

**THE FRONTIER . . . O'Neill, Nebr.**

CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher

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**A Magnificent Fight**

The brave people of O'Neill, Holt county and Nebraska are waging a magnificent fight.

They are fighting for their homes, their possessions, their livestock, their children and their very lives.

In all the long recorded history of the state, never has such a determined, fierce, heroic struggle been waged. It is not a war with a foreign enemy, but it is a war with more dangerous foes—the forces of nature.

They are fighting for their lives and their children's lives against the onslaughts of what will undoubtedly go down into history as the worst Winter in the annals of the Midwest.

There is no need to go into the terrible details of the present Winter.

Every man, woman and child from one end of the country to the other who reads the newspapers or listens to the radio knows all about this awful Winter. By now the Nation has felt the impact by word and picture. Midwestern storm newsmatter has been front page news now in the newspapers for several weeks and is featured in many of the leading magazines.

The publications of the country have sent out their top reporters and photographers to cover the story and they have done a splendid job of it. The result has been graphic stories and pictures, written and taken on the spot, which have thrilled millions of readers.

The World-Herald published a splendid edition, entitled "The Blizzard of '49," which was a great achievement of modern journalism. It contained a large number of pages, which were filled with thrilling eye witness reports of January's devastating blizzards, accompanied by numerous almost incredible photographs.

Great credit is due these newspapermen who have covered the devastating storms of the present Winter for they, not only experienced discomfort and were exposed to dangers of various sorts, but endured actual privation and a degree of suffering while on the hazardous assignment. As usual, however, the newspaper men "got the story."

For many strenuous and agonizing weeks now, The Frontier has featured the successive storms and blizzards of the present Winter with front page stories and pictures and the "Voice of The Frontier" has broadcast at regular intervals a summary of storm news and the desperate efforts which were being made to combat the fury of the elements and alleviate suffering.

From last November, when the first storm of a terrible Winter swept over Holt county and Nebraska up until the present time, the weather has been front page news in The Frontier. It was a difficult, distressing story for any newspaper, either weekly or daily, to cover; but the staff has done its best and we hope its efforts have been appreciated. Not only in O'Neill and Holt county, but in the surrounding area and in various far off localities, the story has been read and listened to with intense interest.

Such is a brief survey of the unprecedented Winter of 1948 and 1949. It began with a destructive storm in November and has raged with cumulative force and fury up until now. It is now past the middle of February and, while at this date, the cold is intense, the wind howls and the streets, roads, highways and fields are covered by huge drifts of snow, the end of the terrible Winter can't be very far off. That encouraging fact is indicated by lengthening days, warmer sunshine and various other reliable signs.

But, as of this date, the magnificent, heroic fight against the forces of nature goes on and is being won. It is an inspiring thing to observe how all the people of this stricken territory are working together toward a common goal.

That goal is nothing less than the preservation of their precious possessions—their homes, their land, their fields, their ranches, their livestock and their very lives.

Everybody is cooperating wholeheartedly in this battle with the weather—the rural people, the airmen, the business people, the county and state officials, the Army and Air Force, and last—but certainly not least—the American Red Cross.

In spite of all our efforts, of course, the financial loss resulting from such a Winter as this has been will be tremendous. That is obvious, but there is some compensation in the spirit of cooperation which has been aroused.

Nebraska was founded and built up to its present high standard in the Union by the indomitable courage and perseverance of the pioneers—the men and women who faced danger and hardship of all kinds in the early days—and that same indomitable spirit will win again.

It is the spirit of the West.

★ ★ ★

Naturally, people who have places to rent would like to see the controls taken off and people who pay rent would like to see them stay on.

★ ★ ★

No disputing the fact that the present Winter is the worst in the recorded history of Nebraska.

★ ★ ★

The birthdays of several great Americans occur in the short month of February.

★ ★ ★

The spirit of the pioneers will win again this year as it has in the past.

**Prairieland Talk —**

**Storm-Stricken Holt Residents Didn't Join 'Gimme' Crowd in Time of Need**

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

LINCOLN—From a personal letter I learn something of the experiences in Holt county since the blizzard of November 18 introduced the long, severe Winter. Here is what my friend, H. W. Tomlinson, writes:

"It was several weeks before the people here realized their danger. But you know these people are the sons and daughters and grandsons and granddaughters of the old pioneer stock and they don't give up easy. They have not joined the 'gimme' crowd but when they realized the situation their plight was made known to the outside world and the state responded magnificently with aid from Washington.

"The American Red Cross, American Legion, the Auxiliary and the old boss, John Q. Public, are doing a job

that has never been excelled even in war times. Volunteers have worked the night through in drifting snow with the weather 20 below and no gripes.

"There is no end in sight and will not be for two months yet. I am afraid the toll in human life will be disclosed to be greater than now thought when the snow uncovers its secrets."

Sixty-five-year-old Nebraska patriots who may have entertained visions of spending the long Summer afternoons with a line and fish pole in the shade of a cottonwood on the banks of the Elkhorn or Niobrara and catching a bullhead or two without first having to go to a state functionary and laying down the cash for a license to fish have had their pleasant dream

**He'll Take the High Road**



floated off into the hard rocks of reality.

Sen. Frank Nelson made a fight for such a favor to the superannuated citizen only to run into the insurmountable greed for revenue. The adoption of this measure would have meant a lot to many who have reached the unproductive period of life and probably would not have reduced by one penny the fees going to a setup that is maintained for the few not the masses of citizens.

The game and fish commission think they are pretty important to the life of Nebraskans though probably not more than five percent of the adults of any community take out license to fish in Nebraska waters.

State laws invest with the elements of a criminal anyone who kills certain game animals. Depredations have resulted this winter from the presence of these animals on farms and ranches by consuming much feed needed for the livestock. One instance is reported of a thousand bushels of corn being consumed by a bunch of antelope. The only means of protecting his property from such raids the citizen has is to shoot the animals. That makes him a criminal. He is then the victim of his state. The animal being protected by law does it become a charge of the state and as a charge of the state is the state responsible to the individual citizen for losses occasioned by such animals hunting for feed? Should the state pay that gent for the loss of his thousand bushels of corn?

That a sales tax is anything but another tax is pure fiction. Under what ever plans are promulgated for revenue property, real and personal, will always be the burden bearer of taxation. The sales tax is a dishonest tax. Goods bought are taxed. Iowa, Kansas, Colorado, states across the Nebraska boundaries have the sales tax. Both buyer and seller in these states do not approve of the tax. It makes an endless amount of bookkeeping for the dealer in commodities and requires the purchaser to pay an additional tax on goods he buys that have been taxed in the assessors' yearly roundup. What the country needs is not more taxes but less spending.

Senator Hanna, opposing any added personnel to the staff of game wardens says not any more gents dressed up as Boy Scouts are needed in Nebraska to catch kids fishing for sunfish but something might be done about the slaughter of deer out his way. Maybe most of us have a streak of what the late Judge Malone termed jackass vanity and if the game warden derives pleasure out of a Boy Scout outfit that is about all there is to his job. Perhaps the cowboy from Cherry gets a bit of a thrill out of being addressed as Senator.

We regret to learn of the death at Santa Barbara, Calif., on February 5 of Mrs. D. H. Cronin. About two years ago

**For a Good Time**

VISIT THE

**OLD PLANTATION CLUB**

Elgin, Nebr.

- ★
- Fine Food
- Dancing
- Entertainment

Members and their guests are invited to visit the Old Plantation Club.

**People Are Urged To Write Letters**

By A. STOLLER

PHOENIX, ARIZ., Feb. 8—In a meditative moment, I asked myself this question the other day, "What one thing would bring the greatest amount of happiness to the most people at the least cost?" My answer to my own question was, "A friendly or affectionate letter."

Of course, there are a lot of letters which people do not enjoy receiving—wastebaskets are full of them, but that is not the kind I have in mind. Nor do I have in mind the letters which contain bad news. I am thinking of those letters with a three cent or air mail stamp on them which are eagerly opened and read with delight. You can see people opening and reading such letters everywhere—in the post-office, in the stores and restaurants and on the streets.

The cost of sending such a letter is negligible, but the joy it brings is immeasurable.

The question suggested itself to me when I was starting down town and found a letter from my son in far-off, blizzard-ridden Nebraska waiting for me at the door. It gave me a tingle of pleasure as personal letters do to everybody.

Then, I reflected that everybody enjoys receiving personal letters, just as I do. It establishes a contact with some friend or loved one far away which is almost as personal as personal contact. Everybody who reads this knows that this is a fact.

Then, I thought for a moment about the important place letter writing had in the last World War and how the mails were flooded with letters to the men overseas. Also, how anxiously the folks back home watched and waited for some word from the son or husband or brother or sweetheart or some other loved one in distant lands.

That was letter writing at its best and the people of the United States rose nobly to their opportunity. I know personally of some who wrote regularly every day.

Those letters brought untold joy and comfort to the boys fighting for their country overseas and many pathetic stories are told about that last letter from home. In some instances, it was clutched in stiffened fingers on the blood-soaked battlefields or found in a bullet-pierced pocket of some soldier's uniform. In some pathetic cases, the soldier died without receiving the long looked for letter. Likewise, was the last letter from a soldier overseas cherished by some loved one at home.

We may be very thankful that no such tragic need of letter writing exists today. Our country is at peace, but the need still exists for friendly and affectionate letters. Those aged parents at home, that son or daughter out in the world, that patient in a hospital, that lonesome friend and many others would be cheered and helped by such a letter.

"The letter that never came" are among the saddest words ever spoken and express the deep, unfulfilled longing of the human heart. And the saddest part of it all is that the sorrow

which is implied in those words is not ordinarily due to deliberate neglect or indifference, but to procrastination. Our intentions are good, but we just put it off.

So, my suggestion is—Write that letter today! (Next week: The YMCA Roundup.)

**Miss Brunkhorst New Noble Grand**

INMAN — Arbutus Rebekah lodge installed officers Wednesday night, February 9, at the Odd Fellow hall. Meeting was called by the noble grand, Mrs. H. R. Tompkins.

Members of the installation staff, all past noble grands, were: Mrs. James McMahan, district deputy president; Mrs. Clarence Hansen, district deputy marshal; Mrs. Ira Watson, district deputy warden; Miss Muriel Keyes, district deputy secretary; Mrs. Ermand Keyes, district deputy treasurer; Mrs. Leon Tompkins, district deputy chaplain; Mrs. Anna Smith, district deputy inside guardian; Mrs. A. N. Butler, installing musician.

Newly installed officers are: Miss Faye Brunkhorst, noble grand; Mrs. Arthur Tomlinson, vice grand; Mrs. Wilbur Brown, secretary; Miss Elsie Krueger, treasurer; Mrs. Elwin Smith, right supporter to the noble grand; Mrs. E. E. Clark, left supporter to the noble grand; Mrs. Earl Watson, right supporter to the vice grand; Mrs. T. D. Hutton, left supporter to the vice grand; Mrs. Lewis Kopecky, jr., warden; Mrs. Charles Luben, conductor; Miss Patricia McMahan, inside guardian; Mrs. Ray Gannon, outside guardian; Mrs. Kenneth Smith, chaplain, and Mrs. James Coventry, musician.

There were 26 members present. Most of the members are rural women and this is the first time the Rebekahs have been able to meet this year due to inclement weather and to blocked roads.

Hostesses for the afternoon were: Mrs. Clarence Hansen, Mrs. Leon Tompkins, Mrs. Wil-

bur Brown and Mrs. James Coventry. Refreshments were served.

Except that roads had been cleared by bulldozers the meeting could not have been held.

**GIRL SCOUT NEWS**

IRISH LASSIES

Irish Lassie Girl Scout troop held its regular meeting at St. Mary's academy.

We opened with the Girl Scout laws and promise. We made plans for our Valentine party.

Mary Ann Hickey, Keron Donohoe, Mary M. Zee were captains for a spelling bee.

Shirley Ross won the prize for the lucky number.

Mrs. Jill gave a report on our finances. Eighteen girls were present at the meeting.

The girl that won in the spelling bee was LaVon Miller. —By Sara Lou Moss, troop scribe.

A modern fallacy: thinking that when the form of government is changed the heart of man is changed too.

**How Education Is Used To Improve Tavern Conditions**

The vast majority of beer retailers in Nebraska operate decent, respectable law-abiding places. This is due, in part, to the continuing program of education conducted among these retailers.

**How Accomplished?**

An important part of this work is through trained fieldmen, familiar with conditions in ideal taverns, who inform others how to improve their operations.

Operators whose taverns might be in need of improvements are shown how it is to their advantage to conduct their establishments in an approved manner.

**Worthy Goals**

Efforts are made to create within each dealer a sincere desire to adhere strictly to all lawful procedures—to be a good citizen and a worthy member of the community.

**NEBRASKA DIVISION**

United States Brewers Foundation

710 First Nat'l Bank Bldg., Lincoln

**LISTEN**

To the . . .

**Ol' Jingle Chef**

Each Wednesday,

9:30 a. m.

"Voice of The Frontier"

WJAG . . . 780 on

Dial

**MONEY TO LOAN**

ON AUTOMOBILES TRUCKS TRACTORS EQUIPMENT FURNITURE

**CENTRAL FINANCE CORP.**

C. E. JONES, Manager

O'NEILL : NEBRASKA

**Gold Medal Award**  
**FASHION ACADEMY OF NEW YORK SELECTS**

**The '49 Ford**  
**AS THE "FASHION CAR OF THE YEAR"**

Citation "The 1949 Ford embodies all the essential qualities of good taste, modern design and subtle harmony in line and color. It is indeed, a compliment to the style-conscious woman who will recognize and appreciate the flattering background it provides for her best dressed appearance."

*President, The Fashion Academy of New York*

And "looks" are only half the story!

Take the wheel... try the new Ford "FEEL"

**PHONE 16**

**Lohaus Motor Co. O'NEILL**

The Fashion Academy of New York has been noted for the past 20 years for its annual selection of "America's best dressed women." The '49 Ford was chosen to receive the Fashion Academy Gold Medal after 1949 automobile models of all makes and in all price classes had been carefully studied from the standpoint of excellence in design, simplicity and feminine style appeal. This recognition of Ford leadership in the modern trend of automobile design stands as a unique tribute to the work of Ford's Styling Department and of Design Consultant George Walker of Detroit.