

THE FRONTIER

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CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher

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Foes of the Farmer

Are any of the readers of The Frontier worried for fear the farmers of Nebraska may get rich too fast? If so, they may quit their worrying right now.

There is no danger of it.

If there are any such optimistic persons, they evidently missed a double column headline in a recent issue of the paper, "Aphids Destroying Small Grain Crop."

The opening paragraph of the news story reads as follows: "Aphids (tiny green bugs) have launched an all-out assault on small grain fields in Holt county with the result that the threat has become 'serious.'"

Then the county agent is quoted as saying that, if the aphids are not checked, the ultimate damage might rival grasshopper losses in the 1930's.

It isn't necessary to enter into a technical discussion of aphids. We will leave that to the entomologists. Some of The Frontier's readers may be familiar with the word and, to others, it may be new. That is unimportant and beside the point.

The important and significant thing is that the aphid has attacked the small grain crop in this and other farming areas of Nebraska, that it is a serious threat to it and that, consequently, it is another foe to the farmer. In other localities the grasshoppers are raising havoc; elsewhere there has been insufficient moisture.

The farmer's foes are legion, as everybody who has ever lived in an agricultural country knows. If it isn't one pest to plague and perplex him, it is another. Sometimes it is several of them moving in on him simultaneously. And they generally move in when they are least expected.

The attack of the aphids on the small grain in early June was typical. It came as an unpleasant surprise.

Normally speaking, the crop outlook in this and other counties of the state was unusually bright. Spring arrived in the wake of one of the longest Winters in the history of the Midwest.

Now, in the opinion of some observers, such a heavy volume of snow, coming so early and continuing so long, prevented the ground from freezing to any great depth and, consequently, a vast amount of snow melted where it lay and the water ran into the ground. In their opinion, that fact prevented the disastrous floods which might otherwise have occurred.

Obviously, of course, that produced an ideal growing condition and it seemed reasonable to hope for an extra abundant small grain crop. Plenty of moisture in the subsoil, occasional rains and warm sunshine—it seemed that Nature had set the stage for a bumper crop; but, then what happened?

The aphids moved in.

So we say that nobody need be alarmed lest the hard-working farmer is going to get rich quick. He has too many enemies to hamper his efforts.

It is true that farming today is more profitable than it used to be when prices for farm commodities were so scandalously low—the farmer gets more equitable return for his investment and labor than he used to; but that does not take into account the hazards.

The hazards of farming are tremendous and always have been. Reference has been made to the "grasshopper losses of the 1930's." That tragedy is no doubt fresh in the memory of a great many of The Frontier's readers—it is comparatively recent; but that was only a repetition of what has been going on since the dawn of civilization.

The onslaught of the grasshoppers in the '30's was terrific—they literally stripped not only the fields, but also the trees—vast areas were a scene of desolation after they had come and gone; but that was nothing new.

Way back in Old Testament times, we read about an invasion of locusts which wrought widespread havoc in Egypt and the same thing has been going on periodically ever since in one form or another.

Locusts, grasshoppers, aphids and a lot of other destructive insects; hot winds, frosts, drouths, floods, blizzards, etc., etc. Every season brings its threats, its dangers and its losses.

So don't worry about the farmer's big income. He has too many foes.

There is grave danger that the spirit of independence for which the Fourth of July stands be weakened in the hearts of the American people by the modern socialistic trend.

The nations of the world envy the spirit of independence of which America is symbolic, but many of our own citizens do not appreciate it.

No crop is safe until it is in the bin.

No Rest for the Weary



Fourth in Retrospect

Another Fourth of July has come and gone some time ago and it is now only a vivid and, no doubt, to vast numbers of unfortunate victims or their families, only an awful memory. For, strange to say, while this national holiday was intended to preserve "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," it has as a matter of fact become one of the most destructive days of the entire year.

This is not the fault of the day itself, but the fault of its observance. Originally when the Fourth of July was the occasion of a patriotic celebration, climaxed by a "grand display of fireworks," there were inevitably a few casualties; but, in this age, when millions of cars start rolling along the roads and highways on that day, there is a ghastly toll of dead and injured.

Newspapers and radios commenced reporting Fourth of July accidents this year long before the holiday had actually arrived and, when the figures have all been compiled in all parts of the country, the total casualty list will no doubt be appalling.

We have referred to this great national holiday as the Fourth of July, as it is and always has been designated; but, perhaps, it would be more accurate to refer to it as Independence Day. The holiday does occur on the fourth day of July, of course, for it is supposed to be the date of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; but the historic and significant thing about the day is obviously independence. The actual date is, therefore, not important and this editorial is still timely.

The Fourth of July is the great day in American history when the colonies threw off the yoke of bondage and declared in no uncertain terms that they were and had a right to be "free and independent states."

What a moment that was, not only in the history of this country, but also in the history of the world! Think, if you will, of the tremendous repercussions which followed that momentous announcement and of the enormous significance which it has in the year 1949 for people everywhere!

The inspiring thought of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," not only inspired our forefathers, but it has been and still is the inspiration of the oppressed and downtrodden everywhere under the sun.

We are impressed with the thought that the true and original significance of the Fourth of July needs to be especially stressed in the United States at the present time. That significance is independence and, in our opinion, it should be emphasized on account of the anti-independence tendencies and movements which are active in the world today.

Some of our ablest and most patriotic leaders, whose motives and actions are above reproach, express alarm in regard to the socialistic totalitarian trend which is at work even in this country and it behooves us all to take heed.

Liberty is a most precious possession, worth fighting and dying for, as our forefathers fought and died for it; but it is very easily lost. Let us be on the alert!

We have been interested this year in observing the vast difference in the manner of celebrating the Fourth of July or Independence Day which has taken place in recent times.

Originally, the observance was distinctively patriotic, as some of the older generation will be able to remember. The important thing was the Declaration of Independence, a sacred document which was always read, then there was a patriotic address and, we presume, a certain amount of sport, fun and merrymaking.

We believe that the American people today are just as patriotic at heart as they have ever been—they have proved that beyond a doubt in two terrible wars, but we still think that our Fourth of July should have more of a patriotic flavor. It is actually doubtful that some of the younger generation could tell exactly what the day stands for.

Reference has already been made to the frightful number of casualties which happen in this modern age on the Fourth. The newspapers and radio always warn people far in advance to be careful—to drive cautiously, to avoid accidents and live, to celebrate in a "safe and sane" manner, etc.; but still the annual toll mounts. The thought suggests itself that, if the original significance of Independence Day was reemphasized, the modern observance would be more conservative and the risks would be greatly reduced.

Prairieland Talk —

Mosquitoes in Texas, 'Hoppers in Idaho, Aphids in Crop Belt and Oil at Sidney

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

LINCOLN — It is reported that the canneries are destroying their stocks carried over from last season's crop. The new crop is coming in for canning and left-over stocks are dumped rather than give the consumers a break by putting the surplus on the bargain counters. So private industry takes over the New Deal method of maintaining "parity prices."



Romaine Saunders

The criminal code does not mark this as a crime though it is an insult to the bounties of nature. Quantities of perfectly good food destroyed and nothing done about it.

Men fussing around to irrigate for greater food production. Union men quit the job and walk out on strike, get a daily hand-out from the treasure chest, but let a lone shepherd walk away on the job and he is sent to the penitentiary. Some inconsistencies that our lawmakers have not got around to yet.

The experts and prognosticators say a "recession" has headed into Yankeland industry. The wheels have been spinning for about the allotted time and maybe now will pause to get a fresh start. We have our ups and downs in life and have had enough of them to teach us to take what comes as a part of the program. Between periods of inflation and the normal levels is sandwiched in a time of distress that gives us opportunity to heck up and adjust our conduct into right channels of living. Periods of scarcity and even actual want help the individual to understand that he is not all-sufficient.

A thrifty housewife telephoned her grocer for string beans. She asked that one be broken at the transmitter. "Snap" — the beans were fresh and crisp. "Send me two pounds."

Dead heat lays upon the land. The July sun has become a celestial furnace. Not a leaf in motion. The heavens pour out their molten breath. The gray concrete is hot and the barefoot boys that roll along the street by my open door with wagons and scooters have taken to shady places on the cool sod. Tall trees stand stately and still with their velvet foliage shimmering under a blazing sun. Birds are silent in the cooler depths of groves. And as I look out the open door trees have begun to sway before a fresh north wind, clouds blot out the celestial glare and the electric fan glowing over me as I sit at the typewriter can be turned off. A hot day, but Nebraska's rich landscape was never more beautiful.

Down in Africa and up in Russia there are names and words that appear unintelligible to the Western world. The natives of Africa speak a great variety of languages. Xosa and Sesuto form the lingo of two separate tribes.

Anyway, gentlemen have had the courage to admit that they, not the ladies, sprung from a tribe of monkeys.

49th Annual
OLD SETTLERS'
PICNIC
Meeting
... will be held at
Midway, Friday
JULY 15
At 8 o'clock
Preston Jones,
Secretary

Judith Coplon, Tokyo Rose—two sorry sisters a lot of money is being wasted on to check them out as citizens and stow them away in some gloomy federal pen. Maybe they have it coming to them. Hundreds of others have done much worse and are still at large, while these two girls are the slaughter victims of sinister forces behind the scenes. The helpless instrument made to suffer and the manipulators of the instruments look on and smile. Something like what was done here in Lincoln. A poor kid set off a firecracker on South street, was arrested and fined, while the boom of giant crackers to wake the dead went on nightly in other parts of the city.

The national administration has managed the affairs of the country so as to come out at the end of the first six months of the term of the president with a def-

icit about two million less than two billion dollars. The new deals and the fair deals and the square deals are on the highway to the last deal.

Mosquitoes stopped a ball game at San Antonio, hoppers have devastated a large area in Idaho, the aphids took over the grain fields in the plains crop belt, tongues are lolling out East of the Missouri for want of rain, but out at Sidney they think they have something that beats the wheat fields—oil has been found.

After feeding upon grass with the wild asses in the valley of the Euphrates, reason was restored to a mad monarch. Bring out a few from Washington and put them to grazing in the sand-hills.

Scientists boost the dairy industry. New discoveries are

claimed that make milk an important part of human diet. But scientists don't know it all. Milk has what it takes to make a broad-backed calf. Are you in the calf's class?

A bookmark is about the nearest thing to nothing you can present to a friend as a gift.

MONEY TO LOAN

ON
AUTOMOBILES
TRUCKS
TRACTORS
EQUIPMENT
FURNITURE

Central Finance
Corp.

C. E. Jones, Manager
O'Neill, Nebraska

STOP AT YOUR COUNCIL OAK STORE!
LOOK AT THE LOW PRICES ON EVERY ITEM!
LISTEN TO WORDS OF PRAISE ON THE QUALITY OF FOOD YOU SERVE!



FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

- Apples, 2 Lbs. ... 29c
- Cantaloupe, Ea. ... 24c
- Plums, Lb. ... 23c
- Potatoes, 10 Lbs ... 37c
- Lettuce, 2 Heads ... 29c
- Watermelons, Lb. 3¹/₂c

- KELLOGG'S
• CORN FLAKES 2 18-oz. 35c
Favorite Summer Cereal 1 kg.
- FABST-ETT
• CHEESE FOOD 2 Lb. 79c
Such Tempting Flavor Box

- SUPERB EVAPORATED MILK 3 TALL CANS 31c
Luscious, Golden Fruit, No. 2 1/2 Can
- CHEERSAUCE
RED PITTED CHERRIES 27c
Ruby Red and in Syrup, No. 300 Can
- APRICOTS 27c
SUPERB Whole Peeled

- PLANTATION
SLICED PINEAPPLE 37c
The Tropic Sunshine Fruit, No. 2 1/2 Can
- DELICIOUS HALVES
SUPERB PEARS 39c
For Salads, Sauce or Dessert, No. 2 1/2 Can

- Charmin KITCHEN TOWELS 2 LARGE ROLLS 27c

TENDER AND TASTY — READY-TO-EAT SMOKED — 6 TO 8-LB. AVG.

PICNICS LB. 45^c

PORK LOIN CENTER CUTS LB. ... 55c
ROASTS and CHOPS END CUTS, LB. 35^c

TENDER, SAVORY BEEF SHOULDER AND ARM ROASTS, LB. 49^c

- Fresh Pure GROUND BEEF, lb. ... 45c
- Sliced PORK LIVER, lb. ... 29c
- Big BOLOGNA, lb. ... 45c
- Skinless FRANKS, lb. ... 49c
- Beef SHORT RIBS, lb. ... 29c
- Sliced BACON ENDS, lb. ... 19c
- Spiced LUNCH LOAF, lb. ... 53c
- SWIFT'NING, 3-lb. can ... 81c

COUNCIL OAK SPECIAL TOP GRADE SLICED BACON IN BULK, LB. 49^c

THE COUNCIL OAK STORES
YOUR FRIEND AT MEALTIME

PRICES FOR JULY 15TH & 16TH