

Out of Old Nebraska —

Most Counties, Cities, Towns in State Are Named After Individuals

By JAMES C. OLSON

Much history can be learned from a study of place names, and two of the most interesting books ever written about Nebraska are, "Nebraska Place Names," by Lillian Fitzpatrick; and "The Origin of the Place Names of Nebraska," by J. T. Link. Both of these were published by the University of Nebraska, the former in 1925 and the latter in 1933.

These works show statistically a fact which is fairly apparent to anyone travelling about Nebraska or studying a map of the state—that by far the greatest number of Nebraska's counties, towns, and cities were named after individuals.

Of the 93 counties, 68 bear personal names. Those most frequently honored have been presidents of the United States, and 12 Nebraska counties bear presidential names: Adams, Arthur, Fillmore, Garfield, Grant, Hayes, Jefferson, Lincoln, Madison, Pierce, Polk and Washington.

Nebraska's towns showed the same tendency in selecting names, although instead of presidents, railroad officials and employees were the persons most frequently honored. Many Nebraska towns were laid out by the railroads and it was customary for railroad companies to name stations after faithful employees. According to Dr. Link, more than 150 Nebraska communities were so named.

Indian names are used much less frequently than one might expect, although the name of the state itself is derived from either an Omaha or Oto word meaning "flat water." Both tribes were of the Siouan linguistic stock and their names for the Platte river were similar—one is about as close to "Nebraska" as the other.

The French translated the word to "Platte" or "Platte" on their early maps of the region.

The name Nebraska for the region through which the river runs was first officially suggested by William Wilkins, Secretary of War to President Tyler, who in his report for 1844 urged the creation of a territory between the Missouri river and the Rockies and suggested that, "the Platte or Nebraska, being the central stream leading into from the Great South Pass would very properly furnish a name for the territory."

Portugee Phillips' Heroic Ride Belatedly Recognized — On Christmas night, 1866, old Fort Laramie, guardian and outpost of the overland trail, provided the setting for one of the most intense and heroic dramas ever enacted on the western frontier.

The mercury had plunged to 25 degrees below zero, but inside "Old Bedlam," the officers' club all was warm and gay with the festivity of a Christmas celebration.

Suddenly out of the frozen darkness a gaunt, swaying figure, swathed in a buffalo coat and covered with snow, staggered into the midst of the celebration. He gasped that he

had important messages for the commanding officer, and collapsed on the floor.

This man, John C. (Portugee) Phillips, had ridden all the way from Ft. Philip Kearney, 235 miles away, with word from Colonel Henry B. Carrington that the Indians were besieging the fort, and that if help failed to come soon the entire garrison, including the women and children, was doomed to death.

The attack on Fort Philip Kearney was part of the Indian effort, under the leadership of Chief Red Cloud, to drive the white man off the Bozeman Road, freight and emigrant route from the Platte Valley to the gold fields of Montana. Fort Philip Kearney had been built only the summer before to furnish protection for travelers on the road.

With the situation desperate without help from the outside, Portugee Phillips, a scout and hunter, had volunteered to risk his life in a ride through the cold and the Indians to take the news to Fort Laramie. His only stipulation was that he go on Colonel Carrington's prize Kentucky thoroughbred, the fastest horse at the post.

Reinforcements immediately were sent out from Laramie, and when they arrived at Ft. Philip Kearney, they found the garrison alive and well. The sub-zero weather which endangered Portugee Phillips' life had prevented the Indians from making an attack.

Phillips recovered from his wild ride and continued his life as scout, hunter and general handyman around our western military posts. Very tardily, his heroism was recognized by the government.

Colonel Carrington never got his prize thoroughbred back, though. No sooner had his rider reeled from him and staggered into "Old Bedlam" than that gallant animal dropped dead of exhaustion on the parade ground.

University Marks 80th Birthday

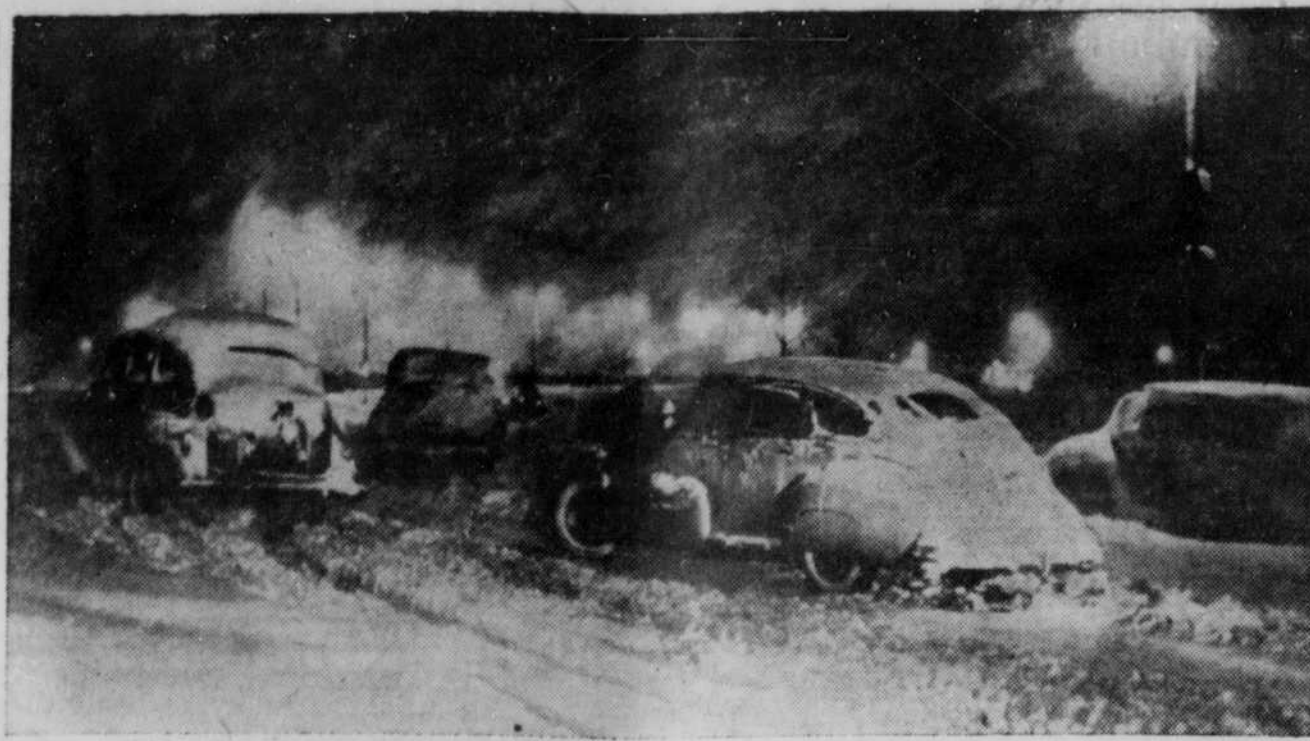
The celebration of the University of Nebraska's 80th birthday on February 15 cannot help but cause thoughtful Nebraskans to reflect on the great progress made by the institution in the short span of four score years. That progress is even more notable when one considers the small uncertain beginnings which are a part of the university's early history.

A study of the first faculty reveals much about those beginnings.

Including the chancellor, it consisted of five men. To calm fears that the university would fall under the domination of one religious sect or another, great care had been exercised to choose men representing various religious faiths. The chancellor, in addition to his administration responsibilities, occupied the chair of "intellectual and moral science." He also taught Latin, Greek, and history on the side.

Allen R. Benton, the university's first chancellor, was a man of considerable abilities. Although by temperament more suited to the calm of the classroom than to the arena of rough-and-tumble frontier administration, he capably and conscientiously guided the university through its first perilous years.

One of his colleagues wrote of him: "So varied was his scholarship that he was equally at home in almost every department of college work. . . . Nothing slovenly ever appeared from his tongue or pen. . . . No fact or statement was ever colored by him. Every member of the faculty, every citizen who formed his acquaintance, at once trusted



AND THE WEATHER—FRIGHTFUL . . . Some sections of the United States saw plenty of snow in the closing days of the old year. New York City had 20 inches of snow in its

third-worst snowstorm in history. This picture of stalled cars, some abandoned by owners, on a suburban thoroughfare, was taken during the height of the storm.



PEEK AT NEXT SUMMER'S BEACH WEAR . . . While Western Airlines stewardess Mary Grace Jafrey (left above) looks approvingly at the latest thing in next year's beach wear, you may look approvingly at the pretty young things in the beach wear. Left to right, they are: Janet Cubbison, Barbara Blakeley and Pat Blakeley. This preview of next summer's sports clothes styles was shown to airline hostesses attending the tenth annual Wings Over the Nation meeting at Long Beach, Calif.

CHURCHES

METHODIST (O'Neill)
Rev. V. R. Bell, pastor
Sunday-school, 10 a. m. A. Neil Dawes, superintendent.
Worship 11 a. m.
Intermediate Fellowship supper, games, worship service, 5 p. m.
Senior MYF, 7:30 p. m.

The choir will practice on Thursday evening.
The Missionary meeting will meet Thursday evening with Mrs. Alice Bridges.

The World day of Prayer will be observed in our church on Friday evening, March 4, at 8 o'clock.

Next Sunday will be commitment day in our Sunday-school. On Monday, February 28, immediately after school, your minister will start a membership training class for those desiring to join the church on Palm Sunday.

The Young Adult Fellowship met at the church Tuesday evening for their regular meeting and party. Mr. and Mrs. Grant Peacock were hosts. There was a fine crowd present.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN (Chambers)
Rev. L. A. Dale, pastor
Sunday-school, 10 a. m.
Divine service, 11 a. m.
LLS, Monday evening.
Ladies Aid, Tuesday afternoon.
Boy Scouts, Wednesday, 8 p. m.
Confirmation instruction, Saturday, 10 a. m.

implicitly every word that he uttered." A member of the first faculty who made a particularly deep impression on the people of the state was Rev. Samuel Aughey, professor of natural science. Professor Aughey was indefatigable in his efforts to demonstrate the agricultural possibilities of Nebraska, and his work, possibly as much as that of any other man, helped dispel the myth that Nebraska was part of the "great American desert."

Another well-known member of the first faculty was Rev. O. C. Dake, professor of English literature. Noted for his "Legend of the Weeping Water," an other poem, Professor Dake has been called, "the first Nebraska author."

All in all, the members of that first faculty, and those who succeeded them, were men of conscientious competence laid for the University of Nebraska a solid foundation on which it has been possible to erect one of the nation's truly great institutions of higher learning.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD (O'Neill)
Rev. J. G. Hamburger, pastor
Sunday-school, 10 a. m. Lesson text: The Great Supper.—Luke 14:15-24.
Worship, 11 a. m.
Evangelistic service, 7:30 p. m.

Midweek Bible study and prayer meeting, Thursday, 7:30 p. m.

Come, for all things are ready.—Luke 14:17. Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together in His command. You may have your excuses and He may not only excuse you but rather dismiss you.

You are invited to our services.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN (O'Neill)
Rev. Ralph Gerber, pastor
Services for Sunday, February 27, Sunday School, 10 a. m. John Harbottle, superintendent.
Worship, 11 a. m.
Senior Westminster Fellowship, 6:30 p. m., Mr. and Mrs. Durbin DeBolt, sponsors.

Announcements:
The choir will meet for rehearsal on Thursday evening at 7:30 p. m.
Circle II of the Women's Association will conduct a baked good sale at Ralya's IGA store on Saturday, February 26 at 3 p. m.

CENTER UNION (O'Neill)
Rev. Melvin Grosenbach, pastor
Sunday, February 27: Sunday morning worship, 10: Sunday-school, 11, Austin Searles, superintendent.
Evening service, 7:30.

There is a blessing in meeting with the people of God for special times of worship of the Triune God.
Prayer meeting Wednesday evening, 8.

WESLEYAN METHODIST
Rev. Melvin Grosenbach, Pastor
Friday, February 25: Quarterly meeting in connection with prayer meeting.

Sunday, February 27: Sunday-school, 10 a. m. Worship, 11 a. m. Sunday evening Bible study and evangelistic service. Saturday, March 4, 7:30: Monthly prayer conference to be held at the Spencer Wesleyan Methodist church.

KELLAR PRESBYTERIAN
Rev. Ralph Gerber, Pastor
Ray Hoffman, superintendent.
Sunday-school, 1:30 p. m. Preaching service, 2:30 p. m. on the first and third Sundays of the month.

Dam Ruin Forecast by Soil Expert

In addition to livestock losses they have already suffered this winter, Nebraska farmers and ranchers stand to lose hundreds of thousands of dollars more through the ruin of stockwater dams and reservoirs unless preventive measures are taken in time.

This was the warning issued by E. G. Jones, of Lincoln, state conservationist for the U. S. soil conservation service.

Jones explained, "This is because the spillways are clogged with snow that is packed hard. Unless the spillways are opened before snow melts, there will be no way for the excess water to escape after the pond is filled except over the top of the dam."

"The principal remedy for the situation is to cut a trench through the snow so that when the water starts running it will be able to cut a channel."

"Some of this work can be done by the farmers and ranchers themselves with farm equipment," he continued. "In some instances, it may be a small enough job to be done with a shovel. In other places, the use of the larger equipment will be necessary."

Notice of Annual Township Meeting

Annual meeting of Rock Falls township will be held on Tuesday, March 1, at 2 p. m. in the district 33 school for the transaction of such lawful business as may be brought before the body.

HENRY VEQUIST, Township Clerk.

CHAMBERS LOCALS

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Jarman and children spent Sunday with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ward Jarman.

Mr. and Mrs. Rollie Huntley and sons, of Orchard, were visiting Mrs. Huntley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Swager, on Monday.

Visitors from Stuart — Mrs. Wilfred Segar and son, Lowell, of Stuart, were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Bazelman.

Not Enough Calves and Yearlings to Go Around at Sale Here

On Thursday, February 17, the Fredrickson Livestock Commission company in O'Neill sold 780 hogs and 240 head of cattle. The market was very good with all classes of cattle showing a sharp upturn over the previous week. In fact, there were not enough calves and yearlings to go around.

Steer calves topped \$26, with a bunch of good 460-pound calves at \$24.65. Heifer calves brought \$23.25, with good yearlings at \$22. Breeding cows were up to \$16 with fat cows, \$16.80 and down.

In the hog market, fat hogs topped at \$19.80, with the bulk of the 200- to 240-pounders going at \$19.50 to \$19.75, with heavier kinds on down, according to weight.

Nebraska's first incorporated city or village was Nebraska City. It was incorporated on March 2, 1855, by a special act of the territorial legislature.

Frontier for printing!

CUSTOM CORN SHELLING!

New M-M Truck Mounted Sheller

1,500-Bu. Per Hour Capacity

Make Arrangements for Your Shelling with . . .

K. C. HUNT
Hunt's Recapping Service

Phone 289 O'Neill

42-43c

Public Sale!

Having decided to quit farming, I will sell the following described personal property at public auction at the place, located one-half mile North and three and one-half miles East of Inman, or one-half mile South and two and one-half miles West of Page, on:

MONDAY, 28

February . . .

Sale Will Begin at 1 O'Clock

13 HEAD OF LIVESTOCK 13
5 — Good Milk Cows. 4 — Yearlings. 4 — Calves.

1 — BAY MARE, Seven-Years-Old

FARM MACHINERY, Etc.

1 — Wagon and Rack. 1 — 2-Section Harrow.
1 — Binder. 1 — 8-Ft. Disc.
1 — Grinder. 1 — 2-Row Cultivator.
1 — Manure Spreader. 1 — 1-Row Lister.
1 — Corn Planter. 1 — Feed Grinder.
1 — 1-Horse Drill. 1 — Eli.
1 — Set of Harness. 1 — John Deere Mower.
1 — McCormick-Deering 1 — 1-Row Cultivator.
No. 3 Cream Separator. 1 — Sulky Plow.

Plus numerous other articles that will be displayed on sale day.

TERMS: — CASH.

F. E. KEYES, Clerk.

G. P. COLMAN, Auctioneer.

Ralph Brittell

OWNER.

DANCE!

at
Summerland
EWING, NEBR.
Sunday, Feb. 27
Music furnished by
Elmer Hall and His Orchestra

THERE IS STILL A LOT OF "SPRING" IN THE CATTLE MARKET!

• With dressed beef demand improving, many feeders and grazers are again looking for replacement cattle. Not since last November have we had as many buyers or a better cattle market than last Tuesday.

• We expect a good offering and a good attendance at next Tuesday's auction and would be pleased to number you among our consignors. The sale will be well advertised. The demand and market are good—It looks like an excellent opportunity to sell those surplus cattle.

PHONE 5141

ATKINSON LIVESTOCK MARKET

ATKINSON, NEBRASKA

P. S.—A Special Attraction: 10 Head of Registered Yearling Aberdeen Angus Bulls from the herd of Clarence Sherklock, of Wausa, Nebr., also five registered two-year-old Hereford bulls.