

THE FRONTIER

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W. C. TEMPLETON,
Editor and Business Manager

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W. D. MATHEWS WRITES AN INTERESTING LETTER

FIFTY YEARS AGO TODAY

The office of The Frontier at O'Neill was broken into by a mob and the type and furniture thrown into the street. The cause of the outrage was the courageous defense of innocent men made by the editor and proprietor, W. D. Matthews. He was undismayed by the attack and intended to stock up his office immediately.—From the Lincoln State Journal, May 19, 1931.

Do I remember? Well, I should say yes—as well as though only one year instead of fifty had elapsed since the event; as Gus Doyle would put it, "Ah, me by'e, 'tis only an epoch in a man's career."

The building occupied by the Frontier was owned by Dan Kelly; as editor I had stirred up the Democrats, or a few of them, and I think it was Fred Fox, the Niobrara fire brand, who was responsible for the unlawful and unexpected outrage, afterwards deplored and apologized for by the ones participating. I was urged to bring suit for damages, being assured by the best lawyers that winning was certain. However, my better judgment prevailed, and I was always glad of that. I think all hands became my friends in time, and the years I lived in O'Neill were happy, pleasant and prosperous.

There are but few now living who were there on that occasion—Millard and Uttley, the only ones I know of, and neither of them were witnesses to the affair, as I recall it. It was this way: Judge Malloy was induced to issue an ejectment, and at about 7 o'clock in the morning, a posse, headed by Fox, broke into the office and threw the presses, type, etc., into the street. They had taken the hammers and other tools from Frank Toohill's blacksmith shop. Jimmie Riggs slept in the office; the mob waited until he had gone to breakfast at my house; when Jim returned to the office and saw what was going on, he ran back and told me. I was soon on the scene, and started through the front door, exclaiming, "I propose to protect my property," intending getting the revolver, kept in the quoin box under the imposing stone, but Major McGrath met me with a raised sledge hammer, and a couple of huskies literally catapulted my carcass headlong into the street. I hurried to the "Critic" saloon, run by two cowboys, Jo Hall and Billy Cain. (The latter afterward killed Barney Kearns, the sheriff.) There were a number of cowboys in the saloon, (one being Floyd Gray, I think) and four or five of them grabbed their guns, joining me with a forty-five; we headed for the office; when we reached the corner opposite Pat Hazerty's then (where the Holt County Bank later built) the mob began a retreat out the back door. Our boys were about to start shooting when Sanford Parker, then County Clerk, rushed up, shouting, "Good God, men, don't shoot; some one is sure to be killed, maybe you, Doc, and think of your wife and babies." This quieted matters; the

ROYAL THEATRE
O'Neill, Nebraska
HOME OF GOOD PICTURES

Matinee Saturday 2:30; 10-25c; night admission 10-40c.

Friday and Saturday, June 5-6
Joe E. Brown and Winnie Lightner in "SIT TIGHT"

Don't miss this fun-fest. A wonderful picture with both stars doing a bit of very fine work.

Saturday Last Bargain Night
Sun., Mon., Tuesday, June 7-8-9

Will Rogers, in "CONNECTICUT YANKEE"

With William Faenun, Myrna Loy and Maureen O'Sullivan. This 1931 talkie of Twain's grand old story is better and funnier than was that fine silent "Yankee" that Harry Myers starred in some years ago. Liberties have been taken with the book, but even Twain wouldn't kick.

Wednesday & Thurs., June 10-11
"BODY AND SOUL"

With Charles Farrell and Elissa Landi. A good deed forced him into the arms of the wrong woman. Her ravishing beauty enticed him to loiter. Then love bade him remain. Suddenly his blood ran cold as he heard them call her spy. Don't miss it.

Friday and Saturday, June 12-13
James Oliver Curwood's "RIVER'S END"

With Charles Bickford and Evelyn Knapp. The first James Oliver Curwood story to reach the talking screen. A man's picture that women will love. You'll lose your heart in the heart of the north.

wreckers disappeared, the cowboys returned to the saloon, and Riggs and I gathered up the wreck. The job press was placed in Uttley's law office; the hand press in the shack next to Kelly's building that had been used as a saloon, (where I took my first drink in O'Neill, with old Hank McEvony tending bar.) The type and cases arranged in the front part of the "Critic," and the balance stored in John McCafferty's house on the hill. Under these conditions The Frontier business was run for several weeks, until I had built a one-story frame building across from the "Critic," on 4th Street. That building burned down in 1883; I had the Postoffice in the front and the printing office in the rear. This building was replaced with a two-story building with the Odd Fellows hall above, and is yet in existence, I suppose.

There are many more exciting events that followed, but will refrain from further details. Beg pardon for all this talk.

Yours,
W. D. MATHEWS

(For the benefit of Mr. Matthews we will state that the two-story building referred to burned to the ground on the night of December 18, 1924. Mr. D. H. Cronin replaced it with a one-story brick building, which has been the home of The Frontier for the past four years.—Editor.)

JAMES TRIGG KNEW MRS. BELLE GUNNESS OF "MURDER FARM" FAME

Twenty-five or more years ago between LaPorte and Michigan City, Indiana, Mrs. Belle Guinness operated a farm where later was discovered the bodies of quite a few men who had been lured to the Guinness home by this cleverly written advertisement:

"Personal—Handsome widow, who owns a large farm in one of the finest districts in LaPorte County, Indiana, desires to make the acquaintance of a gentleman equally well provided, with the view of joining fortunes. No replies by letter considered unless sender is willing to follow answer with personal visit."

She received personal visits from men from all parts of the country. A fellow by the name of Lanphere, who worked for Mrs. Guinness on the death farm, confessed that many of the visitors never left the farm, and stated that he had buried a number of bodies at night.

The time came when the neighbors suspected that something was wrong about the Guinness place. Hearing of these rumors the murderers left the country one night after poisoning her housekeeper, according to Lanphere's story. Her orders to Lanphere were that he should burn the house after she was gone, which he did. Finding the house in ashes the next morning, the neighbors thought that Mrs. Guinness had lost her life in the fire, but the body found was that of the housekeeper, as told by Lanphere later.

Belle Guinness was reported alive a number of times in the quarter of a century since but the identification has never been so complete as in the case of Mrs. Esther Carlson who recently died in Los Angeles and was almost positively identified as the once notorious Belle Guinness.

James Trigg of this city, during his younger days, resided only four miles from the home of Mrs. Guinness and knew her well when she was a young girl. Mr. Trigg knew nothing about the "Murder Farm" affair excepting what he read in the papers. He knows the location of the noted farm and has been on the place many times when he was a young lad.

HOLT COUNTY MAN IN TROUBLE AT BURKE, S. D.

Burke, South Dakota, Gazette, May 28, 1931: It appears that a regular hold-up was staged last week, when Anton Dvorak, northeast of Bone-steel, was induced to ride to the mail box after his mail with two strangers who said they had driven from beyond Spencer, Neb., a distance of about forty miles, to get a sack of wheat for chicken feed from Mr. Dvorak. With Mr. Dvorak in the car, they were all three forced to hand over what money they had, by a man with a gun who appeared at one place in the road where view was obstructed in every direction. It is evident the whole affair was planned. Mr. Dvorak was relieved of \$580.00 and the other men handed over small amounts. After the robbery the three were forced to lie face down on the ground while the robber escaped. After the escape of the robber much time was spent in argument with Mr. Dvorak as to what was best to do. At last they persuaded him he must go and tell his wife first, after which they apparently attempted to follow the robber's car. Failing, of course, they notified the sheriff and even helped in search of the thief. Soon suspicion was pointed toward the would-be helpers and they were lodged in the county jail. Preliminary hearing was held in Burke, Tuesday, and the two men were bound over to the next term of court, next October and their bonds fixed at \$7,500 each. The third party in the robbery is unknown. Glen Anderson, one of the accused men, says he lives in Holt county, Nebr., and Charley Hansen, the other, at Sioux City. Unable to furnish bonds they will likely remain in jail.

BOY SCOUTS TO GIVE SUPPER ON EVE OF JUNE 10

The Boy Scouts of Troup No. 178 will serve a supper at the basement of the Methodist church on Wednesday, June 10th. Mothers of the Scouts will assist them in serving. The purpose is to help defray the expenses of the camp at the Niobrara river, June 17 to 24th. All Scouts of the district are privileged to attend this Camp. The boys will sell tickets before the date of the supper. Buy your tickets of the boys when they call on you, and help them make a success of their undertaking.

LOCAL BASEBALL NEWS

The management at this time wants to thank all who had part in the making of the baseball benefit dance a great success, and especially Herb Hammond and the K. C. council for their donation of the hall, also Clarence Zimmerman and his faithful aides in the promotion of the affair. A nice amount of \$71 was raised for the furtherance of baseball in O'Neill this summer.

News of interest to local fans is the announcement by the club of the scheduling of the Fourth of July game at Albion, Nebraska, between O'Neill and the Murphy-Did-Its, a fast semi-pro club of Omaha, for a purse of \$300, further illustrating the standing of the local team in the estimation of fans in this part of the state.

This week, under the leadership of Jos. Cuddy and his co-workers, a season ticket sale is being sponsored; price of said tickets are \$2.50, entitling the holder and his entire family to admittance to all home games during the present season. In view of the low price of the tickets, there should be no fan who, if he likes baseball, can afford to be without one of these tickets, and his support will carry the club successfully through the season.

CREIGHTON DROPS TWO TO RED BIRD

(Norfolk News)

Red Bird, Neb., June 2: The Red Bird baseball team got revenge from Creighton for the 5 to 4 beating handed it two weeks ago on the Creighton diamond, by defeating Creighton 9 to 1 on their home diamond Saturday and repeated the victory by 9 to 4 at Red Bird Sunday.

Batteries Saturday: For Red Bird Tomlinson and Schollmeyer; Creighton, Neuhaus and Neuhaus; Sunday, for Red Bird, Hansen and Schollmeyer; for Creighton, Ludke, Bartling, Neuhaus and Neuhaus.

The feature of both games was the heavy stick work on the part of the Red Bird hitters.

This makes three victories in four starts for Red Bird this year. The team will meet the fast Walnut nine on the Red Bird diamond next Sunday.

LOCAL NEWS

Mrs. J. B. Mellor is able to be out again following a serious illness.

Frank Phalin moved his barber shop Monday to the new location in the Bowen building.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Anderson and children and Mrs. J. B. Anderson spent Decoration Day at Dorsey. Mrs. E. E. Reed and children, Reta and Mary, South Sioux City, Nebraska, came Friday for a visit with Mrs. Reed's aunt, Mrs. J. C. Carney.

\$5 GOLD PIECE \$5

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MINIATURE GOLF LINKS

—On—
SATURDAY NIGHT, JUNE 6TH

Ask for particulars!
25c All Saturday.

Women's Tournament Starts June 29th.



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THE FULLY AGED BREW



The George Crellin family returned Sunday night from a two day's visit with relatives in Cedar county, Nebraska, and at Yankton, S. D.

We understand that the new Studebaker car driven by Bernard Hynes turned over and was consumed by flames last Saturday evening on the home place north of O'Neill.

Rev. Benj. Kuhler and daughters, Ruth and Lois, drove to Gordon, Nebraska, Wednesday for a few day's visit with their daughter and sister, Mrs. Walter Frey, and with Mrs. C. A. Atzkel, a sister of Rev. Kuhler.

Miss Velma Atzkel returned with them and will visit in O'Neill for a time.

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For All Makes of Cars During Month of June

Now **\$1.00** Only

This Complete Lubrication is the most Important of All Service Jobs. Be sure YOUR CAR GETS IT EVERY 500 MILES

All this service for only \$1.00

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Grease all Zirk fittings (by pressure) | 8. Inflate tires to proper pressure | 16. Oil generator |
| 2. Check transmission and differential for grease | 9. Inspect movement of clutch pedal | 17. Oil foot accelerator |
| 3. Spray springs, brake rod connections and equalizers | 10. Grease clutch collar | 18. Oil hood hooks, hood hinges and hood laces (wipe off) |
| 4. Spray chassis joints | 11. Check water pump pack-nut for leak | 19. Grease steering gear with special lubricant |
| 5. Oil stop light switch | 12. Grease fan | 20. Check generator charging rate (report) |
| 6. Change motor oil if called for | 13. Grease water pump | 21. Test and water battery (report reading) |
| 7. Oil front springs through front cross member | 14. Vaseline distributor cam | |
| | 15. Soft-oil distributor shaft | |

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|---|--|--|
| 1. Take the rattle out of break rods | 8. Check water pump for leak and tighten if necessary | 14. Check window lifts and paraffine runners |
| 2. Check movement of clutch pedal | 9. Adjust distributor breaker points | 15. Test and water battery (report reading) |
| 3. Check chassis (report condition to service manager) | 10. Check horn for tone and adjust (clean armature if necessary) | 16. Check generator charge rate and adjust |
| 4. Check shock absorbers for seasonal adjustment and refill glycerine | 11. Check operation of windshield wiper | 17. Check front wheel alignment (report to service mgr. if adjustment necessary) |
| 5. Drain sediment bulb screen | 12. Check tail and stop lights | |
| 6. Clean carburetor screen | 13. Check doors for tightness (adjust if necessary) | |
| 7. Clean carburetor idling jets and adjust | | |

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O'Neill, Nebraska