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VIEWPOINT

MEMORIAL BUILDING

Nebraska City has the potential to develop a building and site into the finest "civic auditorium" in southeast Nebraska

We're talking about Memorial Building, that so-called old, worn out building across the street from the post office

Engineers and architects can argue all day on the merits of the structure, but from the dollar standpoint Nebraska City has within its sights the development of an attractive and useful auditorium

Mayor Fenstermacher has been particularly interested in making improvements in the structure and has directed study efforts in that direction.

We project that with proper planning Memorial Building can be remodeled and expanded into an efficient operating auditorium with more seating space than now exists

We say thank-you to Mayor Edith and the city commissioners for their interest in the old building. We hope that something can be done literally to put the old building back on its feet

WORKAHOLICS

There's a new breed of government employe and he (or she) is having trouble with keeping up a family life and working as a key aide

They're called workaholics and although most government employes adhere to their 40-hour weeks, this special breed of public servant is putting back many times more in labor on Uncle Sam's bulging payroll

Among the key aides there are separations and divorces attributed to staying on the job long hours and leaving the Little Woman at home to do everything that the Man of the House used to do.

Fourteen and 16-hour days are quite common among this group Saturdays are a day to catch up and Sundays are planning sessions for the week.

As a result the turnover among top aides has been high they're burning out after a few months or a year or so on the job.

The situation may well be the same in more local areas Taxpayers demand more from public officials and many are trying to do their jobs and earn their chips by burning the oil

That may be well and good We all want more from our government but not at the expense of shredding a family Perhaps a second look at goals and priorities should be examined

AS TIME GOES BY

Grocers charge

FORTY YEARS AGO
—1939—

Local retail grocers charged the county-operated commissary with practicing discrimination and taking "unearned profits" The House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly to let Rep Martin Dies' unAmerican activities committee remain in existence for another year Sheriff Carl Ryder renewed his war against slot machines by seizing two at Jeff Place s, a tavern at the southern edge of Nebraska City Leases for 3,600 acres of land in Fremont county had been filed by oil men

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
—1954—

Syracuse was the top-rated Class C team in the state George Biere was elected president of the Farmers Co-operative Oil Company succeeding Mark Moyer Mrs Wayne Stepp resigned as clerk of the Otoe County Selective Service Board Terry Brennan succeeded Frank Leahy as head football coach at Notre Dame Manager Verne Jones told Rotarians that the local Ocoma Foods plant was to be expanded Despite Charles Lock's 25 points, St Bernard Academy lost to Bennet, 48-57

TEN YEARS AGO
—1969—

The planet Venus appeared as a bright light in the western sky The Unicameral's Judiciary Committee, after being told present laws "coddle" young people, approved and sent to the floor of the legislature a bill to lower the age of accountabity to 19 Jack Johns was installed as worshipful master of Western Star Lodge No 2 Two outstanding teenagers of America chosen from the student body at Nebraska City Lourdes were Vicki Durr and John Cooper Beta Sigma Phi members and rushees prepared for a toga party

Today In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday Feb 4 the 35rd day of 1979 There are 330 days left in the year

Today's highlight in history On this date in 1848, Mexico ceded a vast area, including what is now Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, to the United States for $15 million

On this date

In 1535, the Argentine city of Buenos Aires was founded

In 1635, New Amsterdam — now New York City — was incorporated by the Dutch

In 1876, eight baseball teams banded together to form the National League

In 1960, the French National Assembly gave President Charles de Gaulle power to rule by decree for one year to deal with the nationalist rebellion in Algeria

Thought for today Nothing can harm a good man, either in life or death — Socrates, Greek philosopher, 469-399 B C

The Prayer For Today From The Upper Room

There is nothing better for a man than that he should eat and drink, and find enjoyment in his toil. (Ecclesiastes 2:24 RSV)

PRAYER· Almighty God, thank You for the precious gift of enjoying the results of our labors. Enable us to help others to be joyful as well. Amen.





Martha Angle and Robert Walters

IN WASHINGTON

Capital (?) consultation

WASHINGTON (NEA) - 'It's a very cynical business," says a former employee of a firm that specializes in providing consulting services to the federal government "In fact, it's the most dishonest business in which I ve ever worked "

The available evidence suggests that management consulting as practiced in this capital, is indeed cynical and intellectually dishonest But it s also highly profitable seemingly im pervious to criticism and growing at a phenomenal rate

In theory consultants offer their 'expertise to departments and agencies in the form of research, analysis and evaluation of government activities and policies In some cases they have been given complete operational control of federal programs

In practice the consultants' advice is usually dispensed in massive reports that seldom contain anything useful Explains a former author of those reports, who asks his identity remain confidential

"The project managers the government people who award the consulting con tracts — never seem to know what they want They also never seeem to know what they've done in the past

"There were projects where our firm was the fourth or fifth consultant hired to evaluate a program The first thing we noticed was that none of the earlier studies had produced any results

"That's probably just as well, because the people who write the reports usually are bright, quick-study generalists who don't know a bloody thing about the subject.

"In addition, consulting firms know that if they're too critical of what a department or agency is doing, they're never going to get another contract from that source "

Writing in the current issue of Policy Review, a quarterly publication of the Heritage Foundation, Washington journalist Donald ' Lambro cites evidence that almost $2 billion per year in public funds is being paid to government consultants

Although consultants are a financial burden for the tax payers, they're a boon to bureaucrats who can evade personnel ceilings while still engaging in empire-building, because outside advisers are not carried on government payrolls.

In addition, cautious government employees can postpone making difficult decisions on the grounds that the problem in question is under intensive review — a process that can be dragged out for several years

Consultants can even be hired to monitor or review the work of other con sultants One such example is cited in a 1977 book, 'Government for Sale," written by John D Hanrahan

The Department of Housing and Urban Development he reports, paid almost $180,000 to a private firm to serve as the department's agent in processing of monthly status reports received from major research con tractors

One oft repeated anecdote involves a federal department that several years ago received from a consultant a final report of five thick, jargon filled volumes Rather than read that unintelligible prose the department awarded another consultant a new contract to summarize the original report

Consulting firms now avoid such problems by providing an "executive summary at the front of the report and some also produce 20 minute slide shows for government of ficials who don't want to be burdened with any reading

When the Department of Health, Education and Welfare recently sought to increase by $42 million the $194 million it spends annually on consulting contracts, the request was rejected by an angry Senate Appropriations Committee

"The committee is unaware of any significant program improvements that have been brought about by the department s large annual investment in evaluation contracts' the committee said in a formal report "It seems as though, year after year the same programs get reevaluated yet never change

No such stability is evident, however in the number of consultants hired or the size of their fees Both increase substantially each year

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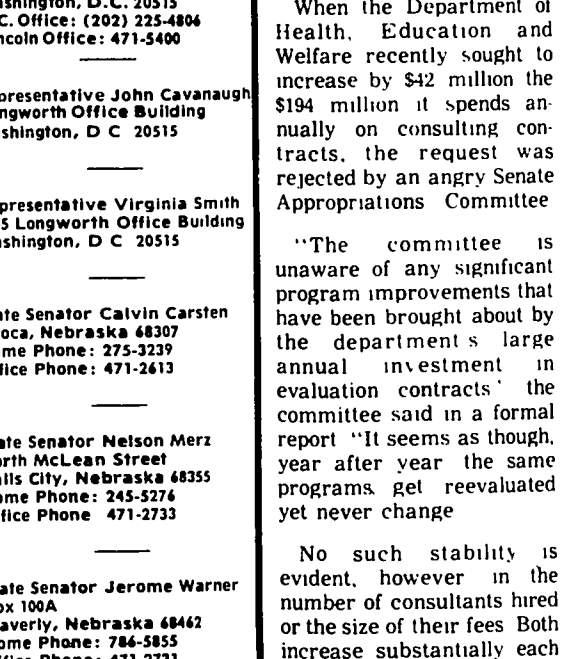
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Berry's World



"I want to get on the gravy train!"



Ivan D.E. Beaumont

THE BUCK ENDS HERE

Longtime pen pal

Enduring friendship —

A number of years ago Mrs Letha Childers, 420 Ninth Avenue, met a woman from Spokane while on a vacation. They became friends and have corresponded over the years

Five years ago, the Washington resident wrote that her nephew was paralyzed from the neck down as a result of a trampoline accident He was 17 at the time

Mrs Childers picked up her pen and during these five years has written to her new young friend

His name is Dal Vordahl and he lives at E13720 26th St , Spokane He never goes to class, but he has 25 college credits and has a straignt A average

Mrs Childers is very proud of the accomplishments of her pen pal and enjoys telling friends about him She carries newspaper clippings of feature stories of him

Mrs Childers also writes regularly to her family That is a daughter, Mrs Ray (Mardella) Johnson of Fairmont, two grandsons and a granddaughter

+ + +

On your toes —

There's no violation of Constitutional Rights, ac cording to this report in the Nebraska Oil Jobber

Three little boys in the back of the room, had their heads together whispering

"What's going on back there?" snapped the teacher

"We're telling dirty jokes," came the reply

"Thank goodness," said the teacher, "I thought you were praying."

+ + +

Dies in crash —

Randy Schilling of Plattsmouth who was killed in the crash of a light plane, was a frequent visitor to Nebraska City

Randy worked with the waterfowl refuge in the Plattsmouth area He visited Nebraska City Optimist club some months ago and spoke to the group about bird migration. He was a guest of Dr Paul Madison and a hunter's friend

+ + +

The Stork Club —

The new Stork Club at St. Mary's hospital is a unique idea

New mothers and fathers dine together under candlelight in a special room shortly before the mother and newborn are released

Dr and Mrs Kirby Joy of Dunbar and Mr and Mrs Jim Clark of Sidney, Ia , were the first couples to take advantage of the Stork Club

Note to Steve U — Whatya got against "Grandparents Dinner for 2? " (Tell im, Margaret)

+ + +

Disco —

It may be cold It may be miserable to do anything except munch popcorn and watch TV but not for dancing

Mrs Carl Fielder adult education director, offered classes in disco dancing and the classes overflowed Eighty-six people signed and there s a waiting list of another 20

For the 'oldtimers, ' disco is sort of a new two-step with a peppy bounce and a "rock step " All the gyrations apparently fall into place er er the bones out of place er er something Gary Willets of Papillion is the teacher

Classes under a similar program in Auburn are also overflowing The teacher is Mrs Kathy Boellstorff who was an Arthur Murray instructor for five years

Me? You betcha ,Millie, too.

The only reason I'm taking lessons is because Don Mason offered to buy me dinner if we joined them at the disco classes.

Also, because of my job We're called the watchdogs of government. And, City Finance Commissioner Mike Medaris is in the same class

(Hope he don't take up cross country skiing)

+ + +

The fire call —

David Lutz, a Percival, Ia , fireman, is to be commended for entering the David Osborn apartment, at 4 a m , awakening the family and for helping evacuate them

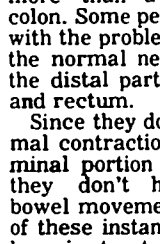
Flames licked the apartment above the Mid-America Truck Stop but the couple and seven-month-old son, Donald, escaped without injury

Lutz is the son of Mr and Mrs Henry Lutz Henry is a retired Nebraska City police sergeant David works for Shirley Grain in Percival

News in Brief

NEW YORK (AP) — Performers on the legitimate stage have pledged to support fellow performers in a strike against the television and radio commercials industry

Theodore Bikel, president of Actors Equity Association, announced the decision at a rally Tuesday as a strike by 70,000 members of the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists entered its second week "Management cannot have AFTRA or SAG members working for them, and they will not have any Equity members," Bikel said. Members found to be working for advertisers will face charges before the Equity Council, he said.



HEALTH

Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D.

Concern about mineral oil

By Lawrence Lamb, M.D.

DEAR DR. LAMB — My 13-year-old daughter has had a problem with bowel movements since she was an infant She sometimes only has one or two bowel movements a month

A few years ago, the doctor had her take mineral oil at bedtime which didn't help Recently he has had X-rays taken and the doctor said everything seems to be fine He now has her taking mineral oil four times a day As a result she has a bowel movement about twice a week.

I am very concerned about the statement on the mineral oil bottle that prolonged use can cause a dependency on laxatives Should she continue taking mineral oil and is there anything else we can do for her?

DEAR READER — Many people will be surprised at your story It's probable that your daughter has a megacolon, which means nothing more than a very large colon. Some people are born with the problem They lack the normal nerve fibers in the distal part of the colon and rectum.

Since they don't have normal contractions in the terminal portion of the colon, they don't have normal bowel movements In many of these instances the problem is treated surgically The area of the colon that doesn't have any nerve fibers is removed and the rest of the colon is attached at that point. This removes the functional obstruction that the person was born with

Most instances of megacolon are functional or developed later Megacolon usually develops during bowel training These people resist having a bowel movement and develop a large distended colon. Surgery is not indicated in these cases

Mineral oil in large amounts is used for the condition that you describe I'm personally not very fond of its use in this case or in other cases on a long-term basis It doesn't correct the underlying problem It can lead to chronic dependency in the same way that a person can become dependent on any form of laxative

Aside from that, studies have shown that mineral oil is a foreign substance to the body Some of it is absorbed and is treated as a foreign substance in the organs where it deposits. Also, there is always the danger that a small amount of mineral oil in the back of the throat when it is swallowed can be sucked into the lungs, leading to a condition called lipid pneumonia (fat drop pneumonia)

In cases of acquired megacolon, some doctors recommend using enemas and developing a bowel training program. This isn't easy and it takes a long time The danger of using enemas is that if you use plain tap water, the water may be retained and lead to water intoxication To avoid this, a saline enema is commonly used

You might get some help out of stool softeners that don't pose the same problems that you have with mineral oil I am sending you The Health Letter number 12-6, Laxatives, Enemas and Suppositories It will give you some general information on what you can expect from laxatives

Other readers who want this issue can send 50 cents with a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope for it. Send your request to me in care of this newspaper, P O Box 1551, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10019

I would like to caution that laxatives and measures used for ordinary adult constipation won't relieve the kind of problem your daughter has She needs to train her normal bowel habit. In the process she will probably need help with enemas. Since you are concerned about the mineral oil usage, I think you should discuss this with your doctor

CARRIER ROUTES OPEN OR COMING OPEN

ROUTE # 12 — 4th & 5th Ave. east, from 9th St. to 5th St.

ROUTE # 13 — South and east of 11th Street Overpass.

ROUTE #18 — South of Overpass to West to Airplane Heights Area.

Route #19 — 1st and 2nd Ave. west, from 13th Street to 18th Street.

ROUTE # 20 — 8th Ave. to 13th Ave. east, from 9th Street to 3rd Street.

Route # 22 — Kearney Hill Area.

ROUTE # 23 — 19th Street west to Arbor Lodge and 3rd Ave. north to 6th Ave.

Route # 30 — 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Ave. west, from 11th Street to 13th Street.

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