

JOHN F. SCHMIT RITES MONDAY

Consumers Lineman, 21, Fatally Injured by 2,300-Volt Charge

Funeral services for John F. Schmit, 21-year-old Consumers Public Power district lineman who was fatally injured late last Thursday when he came in contact with a 2,300-volt power line, were held at 10 a. m. Monday at St. Mary's Catholic church at Nenzel, west of Valentine.

Rev. Carl J. Liebig, church pastor, officiated and the sermon was delivered by Rev. Leo M. Blaire, of the St. Nicholas Catholic church at Valentine. Burial was in the cemetery at Nenzel.

Born October 28, 1925, on a farm near Nenzel, he was a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Schmit. He attended school both at Nenzel and Valentine. During World War II he served overseas in the Navy.

A year ago he and his brother, Edward, joined the Consumers organization here and were both members of the same line crew. Edward was absent, however, when his younger brother was fatally injured while working on a power pole in an alley near the Gorgen Motor company in West O'Neill.

The wedding date for the late Mr. Schmit and his bride-elect, Miss Sheila Barrett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Barrett, of O'Neill, had been set for September 27.

Among those attending the funeral were: the Barretts, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kurtz, Mike A. Smith, R. L. Bode, Mr. and Mrs. James Cronk, Mrs. Lod Janousek and daughters, Mary Ann and Martha, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tomlinson, Wilbur D. Peters, Ivan Pruss, Alfred Sipes, Mr. and Mrs. William Watson, all of O'Neill, and Mr. and Mrs. Merle Caster, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stevens, all of Inman.

Survivors include: the parents; brothers—Edward, Charles, Leonard, Aloysius, Paul, William, Richard; sister—Anna Marie, a student at St. Mary's academy here.

Among the Consumers personnel attending the funeral were: P. L. Bower and R. W. Staal, both of Columbus; Herman Masengale, Herman Reichers, Don Asher, Walter Sheldon, Melvin Hooper, Earl Ladd and Charles Stout, all of Valentine.



John F. Schmit, Navy overseas veteran... his wedding day was set. (Story at left.)

TAX PUBLISHING DATE INDEFINITE

Attorney General Puts Snag in New Law with Ruling

The date for publishing the names of Holt county's delinquent personal taxpayers is indefinite, County Treasurer J. Ed Hancock said Wednesday.

Under the new state tax law, the list must be published between September 1 and December 1.

One reason for the holdup is because of a snag created this week by Attorney General Walter Johnson, who ruled that the list must contain all the delinquent taxpayers on the county treasurer's books. Originally, the county had planned to publish only the names of 1946 delinquent taxpayers.

Meanwhile, county officials over the state are looking toward Omaha for a possible solution of the problem. A test action is expected to be filed in district court here under which county officials will seek a court ruling on whether the names of all delinquent taxpayers prior to 1946 must be placed on the list.

Hancock said it would be almost impossible to compile such a list before December 1 with the present staff. The work would involve thousands of names, including many persons who are dead or moved away.

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GEORGE A. FRENCH BURIED AT PAGE

Helped Homestead on the Townsite of Page; Dies at 80

SPECIAL TO THE FRONTIER
PAGE — Funeral services for George A. French, 80, who died at the O'Neill hospital Friday evening, were conducted at 10 a. m. Monday at the Methodist church in Page. Rev. Carl B. Rayburn, church pastor, officiated and burial was in the Page cemetery. A large crowd attended the service.

The late Mr. French, born at Bath, N. Y., on February 27, 1867, moved with his mother, Mrs. Louisa H. French, from New York to near Lewis, Ia., when he was 14-years-old. Two years later—in the Fall of 1883—Mrs. French brought her family to Holt county, settling on a homestead which is the present site of Page.

During the family's early years in Nebraska, son George returned to Iowa to earn money and assist his people financially. He was the second son in the family. The father, Henry A. French, died in New York state. On April 15, 1891, he was married to Stella R. Brobst, an Iowa who had come here to teach. They established their home on the west-half of the original French homestead. Here they became the parents of five children and resided the remainder of their lives.

Interest in Livestock
A member of the Methodist church since youth, the late Mr. French was active in church and civic affairs. He had a special interest in raising livestock and fruit and shade trees.

Survivors include: sons, Dr. O. W. French, of O'Neill; Merwyn G. French, of Page; and Clifford D. French, of Lambertson, Minn.; daughter, Mrs. Hazel Brouse, of Valentine; brother, Wallace French, of Page; sister, Mrs. Louise Heiss, of Page; eight grandsons, six granddaughters, one great-granddaughter, seven nieces and five nephews.

Mrs. French died in April, 1938, and their son, Kenneth G. French, died in infancy.

Music at the funeral was provided by a quartette consisting of Mrs. John Lamason, Mrs. Harold Heiss, Edgar Stauffer and Victor Snyder, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Mildred Haynes. The pallbearers were O. L. Reed, H. L. Banta, Roy Haynes, Ray Snell, Lorenze Riege, and Charles Vroman.

Among those from a distance attending the rites were: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Tallon, of Omaha; Dr. Ivan French, of Wahoo; and Murel Johnson, of Omaha.

Mercury Drops 43 Degrees with Rain

Nebraska's changeable weather was aptly demonstrated by the weatherman this week. The mercury skidded from 97 degrees at midday Monday to 54 at 8 a. m. today (Thursday)—a difference of 43 degrees.

With a touch of raw dampness in the air, prompting citizens to break out today in a rash of top coats and field jackets, folks were reminded that summer would soon be only a memory.

A shower Saturday night was accompanied by an intense electrical storm. Lightning struck the wiring at the Lawrence Bourne residence, in the northeast section of the city, igniting the side of the house. The fire department was summoned to extinguish the blaze.

School days have been shortened by 3 p. m. dismissals at the O'Neill public school when the temperatures exceeded 90 degrees. This has occurred three times during the first eight days of the new term.

Precipitation during the week totaled .82-inches with showers three days in a row. (See summary below):

	Hi	Lo	Moist.
September 5	86	56	
September 6	94	60	
September 7	98	69	.13
September 8	97	75	
September 9	97	65	.31
September 10	89	62	.23
September 11	82	54	.15
Total			.87

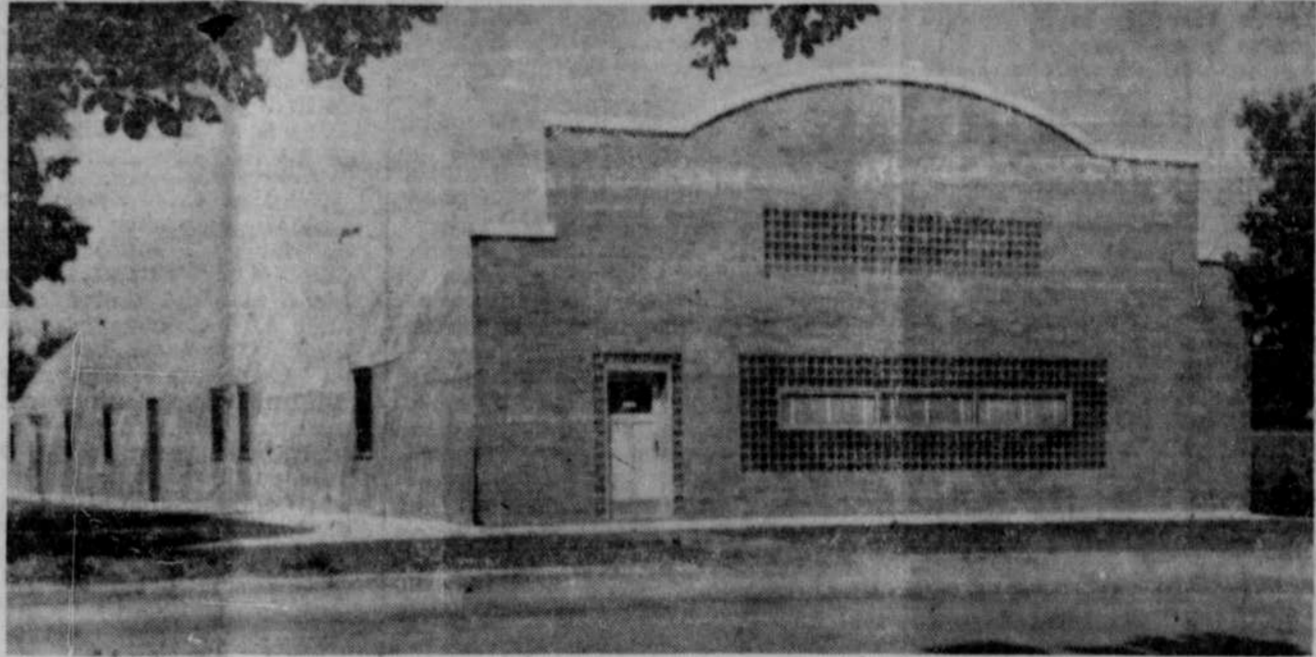
Driver Injured as Truck Overtakes

EWING—Jack Angus, 25, an ex-service man and driver of a truck owned by the Yant Construction company, suffered painful scalp injuries and other bruises about 11:30 Saturday forenoon when his truck overturned on highway 275, about two miles west of Ewing.

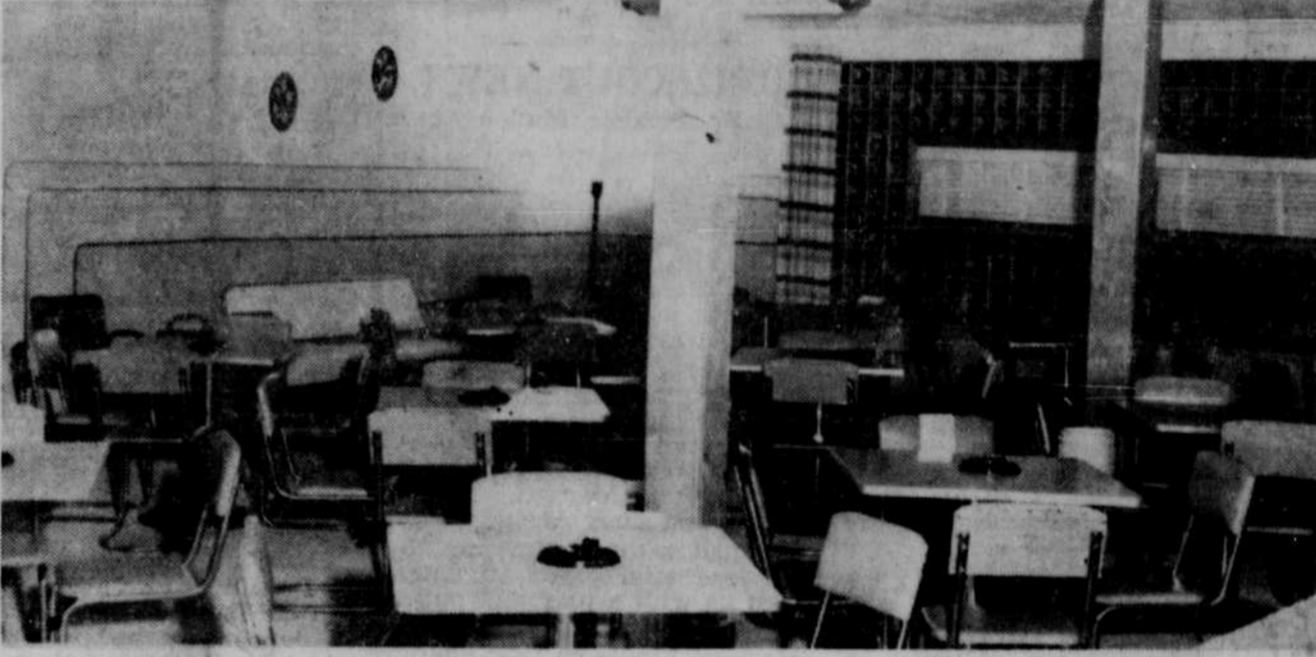
Angus was found wandering about the truck in a dazed condition by Oscar R. Gretschmann, of Ewing. Gretschmann took the injured trucker to a Ewing physician for treatment.

The truck was considerably damaged and was upside down when it came to a stop. Angus was unable to account for the accident. It is believed that no other vehicle was involved.

Legion's \$25,000 Club Open but Not Finished



The quonset-type structure appeared "overnight" on O'Neill's main thoroughfare. Much of the labor was done by Legionnaires themselves and many materials were delivered at cost.



The lounge features a glass-tile front window, fluorescent lighting and comfortable furniture. A stairway leads to the second-floor club offices.

CONVENTION NEARS

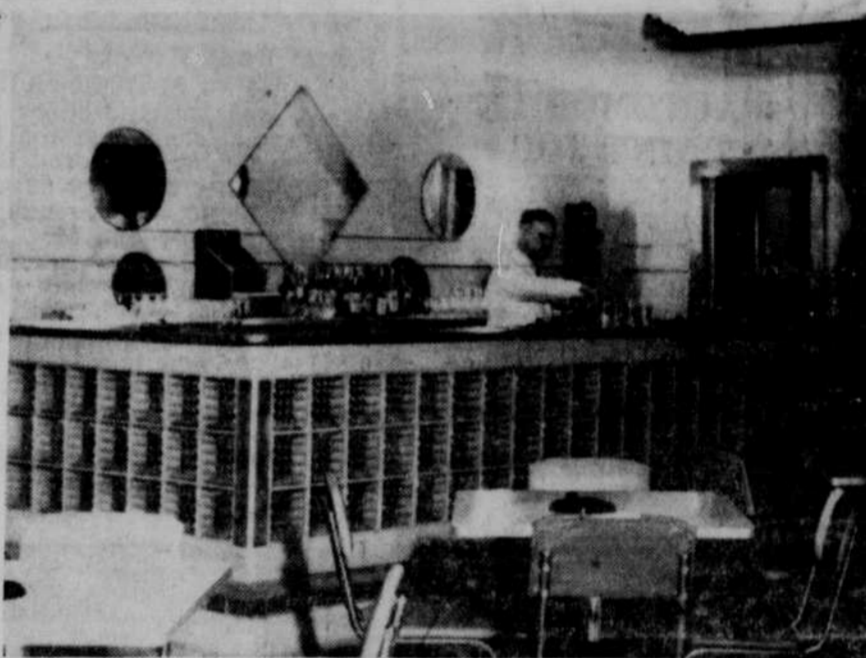
Here are three views of the new \$25,000 American Legion and Auxiliary building in O'Neill. Although the entire building has not been formally opened, the swank club-rooms are attracting members and their guests daily between 4 p. m. and midnight.

The top panel shows the quonset-type building as it appears facing south on Douglas street, 2 1/2 blocks east of the Golden hotel. The site was donated by J. B. Ryan, O'Neill grain dealer, and the building measures 40 x 160 feet.

The center panel shows the spacious lounge, which is immediately inside the main entrance. The predominant color is blue.

The photograph at right shows the glass-tile bar and the attendant, Edward N. Flood, who is a World War I veteran.

Legion officials have indicated that the auditorium will be completed before October 13—the date set for the annual Second district Legion and Auxiliary convention,



The clubrooms are open from 4 p. m. until midnight daily. Edward N. Flood is the attendant.

which will be held here this year. It will be an all-day affair.

Besides the lounge and auditorium, the building contains a kitchen, two rest rooms, a cloak room and club offices

(on the second floor.)

Counties represented in the Second district are Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Holt, Pierce, Knox, Madison and Stanton.—The Frontier Photos by John H. McCarville.

STOCK EXHIBITS 'TOPS' AT FAIR

Chambers Exposition in Good Start Despite Bad Weather

SPECIAL TO THE FRONTIER
CHAMBERS — Before raw weather and threatening skies moved in to dampen the big rodeo and restrict attendance today (Thursday) at the 55th annual Holt county fair, the 1947 exposition had already established itself as a success with the Tuesday (entry day) and Wednesday (judging day) activity.

By placing a yardstick on the 4-H and open class livestock entries and other agricultural exhibits, the fair was considered easily one of the best.

Supl. of Livestock Henry Wood, of Ewing, declared: "I've been working with the fair a good number of years and the animals shown this year will certainly rank high at anybody's fair."

Billy Sitz, of Atkinson, won grand champion 4-H baby, a husky, 18-months-old Angus calf which will point next to the Ak-Sar-Ben stock show in Omaha. Young Sitz is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Will Sitz.

Three stockmen who came to Holt from Buffalo county a few years back set a fast pace in the open-class showing. They were: E. R. Carpenter, of Chambers, with Shorthorn entries; Will Sitz, of Atkinson, with Angus, and Floyd Whitaker, of Chambers, with Herefords.

Three out-of-county judges decided on the school parade winners. They were: E. M. (Continued on page 4.)

SCHOOL HEARING TO AUDITORIUM

The hearing for the reappraisal of Holt county's 77,000 acres of school lands has been postponed from September 18 to September 25, it was announced Monday in Lincoln by Henry H. Bartling, secretary of the board of educational lands and funds.

The hearing is the latest move in a series of bickerings over school land valuations in Holt county. The values fixed by the state were bitterly opposed by a group of school land leasees, who appeared in August before the board at Lincoln to ask for another hearing.

Bartling offered no explanation for the postponement.

The session will be held in the courtroom at the courthouse here, beginning at 9 a. m.

A legal notice on page 7 of this issue of The Frontier states that the hearing will be held in the courtroom of the Holt county courthouse. However, courthouse officials explain that the courtroom will not accommodate the crowd and plans have been made to transfer the meeting to the O'Neill public school auditorium, one block north of the courthouse.

LICENSES PASS 2,000

Holt county motorists, clamoring for new drivers' licenses as a result of a new law that became effective September 8, passed the 2,000 mark today (Thursday) at the office of County Treasurer J. Ed Hancock. All driver's licenses expired September 1 and the issuance of new licenses began Monday.

DOC GOES BY AIR

Dr. George R. Cook, O'Neill veterinarian, took to the air Monday to make a rush call to a ranch south of Stuart. Rudolph Dvorak, a flying rancher, met the doctor at the O'Neill airport.

RIVER CLAIMS WAR VETERAN

D. Dwayne Okeson, 24, Drowns Sunday Near Spencer Dam

THE FRONTIER PRINT

SPENCER—Tragedy abruptly ended a wedding trip for D. Dwayne Okeson, 24, and his bride, Irene. While swimming in the Niobrara river near the Spencer dam late Sunday, Okeson is believed to have been stricken with cramps or a heart attack and was drowned.

The Okesons had been married only four days.

Mr. Okeson, who was formerly of Bonesteel, S. D., and recently of Columbus, went swimming at about 7 p. m. with his brother, Kenneth, of Bonesteel, and members of the Ray Velder family, of Spencer. He was heard crying for help and was seen disappearing below the surface of the water.

The brother, Kenneth, endangered his own life in trying to save the distressed man, but was unsuccessful. Mrs. Okeson, the bride, witnessed her husband's drowning from the bank of the river.

The body was found the following morning on the river's south bank at a point a half mile below the dam, which is located about 24 miles north of O'Neill on highway 281.

The discovery was made by Adam and Norbert Koenig, who are farmers in that vicinity.

Holt County Attorney William W. Griffin, who investigated, said that Okeson was a swimmer and was "stricken with either cramps or a heart attack."

The water wheels at the dam were shut-down by Consumers Public Power company employees manning the hydroelectric plant there. The shut-down enabled searchers to work below the dam. When the water began to flow over the top, however, generating was resumed through the water wheels.

A momentary service disruption was felt in O'Neill when the hydro power was shut-off.

A searching party worked until midnight without success. The fast-flowing Niobrara is believed to have deposited the body on the Holt bank at an early hour in the morning.

Okeson's wife is from Shelby. His mother is Mrs. Marie Okeson, of Bonesteel, and Mr. Velder is his uncle.

During World War II young Okeson served in the Seabees. He graduated from Bonesteel high school in 1941. He was active in football and basketball.

TILLAGE SHOW SITE CHANGED

The site for the subsurface tillage demonstration has been changed from the Fred Carey farm, located two miles east of O'Neill, to the Frank Seales farm, two miles west of Dance-land ballroom. The date and time remains the same—Monday, September 15, 1 p. m.—according to County Agent A. Neil Dawes.

The demonstration will feature modern machines designed to conserve crop residue for protection against wind and water erosion.

Mr. Dawes said the demonstration has been planned by the implement dealers, the co-operating farmers, the county extension service and the soil conservation service.

POLIO VICTIM, 3, IS RECOVERING

Raymond Harding, 3, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Harding, is "well on the road to recovery," according to attendants in the infantile paralysis ward in a Lincoln hospital where the O'Neill youngster was received August 26 for polio treatment.

The child's parents, who visited their son last weekend in Lincoln, said that Raymond would be released from the hospital late this week.

Wherry's Father Ill; Senator Passes Holt

Nebraska's junior United States senator, Kenneth S. Wherry, of Pawnee City, was forced to go through Holt county Wednesday without making scheduled stops because of the serious illness of his father, who also resides at Pawnee City.

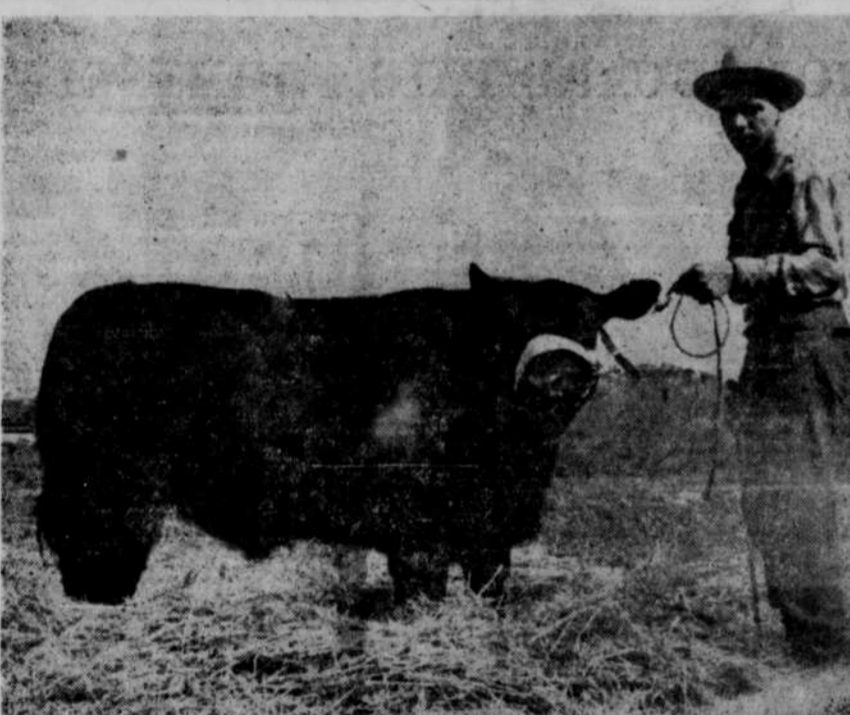
He had intended to visit O'Neill late Wednesday and remain until 10 a. m. today (Thursday).

FRUIT INFANT DIES

Gregory Dennis Pruitt, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin A. Pruitt born Monday in St. Vincent's hospital at Sioux City, died there early today (Thursday). Mrs. Pruitt is the former Miss Marjorie Cronin.

The Camera Goes to the Fair

(The Frontier Photos by John H. McCarville)



Black Diamond... an 18-month-old Angus... grand champion in 4-H competition. At right is Owner Billy Sitz.



First prize float... entered by district 137, of Chambers... presenting gaily-colored 55th anniversary scene, featuring rural youth and agriculture.



Second prize float... a school of 20 little froggies... mimicking frogs behind masks. The pupils won plaudits from the crowd. The float was jointly entered by districts 121 and 71.