

### LOCAL NEWS.

Miss Dorothy Collins, of Plainview came Tuesday evening for a visit with her aunt, Mrs. John L. Quig.

Mrs. Max Janes and daughter, Margaret Ann, of Bakersfield, California, are visiting at the home of her mother, Mrs. D. Stannard.

Bobby Ryan returned Saturday from Norfolk where he had been visiting with his sister, Miss Helen who is employed by the Massey-Harris Implement Co.

Mrs. F. J. Sexsmith and family have been enjoying a visit from her father, A. B. Heaton, of Greenfield, Iowa, and a nephew, John Heaton, of Yankton, South Dakota.

Mrs. J. M. Hunter and sister, Mrs. J. L. Williams, of Tipton, Iowa, and daughter, Mrs. Will Brady, of Calgary, Canada, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hunter at Star.

Mrs. Leslie Hough left the latter part of last week to join her husband at Thermopolis, Wyo., where he has been taking treatment for rheumatism. They will visit Yellowstone Park before returning home.

Mrs. R. H. Murray received word of the death of her son-in-law Magne Hagen, of Ashland, Montana, following an operation for appendicitis, at a hospital in Sheridan, Wyoming. Mrs. Hagen was formerly Margaret Murray.

Albert Anderson, who was taken to the state hospital at Norfolk several months ago, died at that place Sunday afternoon. The body was brought to Page, where funeral services were held Monday afternoon. Mr. Anderson's home was seven miles north of Page.

Will Maupin, the versatile feature writer of various daily papers, was in O'Neill last week shaking hands with old time friends.

Editor and Mrs. George A. Miles, accompanied by their grand-daughter, Lenone Miles, left Tuesday by auto for Chadron and visited at the home of their son Faye Allen Miles. From there they will take the train for Deer Trail, Colorado, for an extended visit with their daughter, Mrs. George Davies and family.

Prof. and Mrs. Guy C. Miller and three sons left Tuesday afternoon for Lincoln, where Mr. Miller will attend an insurance company meeting. They will then go to Iowa City, Iowa, where they will be joined by the parents of Mrs. Miller and go to Canada, stopping enroute at Minneapolis, Minnesota for a visit with Mr. Miller's parents.

The Lions Club enjoyed their usual noon day luncheon Tuesday at the Idlhaur. The hot weather and the fact that a number of members were out of the city were the causes of a small attendance. The club voted to change the noon day luncheon from Tuesday until Thursday for the present. The management of the Idlhaur served the club a turkey dinner which was extra fine.

Bobby Allen, the two and one-half year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ethan Allen, who reside thirteen miles east of O'Neill, was bitten by a dog one day last week. The dog was used to playing with the children but at this time was gnawing on a bone and when the little fellow went up to him the dog attacked the child savagely. Dr. French was called and took care of the little boy. The dog was killed.

A daughter weighing eight and one-half pounds was born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Summers, of this city on July 12th.

J. P. Gallagher and son Frank spent several days last week visiting relatives in Valentine and fishing on the lakes south of the city.

Mrs. H. L. Whitman and three children, Mitchell, Morris and Bobann motored from Boston, arriving here Saturday evening for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Oberle, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. George Robertson, daughter Doris and son George T., and Mrs. Thomas, mother of Mrs. Robertson, went to Hastings, last Friday for a visit at the home of S. G. Thomas and family, also to make arrangements for George T. to enter Hastings college this fall.

### EIGHTEEN YEARS REQUIRED FOR LETTER TO RETURN

Just how long a time is required by the postal department to deliver a letter or return it to the sender is not easily determined. A letter was returned to Clyde King the first of last week that was addressed to Mr. Robert McLaren, Chambers, Nebraska, and carried an O'Neill postmark April 9, 1913; another postmark said Auburn, Nebraska, June 11, 1931; the Chambers stamp is not clear but shows the year to be 1931. The letter had been opened by "Mrs. J. W. Ponn." It had been sealed with an official seal of the post office department.

At the time this letter was written Mr. McLaren was a resident of the Chambers community but has since moved away and his address is unknown.

The letter was plainly addressed.

### HORISKEY—OAKLEY

(Cody, Wyoming, Daily Reminder)

Married, this morning at 9 o'clock by Father Spellane, at the Catholic church in Powell, John M. Horiskey and Mary E. Oakley. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Kepler, and after the ceremony the party returned to Cody and were given a wedding breakfast at 11 o'clock by the old timers, Mr. and Mrs. George Grupp. Mr. and Mrs. Horiskey left for Billings at once for a few days outing, but will return to make Cody their future home.

"Jack" is one of the best known business men of this community, where he has lived for years and has a host of friends who wish him ever happiness. Mrs. Horiskey is a graduate nurse and is well known here for the past two years and will be welcomed as a permanent resident.

### VENUS FARMER KILLS MANY GRASSHOPPERS

(Page Reporter)

Mr. Henry Van Brocklin, living northeast of Venus, has invented a grasshopper catcher that does the work. It is nine feet long and four feet high, with a pan at the bottom that is about two feet deep into which the kerosene is placed. The contraption is then fastened on the bumper of the car and ready to go. He has caught three bushels or around 600,000 hoppers in an hour. This type catcher can only be used in stubble and alfalfa fields.

A man near Cozad has made a similar catcher, with the exceptions of it being fourteen feet long and has succeeded in catching five bushels of hoppers in an hour.

### GAS THIEVES HAVE BEEN BUSY TAPPING CARS

A number of automobiles have been drained of gas during the past ten days while their owners have been otherwise engaged.

A few nights ago Roy Warner surprised a couple of young fellows who were taking the gas from his car in front of his residence. Roy has a six foot piece of steam hose that the thieves were using for a syphon.

Several young men have been questioned by the sheriff but so far no arrests have been made.

### CHARLES HANCOCK BECOMES PARTNER WITH S. L. BERRY

Charles Hancock has become a partner with S. L. Berry in the Real Estate office. The firm will carry on a general real estate business and will also write insurance of all kinds.

Mr. Berry has been confined to his home for some time suffering from a light stroke of paralysis from which he is slowly recovering.

Mr. Hancock is a hustling young man who has had considerable experience in a business way and is thoroughly competent to carry on the business.

### P. J. WEAVER, OF WINNER, LOSES CAR IN O'NEILL

P. J. Weaver, of Winner, South Dakota, district superintendent of the Continental Oil Company, parked his car in front of a restaurant Sunday evening while he ate lunch; when he returned his car had disappeared; the following morning the car was discovered near the Baker home in Inman; the car displayed evidence of rough usage as the fenders were somewhat damaged and a large quantity of barbed wire was entangled about the axles of the car.

### WM. CAMPBELL FINED; FACES PENITENTIARY

(Stuart Advocate)

Rock County Judge Hilburg fined William Campbell, Stuart bootlegger \$100.00 and costs or 60 days in jail, yesterday. Campbell pleaded guilty to the charge of possessing intoxicating liquors and to shooting with intent to kill. The fine covered the booze charge only, and the culprit will be tried on the other charge in Judge Dickson's district court, where a penitentiary sentence may be imposed.

Campbell is the young man who attempted to emulate city gangsters by "shooting it out" with the law at Pony Lake recently and as usual in such cases, the law got him first. He has been in the Ainsworth hospital, suffering from three bullet wounds inflicted by Rock County's efficient sheriff, Joe Leonard and his deputy, Mr. Tate. Two of the bullets have been extracted, but one still remains near his kidneys.

Judge Dickson, last Friday, sentenced Campbell to serve a term of five to ten years in the state penitentiary.

### OLD SETTLERS PICNIC THURSDAY, AUGUST 13TH

The annual Old Settlers Picnic will be held in the same grove as last year which is the Simonson grove, near the Agee postoffice on Thursday, August 13, 1931.

Congressman Edgar Howard will make the address.

The committee on arrangements is already at work preparing a real interesting program for the entertainment of those who attend.

### CHURCH BELL RINGING MARKS DATE OF BATH

Irish Resident of O'Neill Conditions Donations for a Church

(By Will M. Maupin)

Neil Brennan bathed his tired and blistered feet in the Elkhorn river at O'Neill on May 12, 1874.

Of course, he had bathed them before, and many times since, but that was a momentous footbath. Brennan had just walked behind a team all the way from the Missouri river.

Many years later George Miles, long time editor and publisher of O'Neill, undertook to raise enough money to purchase a bell for a new Presbyterian church. Passing the home of Colonel Brennan, a staunch Catholic, he was hailed by the colonel, who asked:

"What koin'd uv a bell was you thinkin' of gettin' for the church?"

Miles explained and walked on. A few weeks later Brennan called on Miles and told him the bell was ready to hang.

"But I haven't raised the money yet," said Miles.

"Never moind the money, George. Have th' bell hung an' send th' bill t' me. All I ask is that noon iv'ry twelfth of May th' bell be rung."

So for many years the little bell on the Presbyterian church was rung at high noon on May 12, and George Miles attended to the ringing.

The first whites known to have stopped in what is now Holt county was a band of Mormons, who camped on the bank of Oak creek, enroute to Deseret, in the fall of 1846. But they passed on and not until 1871 was there any attempt at settlement in that section. Among the early settlers were H. M. Uttley, an attorney, and R. J. Marsh who later became O'Neill postmaster.

Meanwhile away back east a fiery Irishman who had commanded a regiment of Negro troops during the civil war, had just failed in an attempt to wrest Canada from the hated Sassenach. His name was John O'Neill, who was the general in command of the Fenian troops recruited in the United States that invaded Canada and were repulsed.

After that fiasco O'Neill headed west and was interested by certain parties in colonizing Holt county. Under the leadership of O'Neill many Irish families from the east, and some from the "Old Sod," were persuaded to homestead or buy land in the county. For a number of years the population was almost wholly of Irish birth or descent. Perhaps the fact that the first actual settlers were Michael Ford and Johnny Devclin had something to do with interesting General O'Neill in the enterprise.

St. Mary's Academy was the result of this colonization, and for many years it has exerted a profound influence for good upon the youth of O'Neill and Holt county. It has heretofore taught only the eight grades, but is being equipped for the full high school course.

O'Neill has a sizeable creamery and also an Armour poultry and egg packing plant employing a number of persons. But O'Neill, like other towns in the county, is dependent upon agriculture.

Holt is the second largest hay producing county in the state. Last February the county employed J. W. Rooney as county agent, and the way Rooney has interested the farm boys and girls in 4-H club work is really astonishing. Prior to his assuming the work there were two clubs with twelve members. In five months he has established more than

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30 clubs, and the club enrollment is now in excess of 325. Baby beef and swine clubs predominate, although the girls have several sewing and domestic science clubs. Rooney is enthusiastic in his work, and able to arouse enthusiasm in the youngsters of the county. He asserts that Holt county baby beehives shown at the Omaha Live Stock show next fall will proudly wear home some premiums.

Every Nebraska democrat with a memory back of yesterday will remember John Robinson of O'Neill, who represented his district in the senate several terms, and represented it well, too. The last time he was a candidate for nomination, a trick, since familiar, was pulled on him. His political opponent filed another John Robinson, from Rock county, and the trick was successful.

Holt county has a half interest, from a revenue standpoint, in one of the largest hydroelectric develop-

ments in the middle west. It is located on the Niobrara river, one half of it in Holt and the other in Boyd county. Being privately owned, it pays \$2,500 a year in taxes to each of the two counties. It develops two thousand horse power and the river below the dam is a favorite resort for hundreds of fishermen.

Holt county was organized in 1874. The particular pride of O'Neill is the Hotel Golden, a monument to its builder, Thomas Golden, now dead. Mr. Golden was a builder, a leader, and always first in works calculated to make O'Neill and Holt county bigger and better.

O'Neill is one of those older Nebraskatowns that has not forgotten the old homestead ways that marked the early pioneers. Why try to call the roll of all the good fellows? But here, for instance, are a few: Mike Harrington, Judge Harrington, Jim Donohoe, Clyde King, John Weekes, —oh, get the telephone directory!

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