

THE FRONTIER

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PRICE 5 CENTS

HOLT BALANCE UP \$12,573.23

Semi-Annual Report by Treasurer Is Released

BONDS DUE IN 1951

Holt county coffers showed a balance of \$495,001.30 as of June 30, 1947.

This was reported this week by County Treasurer J. Ed Hancock upon the completion of the regular semiannual financial statement required by law. The term extends from January 1 to June 30, inclusive.

A year ago at this time the balance was \$483,428.07—or \$12,573.23 below the 1947 figure.

The balance on January 1 was \$491,101.89, and the receipts during the six-months' period netted \$564,605.19, totaling \$1,055,707.08. Disbursements during the same time amounted to \$560,705.78. This figure added to the June 30 balance also totals \$1,055,707.78.

Few Unallowed Claims

Mr. Hancock explained that approximately \$4,200 in unallowed claims were on file on June 15.

Outstanding bonds and coupons include \$21,040 on the courthouse. Cash on hand to retire these bonds totals \$18,549.92. However, the 20 bonds cannot be retired in less than four years at the rate of five bonds per year.

A summary of the county budget proposal and levy comparisons will probably be published next week, Mr. Hancock said.

'TOM' SALEM MUST WAIT FOR FLIGHT

CHAMBERS — Thomas ("Tom") Salem, a retired merchant, returned last week from New York City where he had gone to book passage by air to his former home in Beirut, Syria.

He explained that he found it impossible to obtain passage before October.

Mr. Salem says he still plans to make the trip by air and will depart as soon as reservations are available.

Mr. Salem came to the United States as a youth and operated a store at Amelia for many years.

'Donna Day,' Husband Spend Weekend Here

Col. and Mrs. William Cummings, of Norfolk, Va., arrived here last Thursday for a visit with Mrs. Cummings' father, T. R. Cooper, at Atkinson, and with relatives and friends here. Mrs. Cummings, a native of O'Neill, is the "Donna Day" who gained radio fame as a soloist with Fred Waring's orchestra.

In O'Neill the Cummings were guests of Miss Vira Eidenmiller. They departed Monday for Col. Cummings' new station at Ft. Sumpter, S. D. The colonel, an Army Air Force officer, fought in both the European and Pacific theaters during World War II. He was a fighter pilot and commander and was publicized in a recent book entitled, "The Three Musketeers."

Firemen Summoned Twice on Sunday

Firemen answered three calls during the past seven days. Twice on Sunday they were summoned to combat grass fires in the northeast section of the city. On both occasions the blazes were brought quickly under control.

At 8 a. m. today (Thursday) the department was called to the O'Neill Grain company to extinguish a blaze near the top of the elevator under wood covering a conveyor belt.

Legion Election to Be Held in New Home

The annual election of officers of the American Legion will be held tomorrow (Friday) night in the new Legion hall on Douglas street.

Principal business will be the election of officers for a new year.

This will be the first formal use of the quonset building which is of the quonset type.

DOG LIKES DOLLARS

EMMET—A dog begged for something to eat Sunday at the William Grothe, sr., home following a big family dinner. Some kind soul scraped up some meat bones for the hungry canine. A dollar bill fell from the good samaritan's pocket and the greenback was devoured along with the meat.



Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith and John . . . the Germans could hand out . . . find America "quite amazing."

From London to Nebraska: 2½ Days

It wasn't so long ago that the magazine sections in the Sunday newspapers were painting pretty word pictures of routine trans-Atlantic passenger flights for the average traveler. Then World War II came along and speeded things dramatically.

This week the impact of this progress reached O'Neill in the form of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith and their nine-year-old son, John, of South-hall, Middlesex, England. In little more than two and one-half days they journeyed from London to Nebraska. Arriving in O'Neill the Smiths

EX-MERCHANT DIES IN OMAHA

Darrah Abdouch, 70, to Be Buried Saturday in Sioux City

Death late Tuesday claimed the life of a 70-year-old native Syrian who came to O'Neill as an immigrant after the turn of the century. Darrah Abdouch died at his home in Omaha following a long illness.

Mr. Abdouch operated general merchandise stores in three separate locations here until 1935, when he entered into retirement. In that year the family moved to Omaha. His last business location here was in the building now occupied by the O'Neill drug company.

Mr. Abdouch married Miss Mary Lanham, also a native of Syria, after reaching O'Neill. Survivors include the widow; three sons, Eli, George and Thomas, all of Omaha; four daughters, Mrs. Al Khoury, of Wyanotte, Mich.; Mrs. Abe Abdouch, of Sioux City; Mrs. A. B. Lahan, of Wichita, Kans.; and Mrs. P. B. Bultrous, of Omaha.

Funeral will be at 2 p. m. Saturday at Sioux City, Ia. Among those from O'Neill planning to attend the rites are Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Jones, Mrs. Jones, the former Ann Toy, is a niece of the deceased.

DONNA MAE TAKEN TO SPECIALIST

Donna Mae Fuhrer, 14, O'Neill's well-known infantile paralysis victim, Tuesday was taken to the Hattie B. Monroe home at Omaha where her parents say she will be under the observation of a polio specialist. The stay is expected to be "a short one."

She was taken to Omaha in an ambulance, accompanied by her father, Ed Fuhrer. The Fuhrers reside two miles east of O'Neill.

Donna Mae won widespread fame May 22 when Ted Malone, of the American Broadcasting company, paid her a tribute on a nationwide radio network. The occasion was her graduation from the eighth grade. A graduation ceremony followed the next day. This was broadcast by radio station WNAX at Yankton, S. D.

The little farm girl, completely paralyzed for seven years, has received correspondence from newly-found admirers in practically every state. Recently she received two belated graduation gifts of note. The first, a portable radio from Ted Malone; the second, a hospital bed, provided by Your Neighbor Lady of WNAX and her listeners.

were "amazed," "overwhelmed" and found it "difficult to catch their breath."

The story of the Smiths' coming to America is laid around a wartime romance. Pfc. Byron Grenier, of O'Neill, took up residence in a tent at Heston airdrome, outside London, early in Uncle Sam's participation in the European war. There he met Joan, the Smiths' 23-year-old daughter. They were married in December, 1944, in England. Joan and Byron were separated successively by the English channel, the breadth of France, and, finally, the Atlantic ocean and 1,700 miles of America. Undaunted, however, they carried out their plans. Mrs. Grenier joined her husband here in 1946, and in January, 1947, they became the parents of a son, Francis Gene.

Heart in America

When daughter set out for America she took with her the heart of the Smiths. Life was never the same in the Southall flat, where the family lived on a narrow, winding street. It was then they decided to come to America.

After defying mountains of red tape and finding steamship travel impossible, the Smiths finally succeeded in making American Overseas Airways reservations.

They left London airport Saturday at 4:30 p. m. (London time) and reached New York City at 7:30 a. m. (EST). The trip to Omaha was made by rail and late Monday the Smiths were reunited with their daughter and her family. Having left behind the atmosphere of a country on a stringent wartime footing—a condition that has existed since John was an infant—the Smiths find America "quite amazing."

Mr. Smith, who professes to be "a working man," was dumfounded to find that he could hobnob with "America's big boys" in the dining cars and Pullmans. "Why," he said, "they knew what I was and they never gave me a dull moment."

Leadership Needed

Asked about the Labor government in Britain, Mr. Smith thinks it needs "capable leadership."

He said there was a large-scale movement of Irish to England and Scotland to escape the British manpower shortage. Many Britishers are going abroad to escape the shortages. The Smiths sold most of their belongings and plan to stay here indefinitely.

The little English family did not have the opportunity to see New York, except from the air, but they did tour Chicago, Ill.

Mrs. Smith is impressed with the friendliness of the people. In Chicago they found the Americans "almost rude" but in Omaha and O'Neill, "we can't understand the friendliness."

Nine-year-old John, who has been reared on war and rumors of war, practically emptied the shelves when he descended on a fruit counter and a clothing store in Omaha.

FIRESTONE HONORS DEALER FOR SERVICE

H. L. Lindberg, proprietor of the Lindberg Home & Auto Supply company, was honored Monday with the presentation of a pin for 10 years of affiliated service with the Firestone Tire & Rubber company of Akron, O. The presentation was made by Art Krueger, of Yankton, S. D., district manager.

GROUP DISPLEASED IN LINCOLN MEET

School Renters Claim Board Makes Decision Before Hearing

DILLON FIGURES GO

Five members of the Holt County School Land Leaseholders' organization were dissatisfied with their visit in Lincoln Friday. They had gone to the capital city to protest what they described as "a too great an increase" on the valuation of Holt county's 77,000 acres of school lands.

In the delegation were: I. L. Watson, of Inman, president; Guy Cole, of Emmet, director; Ed J. Matousek, of Atkinson; Andy Clark, of O'Neill, and Roy DeLong, of Inman, members, and Julius D. Cronin, the group's legal counsel.

Trouble Began Here

Hugh Dillon, of Lincoln, state surveyor, and John Kleckner, of Lincoln, state land appraiser, appeared at a gathering of 400 persons in O'Neill on June 18 and announced that valuations on state-owned school lands in Holt would be increased approximately 84 percent in 1947, following an 85 percent increase that was effected in 1945. A raise was also placed in effect in 1941.

A storm of protest followed and the leaseholders drafted a letter to the state board of educational lands and funds, headed by Gov. Val Peterson. Prompted by the unified resentment of the increase, Dillon told President Watson before leaving the county the following day that he would "scale-down" his recommendation to an increase of 70 percent instead of 84 percent.

The Holt group pressed objections by requesting a hearing at Lincoln. The date was fixed for July 11. Upon their arrival, however, and in the governor's absence, the board had already accepted Dillon's recommendations, and advised the visitors that if sufficient cause were given for a rehearing the board would consider revising the new valuation.

Cherry Represented

Both Cherry and Holt county leaseholders claim that the setup is unfair to farmers and ranchers in this region.

They point out that there are over 200 leaseholders in Holt paying a rental equal to six percent of the valuation, according to law. One percent of this remains in the county as a collection commission and the remaining five percent goes to the state, which in turn disburses it as a state apportionment fund. This disbursement is carried out on a school census basis rather than on the manner in which it is collected.

Watson said that because many of the smaller eastern counties have practically liquidated their school landholdings and because that section is more densely populated "Holt county pays a disproportionate sum into the fund."

He also pointed out that rentals on the leased land, based on 1945 valuations, were disproportionate to rentals on adjoining deduced land of a similar type.

'A Corp' Eilen's Figures'

Watson commented, "It appears to me that the state board accepts Dillon's figures regardless of the testimony and evidence that is presented. At least, it worked out that way with us."

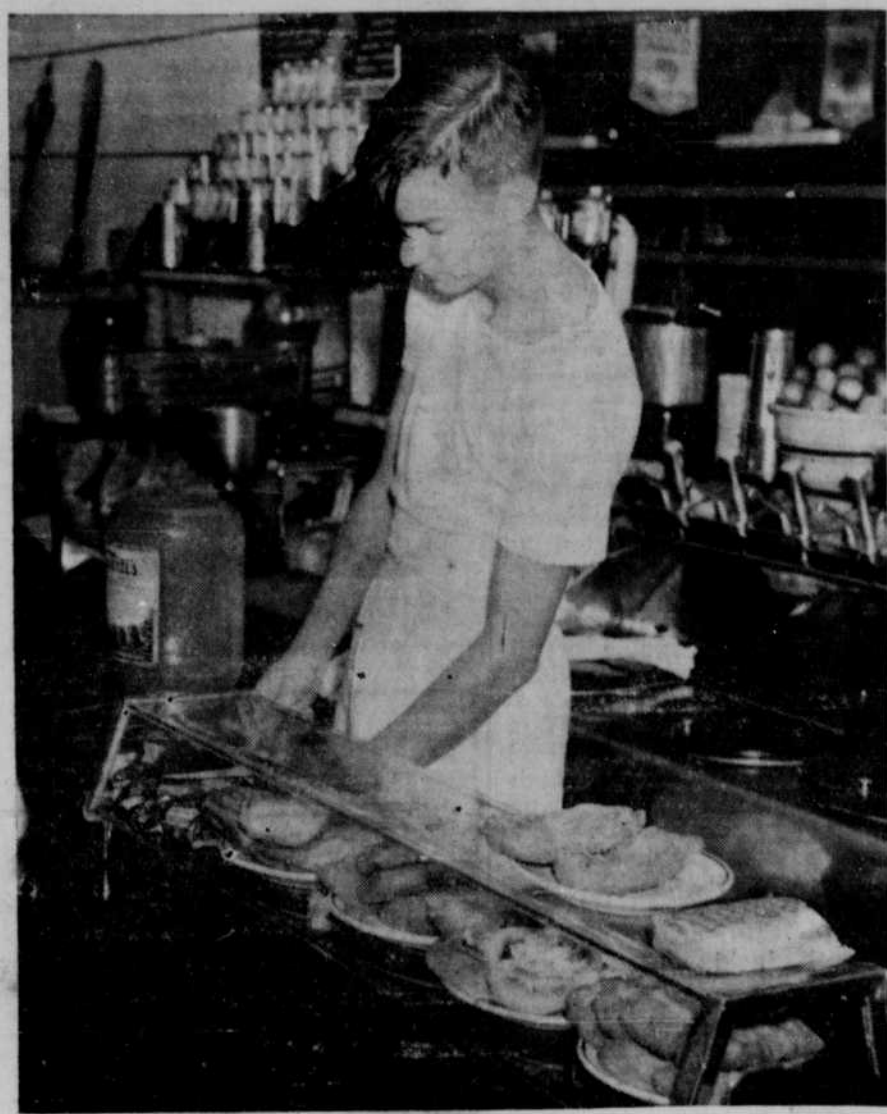
Board Secretary Henry Eattling, meanwhile, announced that an increase of 333 thousand dollar school fund income can be expected from the upward revisions of rent of board school lands which are leased to Nebraska farmers and ranchers. The appraised value of the lands in the state have been increased from \$6,835,691 to \$12,396,267 on recommendations from Dillon. Mr. Eattling said the increase appears large, but "the land is now being valued at what appears to be a more nearly correct figure."

Holt 1947 Valuations

The following table gives the 1947 assessed valuations for 1947 of incorporated cities and towns in Holt county. The first column gives the real estate valuations; the second column the individual valuations, the third column the business valuations, and the fourth column gives the total (not including the railroads, telegraphs, franchises, etc., not yet certified by the state tax commission).

The table follows:

City and Town	Real Estate	Individual	Business	Total
Atkinson	\$367,035	\$42,280	\$167,470	\$576,785
Charabers	64,475	26,265	46,240	136,980
Emmet	15,185	1,330	3,730	20,245
Ewing	161,050	12,400	70,995	244,445
O'Neill	760,795	66,520	344,335	1,171,650
Inman	39,740	7,265	18,070	65,075
Stuart	218,590	17,470	75,760	311,820
Page	84,545	16,590	28,325	139,460



—The Frontier Photo by John H. McCarville
Mervyn ("Macky") Asher . . . saves three from river drownings . . . wants to swim in peace.

Soda-Jerker . . . Life-Saver

Mervyn ("Macky") Asher, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Asher, of O'Neill, takes out time between lifesaving episodes to perform soda fountain chores at Johnson Drugs. Or perhaps it's the other way around.

On the Fourth of July he wandered out to the Elkhorn river bridge on the south edge of the city and promptly pulled to safety a 13-year-old boy, unable to swim and in

JAMES BOLER, 65, DIES SUDDENLY

James P. Boler, 65, assistant chief deputy collector of internal revenue at Omaha, died of a heart attack Wednesday at Alliance. He had visited O'Neill Monday and was stricken suddenly upon his arrival at Alliance.

Mr. Boler was well-known here as receiver for the Nebraska State bank. He left the state banking department in 1934 to join the internal revenue department.

Born at Jackson, he was a 1907 graduate of the Creighton university law school and he served for 10 years as county attorney at Greeley. The family home is at 913 South 31st street in Omaha.

Survivors include three sons, John, Maurice and James, and two daughters, Kathleen and Eileen.

Funeral services will be held Friday in Omaha.

ORCHARD WOMAN DIES FROM BURNS

ORCHARD—Mrs. Forrest Maple, 25, died in a Norfolk hospital Saturday of burns suffered Friday in the explosion of a gas water heater in her ranch home northeast of Orchard.

She was lighting the heater. Survivors include her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Ackerman, of Sabetha, Kans.

Canadians Here—

Mrs. Stewart Woods and daughter, Kathryn, and sons, Thomas, Robert and Wendell, all of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, visited at the home of Albert Klingler over the weekend. Mrs. Woods is a niece of Mr. Klingler. They departed Sunday for Missouri, where they will attend a family reunion.



'FIELDBORN FRITZ' AND MASTER BENNY

Meet one-year-old "Field-born Fritz," the German pointer dog that arrived in O'Neill last Thursday via the London, Ontario, Canada, dog show where he won runner-up honors for the show and captured first-place honors in the German-pointer class.

The pooch was purchased in Michigan six weeks ago by F. C. ("Fritz") Bazelman, of O'Neill, and was routed here via a professional dog handler in the Canadian city. The dog traveled alone by express.

"Fieldborn Fritz" strikes a show pose here with Master Benny Bazelman, 11-year-old son of the Bazelmans.—The Frontier Photo by John H. McCarville.