paint jobs during the year must be jotted down. Ruthrauff & Ryan, the add agency, now has 39 veeps—one for every dozen staffers. The quick closing of "Month of Sundays" in Philly trapped several mag drama pages which tried to help it. The Russian Embassy people (Park Ave. in the 90s) must wonder if the street reporters out front is a form of criticism. Been going on for a season or longer.

Justice Dept. exec. Philip Marcus was in Buffalo with Robt. Patterson on the same anti-trust case. He cancelled his pew on the plane (which wrecked) and took the train. Patterson did it in reverse and died. Some swank university clubs are battling card sharps. The technique is to get members (picked up at bars) to invite them over the "bridge." In the quarters of the Communist ordered members to "become active in church groups."

Robert Taylor and Barbara Stanwyck tell chums re-marriage would be a mistake. The Morton Maguire (he's the mag essayist) tried hard, but it didn't click. She is in Las Vegas. Bobby Barry and Hollywood's Jacqueline Parks are a local portrait, but just to get their names in the paper. Joe E. Lewis finally gave Cleo (Miami Beach) the lift it needed. Lena Horne's debut at the Cleveler was big, too. Her first time in the deep South and she packs the place.

The Chelly Knickerbockers (Sarah Waters) are beating Gene Tenny and Brother Omg Omg to the melting court. Darrah will file in Tennessee. Mario Lanza shelved 45 lbs. in 18 weeks. Won't stop until he scales at 175. Chaplin, who used to frown on newspaper and mag people crashing his studio while making a film, now invites them daily. "FDR Hyde Park" is the title of a film, exact due. To be shown on teeny and at schools and colleges. The Banyon Fund will share in profits. Abdul M. Hassan, press attache for the Egyptian delegation at the UN, and singeress Nancy Reed are Yes, Indeedly. "Mammy" has been banned by a network. Pressure from Negro leaders.

Penelope people are concerned over the fate of air bases in No. Africa if France is forced out by Moslem rioters, etc. The Feb. Harper's has more on this situation. The 4th Estate Restaurant on E. 41st as backed by some Daily News editors. The C. N. Stablers (both are on the Herald Trib) will be 3 in March. "Wish

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## The Worry Clinic

By DR. GEORGE W. CRANE

"Moral is more important than materials," said Marshall Foch in World War I. It also tones up your entire body and gives you zip. So be sure you don't starve your family in its hunger. They are as critical as stomach hunger.

**CASE C-367:** Wolfe, aged at least 12, is a beautiful farm collie dog which we've had for 11 years.

Our two older boys found him in the woods, with an injured leg and so starved, he had to be half carried to our summer home on a little farm in Indiana.

That was 11 years ago. Since he was fully grown at that time, we know he must have been at least one year old then, so his minimum age is 12 and could be more.

But my main purpose in telling you about Wolfe is to illustrate the fact that everybody is born with a figurative tattoo across his chest which reads:

"I want to feel important!" But this desire to feel important is not limited to human beings. No, sir, animals likewise want to feel important.

**WOLFE'S EGO HUNGER**  
We have a second dog, named Sandy. She is about 6 years of age. Whenever anybody stops to pat Sandy on the head, Wolfe immediately gets up and walks over to receive attention, too.

If we ignore him, he lifts his paw and rakes it down our leg. If I then give him a word and pat him on the head, he moves over to Mrs. Crane for similar attention.

Indeed, I have watched him make the rounds of 6 or 8 people standing on the lawn talking. He would demand attention from each one and then he'd actually start all over again.

For he'd come back to me and rake my leg, to obtain a second dose of attention.

## "Mary Hawthorth's Mail"

By America's Foremost Personal Affairs Counselor

**SEEKING RESPIRE FROM GRIEF. WIDOWER SUBLETS HIS HOME AND LODGES IN ROOM, BUT NOTHING EASES AWFUL EMPINNESS.**

**DEAR MARY HAWORTH:** I am a schoolteacher in a small town in the small income bracket. After six years of happily married life, my dear wife was taken from me by death, leaving two lovely sons—the elder now five, the younger two years of age.

By close economy, Emily and I had managed to buy a home in our six years together, and to give our sons every care to make them healthy and strong. But since her death I am in such a state of depression that nothing makes sense—whereas I could always think clearly before.

I have rented my house and taken a room, and the boys are living with my sister, in her big beautiful new farm home. She is one of those rare persons who always has room for one more, and I know my boys will be happy there; but loneliness is driving me crazy.

At first I planned to keep my house, board the boys out during the day and bring them home at night for supper and bed. But when I thought of the awful reality of the arrangement I knew that I could never stand it. Every thing in the situation would remind of Emily, and aggravate the terrible wound. And yet I miss the boys so much that I am still tempted to try it. They are several hundred miles from my work here, and it is hard for me to make the journey to see them.

Since Emily's death I have been groping for something to relieve this awful aching gnawing feeling that envelops me. I feel like weeping all the time, and give way to this feeling when I am alone, and occasionally in company. Friends and relatives have been more than kind, but still I

You Were Here," the new Josh Logan musical, won't try-out. Three weeks of previews and then the critics. The big knockout in champ Sandy Saddler's life is Ripston Perry, the vociferous lionel Hampton's crew. Newy porters are sch-tching breathlessly about a socialite, who is begging for headlines wolfing Navy brass wives.

The Republicans hope to find campaign dynamite in the late Senator Vandenberg's private papers. They'll be published in March. Elmer Babel, top man at Richard Hudnut, is the latest to shift from Taft to the "So. Pac." Excuse (he's kidding "So. Pac.") will have another lesson in the Summer League like Jacky Garland will terminate her Palace run in mid-July, after all. Alice Richardson, fashion ed at Leek, and singeress Nancy Reed are Yes, Indeedly. "Mammy" has been banned by a network. Pressure from Negro leaders.

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