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OBSERVATIONS

Guest Commentary:

That old childhood myth

Many of our worst economic problems today can be traced to remnants of a favorite childhood myth: Just rub the magic lamp or persuade your fairy godmother to wave her wand and the most intractable problems will vanish.

less efficient ultimately raises prices to the consumer. Now, then, are we "protecting" the consumer by (a) adding directly to his tax burden and (b) adding to the cost of producing the goods and services he needs and wants?

Thus it became established adult folklore in some circles that the cure for any problem is to set up a federal agency to deal with it.

Magic lamps evidently come with an endless supply of magic — no doubt certified beneficent — by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, nonpolluting by the Environmental Protection Agency and everlasting by the Federal Trade Commission.

Such is the reasoning behind the push for a "Consumer Protection Agency." The original federal regulatory agencies established to protect the consumer have turned into servants of the industries they regulate. Therefore, we need a new agency to intervene with the old agencies on behalf of the consumer.

A government's supply of magic, on the other hand, is limited to the economic resources it commands. These resources, in turn, are limited by what an economy can produce.

That is, we need a new staff of federal lawyers, supported at taxpayer expense, to interfere with the existing staffs of federal lawyers, also supported at taxpayer expense. The new agency could do nothing to help directly a consumer who has been defrauded. It could only complicate the proceedings of other agencies.

Government has the option of shifting resources from one group to another — and herein lies the stock-in-trade of the demagogue — but the process of shifting does not expand the total supply. That can be done only through productive activity, activity for which governments seem singularly unskilled.

Somehow, out of all this interaction, there are supposed to come timely decisions in the public interest. And yet, it already takes from months to years for the existing regulatory agencies to arrive at their decisions, without any official interference.

Consequently, it is not enough to judge a proposed government activity by its stated objective alone. The net cost to society of accomplishing a very desirable objective may still be greater than that objective is worth.

Are businessmen opposed to this new agency because of their own selfish interest in avoiding additional red tape? Hell, yes! Wouldn't you be?

We have reached the point, in my opinion, where our very survival as a society rests on our ability to learn to think about government policy in terms of net cost to balance an attractive goal against all of the costs — primary and derivative — that will be encountered in achieving it.

But beyond the businessman's "selfish" interest is a general public interest: too seldom perceived in current public debate: Anything that makes business

The Consumer Protection Agency is a good place to begin applying that rule of thumb.

incidentally, there is one area that would be exempt from interference by this superbureaucracy. Labor disputes. And that, my friends, says more about the relative political power of "big business" and "big labor" than I could put into several columns.

EDITORIAL PAGE. Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost. — Thomas Jefferson, Letter, 1786.

OBSERVATIONS

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Weekly gleanings. . .

News of Note around Northeast Nebraska

THIS WEEK will be clean up week at Cotleridge. The Commercial Club is sponsoring the sprucing up effort, with the Rev. Robert Neu, chairman of the Cotleridge Community Improvement Committee, in charge.

KATHY HARTWIG, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Hartwig, will represent Pender at Girls State in Lincoln this June. Named to represent Thurston was Cynthia Lewin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lewin.

O'NEILL RESIDENTS are conducting a fund drive for leukemia victim Dude Perry, a 27-year-old former milk truck driver. Perry has been undergoing treatment for the disease since last winter. He and his wife have two children.

TWO FARMS near Ponca received considerable damage when a tornado swept through the area April 11. Damaged were farms operated by Harold Martinson and Curtis and Ross Armstrong. The farms are northwest of Ponca.

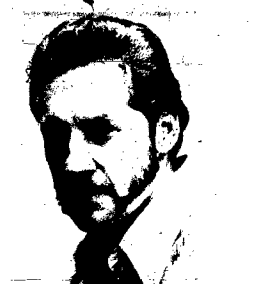
WISNER'S Lions Club sponsored a free glaucoma clinic Sunday afternoon at the city auditorium. Prior to the testing, a film titled "A Silent Threat to Sight" was shown. Lions Club members served free coffee and rolls for those taking the tests.

LETTERS. 'Polling sites need changing'

Dear Editor: The polling sites for Wards 1 and 3 — the city library and the courthouse — are very poor selections for voting purposes. Why? There are too many steps to climb. The following are three very valid reasons for changing these sites: (1) the elderly, (2) the handicapped elderly and (3) the physically handicapped citizens.

Your coverage is appreciated. Dear Editor: The students of Wayne High School would sincerely like to thank The Wayne Herald for its publicity and coverage of the AFS carnival in Wayne April 5.

A closer look. . .



KINDERGARTNERS in the Wayne-Carroll school system are now much better protected against outbreaks of serious diseases than they were last fall. In fact all 58 youngsters have 100 per cent protection against polio and nearly 100 per cent protection against rubella, measles and DTP (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis or whooping cough). That puts the school above the minimum immunization level recommended by the state department of health.

inadequate to maintain a high degree of protection against a possible outbreak. . . Therefore each school should strive for a 100 per cent protection level for each disease but accept nothing less than 90 per cent. . .

SHORT STUFF: A Wakefield reader took us to task for leaving the Bible passages off Mrs. Hazel Sorensen's "Thoughts for the Day." It was an experiment (short-lived), and the Bible passages are back again.

Rural Delivery

DO YOU MEAN YOU DIDN'T PAY YOUR INCOME TAX? SHUSH! NO, JULIE DIDN'T! WHY? I FOUND A WAY TO BEAT PAYING THE INCOME TAX!

YOU AND YOUR CAR

Oil is an essential ingredient in the manufacture of tires. From an energy conservation standpoint, the people who manufacture retread tires are now making the point that it requires only two gallons of crude oil derivatives to produce the rubber necessary to retread a passenger car tire as opposed to the seven gallons of crude oil needed to manufacture a new tire.

GRASSROOTS OPINION

Findlay, Ohio, Republican-Courier: "One of the contributing factors to the energy crisis, and to other economic problems of the day is the withering influence of too many politicians in putting obstacles in the path of business, destroying incentives to push ahead with progress."

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Who's who, what's what?

- 1. HOW MANY years has Mrs. Glenn Granquist worked at the Wayne County ASC office? 2. WHO is chairman of the Wayne area Doctors Search Committee? 3. WHAT was the subject of the community program presented by the Laurel Woman's Club last week at the Laurel city auditorium? 4. WAS BUSINESS in Wayne, Dixon and Cedar Counties above or below the state average for the first three months of 1973? 5. WHO received Wayne State Foundation's Excellence in Teaching prize during graduation exercises last week at WSC? 6. WHEN is the VD clinic scheduled at the city auditorium? 7. WHAT four members of the WSC faculty are retiring this year? 8. WHAT did Brenda Gunt of Wayne and Karen Schultz of Rural Ponca win from state board of trustees?

Subscription Rates: In Wayne, Pierce, Cedar, Dixon, Thurston, Cuming, Stanton and Madison Counties: \$7.50 per year, \$6.00 for six months, \$4.25 for three months. Outside counties mentioned: \$8.50 per year, \$7.00 for six months, \$5.75 for three months. Single copies 15c.



# Mallette Hopping Devils' .449 Battering Can Hold Up Against Bancroft, Allen

Wayne High's baseball team has two roadblocks this week in its attempt to maintain a team batting average of .449. Last year's runnerup in state Class B tournament, Bancroft, will host the Devils Tuesday before the locals return home to face Allen Thursday.

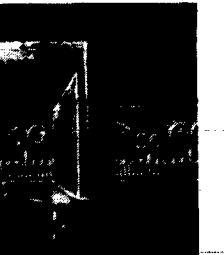


HOOPER-LOGAN View's second baseman makes a high flying catch to tag Wayne runner Kim Baker as he attempts to advance during the first game of a doubleheader.

Mallette figures if Wayne can "hit and get on base" the team may be able to come off this week's action with a 6-1 mark. After Wednesday's double conquest of Hooper-Logan View, Wayne appears to have the hitting power to fulfill Mallette's hopes.

## Eagles Beat Homer, 8-3

Allen High's baseball team kept its perfect record in tact with an 8-3 over Homer Friday. The Eagles, now 3-0, broke the game open in the fifth inning with three runs on a pair of triples and two singles. Randy Lanser, slipped the first single before Neil Blohm and Tim Mill combined for two triples. Scott VonMinden then slipped a single to move the team out in front.



Paul Snyder, 1-0, walked five and gave up a single for a 2-1 margin. In the fourth, Homer successfully tried a suicide play to score a player from third and make the score 3-2 before Allen bats took over.

Darwin Ruback led the club in hitting, going four and four at the plate. He hit a double and three singles. Don Kluever finished with two singles and a double in four at bats. Tuesday afternoon Allen will host Wakefield before the Eagles travel to Wayne Thursday.

Mallette went two for three in both games, rapping a double in each contest. All together there were three doubles in the first match. Catcher Mike Meyer and first baseman Bill Schwartz also doubled.

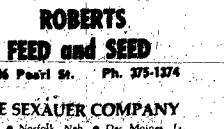
1st Game Logan View vs Wayne

2nd Game Logan View vs Wayne

Wayne vs Wakefield

Wayne vs Emerson

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## SPORTS

### Wayne Youths Win, Place

Nine students in Wayne's special education class at the middle school placed or won ribbons in a special olympics for retarded children Wednesday at Norfolk.

Cindy Sitzman led the group with firsts in the standing long jump and softball throw for girls in the 10-11 age bracket. Dick Kenny won the 50-yard dash for boys 10 to 12 years old.

Others who placed or won ribbons were... Standing long jump — Mar Faye Marotz (10-12), Tami Hartmann (10-12), Rick Kenny, Steven Schroeder, Michael Larson (5-7).

Softball throw — Tami Hartmann. Third Place 50 yard dash — Troy Volkwer (5-7). Softball throw — Rick Kenny.

Softball throw — Mar Faye Marotz, Karyn Lindner. 50-yard dash — Cindy Sitzman. Green Ribbons 50-yard dash — MarFay Marotz, Tami Hartmann.

# Wildcats Beat Eagles Twice; Will Play 4 Pairs This Week

Any Wayne State baseball player who doesn't play this week probably has an arm or a leg in a cast. The Wildcats have no less than four doubleheaders at Morningside today (Monday), Nebraska Wesleyan here Tuesday at 2 o'clock, at Midland Wednesday, Yankton here Friday at 1 p.m. for a makeup pair.

Wayne jumped on the visiting Eagles with three runs in the first inning, then couldn't do a thing offensively thereafter. Chadron managed two runs in the third, but otherwise went blank. Home runs by Tim Denham for Wayne and Lee Baumann for Chadron produced two runs each.

Bob DeVaul pitched all the way for Wayne, giving three hits. Craig Clarke yielded six hits to Wayne, but held central in all but the first frame. Greg Kamp also pitched the route for Wayne in the nightcap.

Wayne took advantage of three wild pitches and a passed ball in the third for three runs. In the fourth, triples by Don Hasenkamp and Bob Pudil sparked two runs. Then a four-hit attack produced four runs in the sixth.

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Friday the Wildcats beat conference foe Chadron State twice, 3-2 in the first game, 9-1 in the second.

Wayne's three man golf team finished seventh in the eight team Norfolk invitational Friday, carding a 248. Scott Brummond fired an 82 for 18 holes followed by 83's for Scott Ehlers and Randy Workman.

Thursday evening Wayne beat South Sioux City, 195-202. Ehlers led the team with a 35. Other scoring were Mark Schram and Brummond with 39 each. Workman 40, Robin Kudrna 42.

## Wayne Seventh In Eight-Team Norfolk Meet

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## L-C Conference To Elect Officers This Thursday

The Lewis and Clark Conference will elect officers for the 1974-75 school year Thursday at the Wagon Wheel in Laurel. President-elect Don Vanderhieden of Osmond will take over for league president Junior Ferebee of Walthill.

## Wakefield, Laurel Girls Tie for 1st at Emerson

Wakefield and Laurel girls tied for first place in the nine team Emerson Hubbard track invitational Wednesday night, scoring 37 points each.

Wakefield led the duo with two firsts by Ruth Bressler in the high jump and the 800 relay team. Laurel's Kathy Maxon captured first in the 440.

Bressler, a junior, jumped 4-11, and teammate senior Cindy Maxon finished the 440 in 1:07.2.

Allen, which had only one girl place, scored four points. Jo Anne Roberts came in third in the 100 and fifth in the 200.

TRACK 80 yard hurdles: 1 Myeane Pender. 5 Cheryl Neilson, Wakefield Time: 2:12.7

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WON LOST Decker, Evans 52 12 Boyer-Ronlisen 46 18 Kienast 46 18

Winside to Pick New Cheerleaders Wayne High's pep club will hold cheerleader tryouts for the 1974-75 school year Thursday afternoon after school.

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13 (M. Smith, W. Bressler, B. Bates, D. Wacker)	3 1/2	22 (L. Kamish, A. Voorhies, C. Cornstock, R. Kelton)	3 1/2
11	3	11 (S. Hillier, D. Schulte, S. Schmacher, N. Dinges)	3 1/2
15	2 1/2	23	3
1	2 1/2	18	3
7	2 1/2	21	3
9	2 1/2	24	3
16	2	26	3
14	1 1/2	30	2 1/2
17	1 1/2	32	2 1/2
2	1 1/2	19	2
3	1 1/2	20	2
8	1 1/2	25	2
10	1 1/2	27	2
12	1	34	2 1/2
5	1	33	2
6	1/2	29	1 1/2

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