

The Key West Citizen

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cussion of public issues and subjects of local or
general interest, but it will not publish anonymous
communications.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL
ASSOCIATION

IMPROVEMENTS FOR KEY WEST ADVOCATED BY THE CITIZEN

1. More Hotels and Apartments.
2. Beach and Bathing Pavilion.
3. Airports—Land and Sea.
4. Consolidation of County and City Governments.
5. Community Auditorium.

FLORIDA PRESS
ASSOCIATION

MONOGRAPH

Dear Readers:

Almost any beggar, helped three times in a row, will get miffed if the fourth trip is fruitless. Including this writer, many have told of similar experiences.

THE ORACLE

UNLAWFUL POLITICAL ACTIVITY

In connection with political activity during 1946, fifteen employees of the Connecticut Internal Revenue Division were charged with unlawful political activity.

The Civil Service Commission found nine of them guilty and they have been removed from office. Six employees were found not guilty.

It is encouraging that, in at least one investigation, Federal employees have been found guilty of unlawful political activity. There is reason to suspect that other employees may be guilty of such activity but not apprehended.

Another phase of the matter involves the time that has elapsed since the alleged political activity and the verdict against those found guilty. More than three years after the election, the Civil Service Commission comes up with a decision. While there may be circumstances which justify such a delay, the quicker any punishment follows unlawful activity, the better the law will be respected.

KEEPS DRUNKS FROM DRIVING

A man who has made it his business to gather data in connection with automobile accidents expresses the belief that possibly half of them are caused by drinking drivers.

If this statement be correct, it indicates that more stringent supervision of those who drive automobiles is advisable. The only way to establish the incorrectness of the assertion is through a more rigorous examination of all drivers involved in accidents.

The driver of an automobile, speeding on the highways at what the law permits today, is supposed to be in control of a vehicle that is potentially dangerous. Drivers of such vehicles, therefore should be required to keep themselves in a condition proportionate to the public peril. This supposition, however, is not enough to safeguard pedestrians not engaged in automobile driving. Possibly, strict enforcement of existing statutes, with severe punishment of offenders, will do the work. It should be tried in Florida.

Candidates, who are elected, retain their faith in the ability of the people to rate themselves.

Most public speeches, as if you didn't know, amount to nothing except to give the speaker practice.

FARM SUPPORT PROGRAM

Crop production was pretty good in the United States in 1949 and the government, under its price support programs, had to take over a vast amount of farm products. This does not mean that most of the money invested in these commodities will be lost. Some may be but bad weather and poor crops might change the picture in 1950 and enable the government to make a profit on some of its supplies. This has happened before.

It is interesting to note, for the benefit of those who still belabor the price support program, that the proposed federal budget for the fiscal year 1951 calls for only \$952,000,000 for farm price supports. This compares with \$1,600,000,000 in 1949 and almost as much in 1950. The expectation of decreased demands is based upon the elemental fact that control programs have been initiated and that they will have some effect upon the coming season's production.

With close to \$3,500,000,000 invested in farm surpluses the government is not anxious to augment the total. Sweeping cuts in acreage and drops in the support price level for potatoes and eggs support the hope that the program will cost less and that world market conditions may become normal.

While 90 per cent of parity continues to be the plan for the six basic commodities, including wheat, corn, cotton, rice, peanuts and tobacco, the support to be accorded potatoes has been cut to 60 per cent and, in the case of eggs, to 75 per cent. These two commodities, both being perishable, caused much of the headaches that have plagued the present support program.

So far as the six basic crops are concerned three are under the dual restraint of acreage allotments and marketing quotas. These are peanuts, tobacco and cotton. Corn, wheat and rice are under acreage control but not marketing quotas. Thus, it seems, the growers of these crops, acting wisely, have cooperated in steps designed to reduce output until carryovers become nearer their usual size.

The peoples of the world, it may be said, can use the entire production of American farmers. That is true but there is no way for them to buy our surpluses. Our foolish international trade policy, including the high tariff, prevents other nations from selling their goods on the U. S. market, and thus makes it impossible for the mto get the dollar exchange necessary to buy farm products.

The reduction in plantings which means a severe cut in production, is deplored in some circles but it would be extremely foolish for American farmers to plan bumper crops until, and unless, there is a market for them at a fair price. When the demand drops, the agriculturalists, with governmental guidance, should do what every factory does, reduce output until demand increases.

RIDING BACKWARD SAFER

Tests by the Air Force indicate that passengers riding backwards can withstand crash injuries much better than those who ride facing the direction of travel.

Six members of the Air Force, volunteering for tests, and seated in a backward position, withstood a force of 35 G's with little difficulty. Facing forward they had to be strapped in with special harness. The force, incidentally, is described as the equivalent of stopping an automobile, going 75 miles an hour, in a distance of nine feet.

Because of injuries in crash landings the Air Force was anxious to find out how much the human body could stand. The tests involved the equivalent of a crash landing and the information gleaned from the experiments may persuade airplane passengers to ride backward as a safety measure against possible crashes.

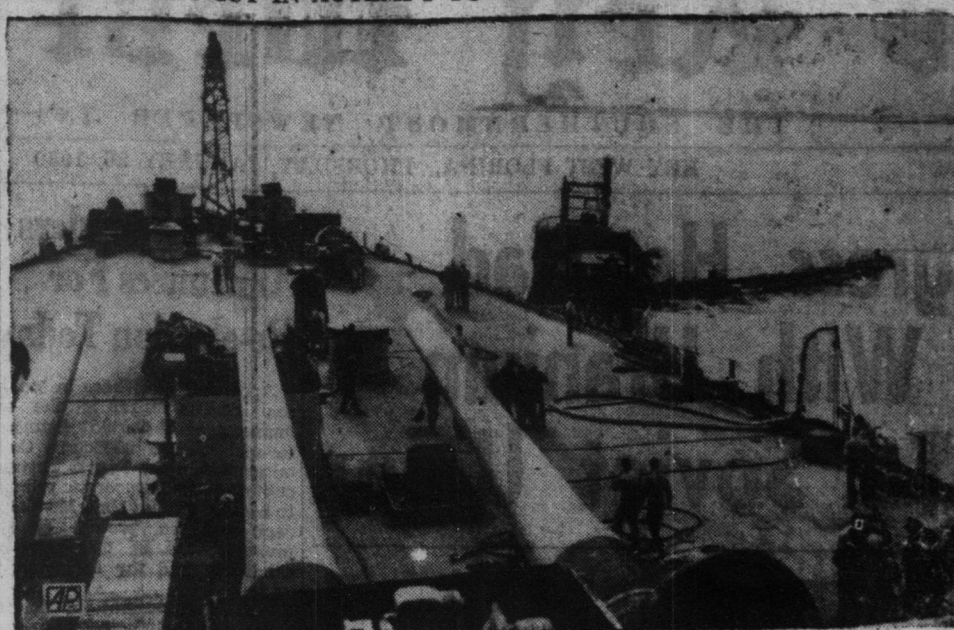
CARS FOR WHITE HOUSE

The White House will soon have a fleet of five seven-passenger limousines and one seven-passenger convertible, with bullet-proof glass and heavily-armored motor, hood and sides, it is said.

The cars will cost about \$30,000 each but will be leased to the White House for a small annual rental. Each will have special fittings, including two-way radios.

This may look like extraordinary precaution in a land where the people rule and there is a general state of peaceful content. Nevertheless, it is a wise precaution, fully justified by the possible existence of cranks, morons and the mentally-unbalanced.

NEW CHANNEL CUT IN ATTEMPT TO FREE BATTLESHIP



(AP) Wirephoto

A DREDGE CARVES A CHANNEL in Chesapeake Bay mud in an attempt to free the U. S. Battleship Missouri from shoals off Old Point Comfort, Va. The "Big Mo" rammed the mud bank a week ago and has frustrated all efforts to get her afloat. Old Point Comfort is in the background.

People's Forum

The Citizen welcomes expressions of opinion from its readers but the editor reserves the right to delete any items which are considered libelous or unimportant. The writers should be fair and confine the letters to one word, and write on one side of the paper only. Signature of the writers must accompany the letters and will be published unless requested otherwise.

GRATEFUL FOR AID

Editor, The Citizen:

We would like to express our deepest thanks to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis for the prompt assistance and treatment given to our son, Arnold Bennett, when he was stricken with polio in August 1949.

The March-of-Dimes campaign is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to show our appreciation and to contribute as freely as possible. It will always be the means of helping someone really in need of the proper treatment for this disease.

Mrs. Wilhelmina Harvey has given unflinchingly of her time and sympathy to these stricken people who really need it a time like this.

Again, we wish to thank the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and all of its workers for the prompt and efficient service rendered whenever they are called upon. Let us give and give abundantly to such a wonderful cause.

MR. AND MRS. G. W. MYERS,
Key West, Fla.,
408 Margaret St.,
Jan. 24, 1950.

KEY WEST AIRPORT FOURTH IN COUNTRY

Editor, The Citizen:

In answer to article in your column, "Shortsightedness," signed "Native Key Wester," under date of Jan. 18, 1950, I do not think that the writer of that article fully realizes the importance of the "Airport" at Meacham Field.

If he will answer this article and identify himself I will endeavor to give him some fact relative to same. This airport now rates fourth in the United States on incoming passengers from foreign countries by air and this amount also leave here for a foreign destination.

I can also furnish him with important information relative to cargo going to and coming from Cuba that is handled at this airport. Airports usually do not make money themselves, it is what the community as a whole derives from the operation.

I am also a Native Key Wester, and fully realize the importance of this Airport and what its

JUDITH ON TRIAL



(AP) Wirephoto

JUDITH COPLON, former Department of Justice employee, walks through the rain to Federal Court in New York for trial on charges of espionage conspiracy. She and Valentin A. Gubitchev, Russian engineer, are being tried jointly. She is accused of stealing national defense data from the government and slipping it to Gubitchev for transfer to Russia.

operation means to the community, I hope that the county will eventually own same so that it will stay an airport.

CHARLES S. LOWE.

Jan. 26, 1950,
1418 6th St.,
Key West, Fla.

MOTOR VESSEL

ETAH

Leaving
Key West for
Mariel, Cuba

SATURDAY,
JANUARY 28

Automobiles Accepted
Until 8 A.M. Saturday
Tourists' Automobiles
\$39.50 (Each Way)

Advertisement



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Give Us Back
Our Sidewalks, Slim!

I wrote that over an article in the *Clarion* last week, but I didn't like doing it. After all, the man it was aimed at—Slim Henderson—is a good friend of mine.

Slim came into quite a windfall last month, and bought the old Clarke place. The deed gave him title to all the land—right down to the street. Then Slim started to take up the sidewalk to make his lawn look better.

I felt it wasn't fair to the town and said so in my article. Next morning Slim comes around and wants to know what I mean—get-

ting folks riled against him. I felt ornery myself, and we had quite a set-to over the whole business.

From where I sit, that was foolish. Once we'd cooled off (over lunch and a bottle of beer at Andy's Tavern), Slim decided the sidewalks should stay—for the common good and I promised next time I'd take a good look at the other fellow's point of view before writing any articles about him!

Joe Marsh

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50 Cub Scouts To Visit Cabot On Saturday

Following in the footsteps of their bigger brothers, 50 Cub Scouts of the Key West area will board the USS Cabot, at 10 o'clock Saturday morning and be conducted on a tour of inspection of the carrier.

It was on January 14, that the Boy Scouts went aboard the carrier and all reported to have enjoyed the trip very much.

The Cabot, which is rich in war history should be one of the best ships in the Navy to visit. She has been host to many groups during her cruises about the Gulf of Mexico.

The Cubs will be conducted on tour in groups of five and a guide for each group will be furnished by the Cabot.

Joe Bringman, District Commissioner of the Boy Scouts, will be in charge of the group.

Also accompanying Bringman, will be Mr. Pyle, Mr. Hoyer, and Mr. Frohock, who are the Cub leaders of the Key West area.

18 VISITORS AT

(Continued From Page One)

Calif.; Orlo Jenkinson, Point Pleasant, N. J.; Charles W. Bledsoe, Angola, Ind.; George S. Hargar, Evans City, Pa.; E. E. Davis, Arlington, Texas; Milt Vorhees, Point Pleasant, N. J.

Leo A. Beltz, Kent, Ohio; Frank Phillips, Ithaca, N. Y.; T. T. Hackworth, Florence, Ala.; Bun Baldwin, St. Joseph, Mich.; Bill Oaks, Philadelphia, Pa.; A. R. Kinas, Green Lake, Wis.; H. Heidel, Green Lake, Wis.

H. Richman, Pensacola, Fla.; Joe Hunter, Coral Gables, Fla.; Eugene Bruhn, Lawrence, Kan.; and Donald T. Jesick, Holland, Mich.

Mail The Citizen to Relatives

Political Announcements

State Democratic Primary,
May 2, 1950

For State Senator
JAMES A. FRANKLIN
(Re-Election)

For State Senator
NORWOOD R. STRAYHORN

For State Representative
J. Y. PORTER IV

For County Commissioner
Second District
FRANK BENTLEY

For County Commissioner
Fourth District
GERALD SAUNDERS

For Member of School Board
Third District
EUGENE L. ROBERTS

STRAND

Thursday - Friday - Saturday

THE GREAT LOVER

with
BOB HOPE, RICHARD FLINN,
THE HOLLAND TOLLETTES,
LARRY LIVER

Coming: THE RED DANUBE
Walter Pidgeon, Peter Lawford,
and Ethel Barrymore

MONROE COOLED

Thursday - Friday - Saturday

SILVER RIVER

with
LARRY FLINN, ANN
SHERIDAN

Coming: LACRIMAS
DE SANGRE

Luella Alvord, Patricia Moray,
Bernardo Braggiotti, and Joop
Loring

GO ALL-ELECTRIC

the Modern Way

SAVE WORK... TIME MONEY

Old fashioned, inefficient methods cost you more—but modern, easy-to-operate, time-and-labor-saving electric conveniences mean better living and easier work—at lower cost.

Use electricity exclusively. It does jobs better... more economically. Use it freely... because it does more work for less.

THE MORE YOU USE, THE LOWER THE RATE

★ ★ ★ ★

City Electric System