

# Recommendation Ignored in Fixing School Land Values

## Gillette Casts Only 'No' Vote at Land Hearing in Lincoln

By vote of three-to-one, the state board of educational lands and funds in session late Monday at Lincoln accepted the appraiser's report raising the average valuation of 134 pieces of school land in Holt county by 70 percent.

The lone dissenting vote was cast by State Treasurer Edward M. Gillette, a board member, who recently recommended a 55 percent average increase following a special hearing in O'Neill.

Monday's action was a blow to Holt county's 200-odd school land leaseholders, who pay a rental on the county's 77,000 acres of school land on a valuation basis.

In June appraisers had increased the Holt valuation 72 percent, which followed an 85 percent increase in 1945. A controversy arose with the result that a special hearing was held here September 25 with Gillette presiding.

Gillette was convinced that the proposed 72 percent was too great, saying: "I recommend that the proposed increase be reduced from 72 percent to 55 percent and that the classification of land in Holt county be re-examined."

At Monday's hearing, Gillette urged lower valuations on grounds that lessees would be better able to finance themselves through lean years of poor crops and lower prices if the valuations were not hiked so much now.

Favoring acceptance of the appraiser's original recommendations were: State Supt. of Schools Wayne O. Reed, Secretary of State Frank Marsh and Gov. Val Peterson.

State Surveyor Hugh Dillon made the initial appraisal, and lowered his own figures following a stormy meeting with lessees in O'Neill, arbitrarily arriving at the 72 percent mark.

At Monday's session the board also voted for a complete reclassification of Holt school lands in 1948.

The board will consider Cherry county valuations at its December 22 meeting. Cherry and Holt were the only counties from which protests had been made in regard to the new valuations.

## CATHOLIC CLERGY TO RYAN RITES

Most Rev. James H. Ryan, 60, S.T.D., first archbishop of Omaha, a widely-known Roman Catholic educator, and head of 150,000 Catholics in the Omaha archdiocese, died Sunday in an Omaha hospital.

Archbishop Ryan's death was attributed to an asthmatic heart attack.

Funeral services will be held at St. Cecilia's cathedral at 10:30 a.m. Friday in Omaha. Rt. Rev. J. G. McNamara, of St. Patrick's Catholic church in O'Neill, will head a delegation of Holt and Boyd Catholic clergy which will attend the solemn pontifical requiem high mass.

Born in Indianapolis, Ind., on December 15, 1886, James Hugh Ryan was ordained to the priesthood in Rome at the age of 22. He had been an O'Neill visitor on several occasions.

## X-Ray Results to Be Mailed by Lions Club

As soon as card returns are received from the state department of health, the O'Neill Lions club will mail these cards to the hundreds of persons who were X-rayed by the mobile unit here during November.

This was announced late Tuesday by Lions club officials. More than 1,300 persons were X-rayed in O'Neill during the week's stay of the mobile unit, which was under the auspices of the Lions. School children from O'Neill, Chambers and Inman were checked in addition to adults during the stay here.

## Deer Sighted at Celia Believed One of St. Nick's Herd

CELIA — A deer has been seen recently near the R. L. Pease mailbox.

Residents of the Celia community frequently sight a deer in the locality, but whether it is always the same one nobody knows. It wouldn't be difficult, however, to convince the small fry that it has wandered down from St. Nick's home at the North Pole, one observer said.

## SEE HUSKERS LOSE

CHAMBERS — Three carloads of Chambers high school boys attended the Nebraska-Oklahoma football game at Lincoln Saturday. Charles Grimes and Mr. Echedil took cars and the third was driven by the Lutheran minister of Clearwater, Rev. L. W. Steffen.

# CORA A. WINCHELL BURIED TUESDAY

## Widow of the Late Ben T. Winchell Dies After Short Illness

Funeral services for Mrs. Cora A. Winchell, 75, widow of the late Ben T. Winchell, who was a well-known Holt county official, were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the First Presbyterian church here. Rev. Lloyd W. Mullis, Methodist pastor, officiated and burial was in Prospect Hill cemetery.

The late Mrs. Winchell died at 3 p.m. Sunday at her home in the southwest section of the city. She had been ill for less than a month and seriously ill for only a few days. Death was caused by a heart affliction and complications.

The former Cora A. Sackett was born October 8, 1872 at Black Earth, Wis., a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edmund H. Sackett. She came to Holt county with her parents and other members of the family in 1884, settling on a homestead two miles east and one-half mile north of Chambers.

Mother of 12 On August 8, 1891 at Chambers she married Mr. Winchell. They became the parents of 12 children, eight of whom survive.

The family moved into O'Neill in September, 1917. Mrs. Winchell was a member of Bethany Presbyterian church at Chambers and later the First Presbyterian church at O'Neill. She was affiliated with the Rebekah lodge.

The late Mr. Winchell served as a county official between 1916 and 1945, holding the posts of treasurer, assessor, register of deeds, and various deputy positions. He was deputy treasurer when he died.

Survivors include: Sons—Bert Winchell, of O'Neill; Alva B. Winchell, of Hastings; Vern H. Winchell, of Denver, Colo.; Orville H. Winchell, of Denver, Colo. Daughters—Mrs. E. H. Medcalf, of Chambers; Mrs. Horace Rouse, of O'Neill; Mrs. John Harvey, of Orchard; Mrs. J. E. Davis, of O'Neill. There are 22 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Two sons—George and John—and two daughters—Helen and Kathryn—preceded their mother in death.

The pallbearers at the funeral rites were: A. B. Hubbard, J. Ed Hancock, Arlo Hiatt, Ned Allender, all of O'Neill; Carl Lambert, of Ewing; Mark Gribble and Chet McClennahan, both of Chambers.

## PIPE-LAYING JOB ACCEPTED BY CITY

The recently completed pipe line, which will link the city's water system and twin wells south of town, was formally accepted Tuesday by Donald Price, of Lincoln, the city engineer.

The Charles Robeck Construction company, of Omaha, is the contractor for the line. The pipe-laying phase of the expansion of the municipal water system required almost four months' work by Robeck workmen. A bulldozer is now at work filling in the ditch, which extends from the rear of the Spelts-Ray Lumber company yard on South Fourth street to the well sites.

Robeck's biggest obstacle in the pipe-laying was crossing the Elkhorn river. Quicksand held up the operation more than 30 days and forced temporary diversion of the river.

The Wayne Western company, of Omaha, holds the contract for installing the two new pumps and electric motors at the well sites. Mayor F. J. Dishner said Wednesday that he expected technicians here "within a week or 10 days" to begin installation. The pumps will be housed in two new frame pump houses.

When completed, the new wells are expected to furnish a minimum of 400 gallons each per minute and will double the system's capacity. At present the water-pumping facilities are considered inadequate. During the summer months, when consumption was great, the fire hazard was of prime concern to city officials.

With the expansion the city's water needs are expected to be adequately filled for a number of years to come taking into consideration a normal growth.

The expansion program, launched more than a year ago, is costing in the neighborhood of 78 thousand dollars. Sixty-six thousand dollars went into the pipe and pipe-laying and the balance is being spent on pumps, motors, pump houses, wells and engineering.

The new pumps and wells are expected to be in operation by January.

# THE FRONTIER

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O'NEILL, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1947.

PRICE 5 CENTS



Pictured is a portion of the crowd that gathered here Sunday to mark the 65th anniversary of the founding of the O'Neill Methodist church. The photograph was made midway in the all-day celebration.—The Frontier Photo by John H. McCarrville.

## EARLY ATKINSON SETTLER DIES

### Gilbert R. Davis, 76, Came to Holt with Parents in 1878

ATKINSON—Gilbert Rynaldo Davis, 76, one of the early settlers in the Atkinson community, died Friday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Wilma Westlake, at Hay Springs.

Funeral services were held at St. Joseph's Catholic church here at 9 a.m. Tuesday with Rev. A. A. Lehman officiating.

The late Mr. Davis was born November 12, 1871 near Mazepa, Minn. In 1878, at the age of 7, he came to Holt county with his parents, the late James and Arina Wyman Davis, and other members of the family.

During his early childhood on a homestead southwest of Atkinson, the county seat was established at O'Neill, the village of Atkinson had been started, and the railroad was built.

On September 29, 1896, he was married to Mamie O'Connor at St. Joseph's church in Atkinson. Mr. Davis and his bride homesteaded about six miles southwest of Atkinson, moving into Atkinson in 1913.

Following the death of his wife in 1929, he made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Evelyn Frohman, in Atkinson for 10 years. For the past eight years he has resided at Hay Springs with Mrs. Westlake.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis were the parents of nine children, eight of whom survive. These are: Sons—LeRoy W. Davis, of Camarillo, Calif.; Errol E. Davis, of Los Angeles, Calif.; James I. Davis, of Mansfield, Wash.; Neil W. Davis and Donald R. Davis, both of Atkinson. Daughters—Mrs. Wilma Westlake, of Hay Springs; Mrs. Jetty M. Ingfield, of Greeley, Colo.; Mrs. Evelyn Frohman, of Atkinson.

Other survivors include: two sisters—Mrs. Mae Cowels, of Carnation, Wash.; Mrs. Amy Butler, of Newport; brothers—Gilman V. Davis, of Stuart, (twin brother of the deceased); Ira E. Davis, of Carnation, Wash.; and 18 grandchildren.

Mrs. Davis died June 6, 1929. Their son, Stanley, died in 1910.

## O'Neill Methodism Has Birthday

Methodism in O'Neill, became 65 years old Sunday, and an all-day celebration, planned and arranged by the church pastor, Rev. Lloyd W. Mullis, and the church members marked the occasion.

Bishop William C. Martin, head of the Kansas-Nebraska conference, expressed regrets at his inability to be present and sent the following congratulatory message:

To the pastor and members of the O'Neill Methodist church: My dear fellow

Methodists—My heartfelt congratulations to each one of you on this day on which you are celebrating the 65th anniversary of the organization of your church. It would be a great privilege to worship with you today, but the schedule of engagements makes such a visit impossible.

When we are reminded of the heroic and sacrificial courage of the pioneers who founded churches in Nebraska about three-quarters of a century ago, we cannot escape the conviction that we have a heritage which should be valued and protected. If the church of tomorrow is to fulfill its mission in pointing the way to international security and to a world of righteousness and peace, the church members of today are under obligation to exercise the same kind of faithfulness and loyalty to the kingdom of Christ which were so prominent in the lives of the men and women who opened the trails into this new land.

## HOLT HONORED FOR P-F-L WORK

Five Nebraska counties—Holt, Butler, Dundy, Franklin, and Fillmore—were honored in Omaha Tuesday night for having what were regarded as outstanding records in pasture-forage-livestock work during the past year.

Representatives of Holt county receiving the awards were: Harry Ressel, Lyle Dierks, Lorenz Bredemeier, J. O. Walker and County Agent A. Neil Dawes.

The awards were made at an Omaha Chamber of Commerce banquet highlighting a day-long program for more than 400 p-f-l cooperators from all parts of the state.

Other features of the program were morning tours, and an afternoon beef-grading demonstration.

Among the Holt Soil Conservation district cooperators who attended the finishup program in Omaha Tuesday were: Merwyn French, of Page; Ray Sidors, of O'Neill, and Ora Yarges, of Stuart.

Mr. Sidors and Mr. French took part in the "swapper session" during the afternoon. Mr. Sidors discussed the use of legumes in crop rotation and soil conservation practices, while Mr. French discussed using brome, crested wheat grass, and alfalfa for pasture purposes.

Factors considered in the p-f-l program were: more trees for protection for livestock, farmsteads, fields, gardens, and beautification; livestock parasite control; commercial fertilizer and grain test plots; conservation practices; weed control, and control of Bangs disease.

## PROTESTANTS IN UNION SERVICE

### Worship to Be Held in Holiness Chapel; Tables Bountiful As Ever

The city's four Protestant churches were to have joined in a union Thanksgiving worship service at 9:30 a.m. today (Thursday) in the Holiness chapel.

Rev. J. W. Clapper, pastor of the Assembly of God, was scheduled to deliver the sermon, entitled "In Everything Give Thanks." Irene and Irene Searies were to have been heard in a vocal duet, and E. Donald Bowen was to sing, "Now, Thank We All Our God."

The participating churches are: Assembly of God, Holiness chapel, Presbyterian church and Methodist church.

Meanwhile, the well-known turkey gobbler got the axe at sunrise in the old-fashioned way as Holt countyans prepared to sit down to a table that is as bountiful as ever. Those that won't be feasting on turkey will be wading into some other equally-appropriate dish.

## EARLY CHAMBERS SETTLER DIES

### Mrs. Philip Robertson, 82, Influenza Victim; Buried Wednesday

CHAMBERS—Influenza caused the death early Monday of Mrs. Philip Robertson, 82, a resident of south-Holt county for more than 57 years. She died at 12:25 a. m. at the Robertson family home, five and one-quarter miles west and one mile north of Chambers, and had been ill less than a month.

Funeral services were held at 2 p. m. Wednesday at the Baptist church with Rev. Lawrence McElheran, church pastor, officiating. A quartet, including Rev. Ward Smith, Leo T. Adams, Mrs. Vernon Smith and Wayne Rouse, sang. Burial was in the Chambers cemetery near the grave of the late Philip Robertson, who died October 23, 1935.

The pallbearers were: Lewis Harley, Leo T. Adams, Lloyd Gled, Carl Mitchell, Hylas Farrier and Lawrence Edwards.

Born at Brighton, Ia., on July 28, 1865 the late Mrs. Robertson was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Walters. Her Christian name was Minnie. She was educated in Iowa and she came alone to Holt county in 1889.

On June 12, 1889 she married Mr. Robertson. They began farming in the Chambers vicinity and lived there continuously throughout their lifetimes. Following the death of Mr. Robertson, she continued to reside with her two sons and one daughter on the family place.

Survivors include: Sons—Lynnman Robertson and Vernie Robertson, both of Chambers; daughter—Grace Robertson, also of Chambers; sister—Mrs. Etta Enghen, of California; numerous nephews and nieces.

Among relatives coming from a distance for the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robertson and son, Robert, and daughter, Mrs. Dyeke, all of Winona, Minn.

KNIGHTS DECORATE The Knights of Columbus clubrooms are being redecored this week and fluorescent lights are being installed, according to Stephen W. Price, grand knight.

## Another Conservation Plea Sounded

In a prepared statement issued this week to the press, L. C. Walling, manager of the Consumers Public Power district here, reviewed the power situation and again pointed out that it may be necessary to curtail some electricity use during peak periods.

Pointing to the extraordinary increase in electricity consumption, which has created a nationwide power shortage, Walling said that the present facilities were strained to the utmost Tuesday evening in the O'Neill network, which serves 11 northeastern Nebraska counties and a number of points in South Dakota.

Meanwhile, the Consumers district is extending itself to replace worn and inadequate equipment and expand its facilities, but little relief from the power shortage is seen before 1949.

In a direct letter to all customers in October, Walling issued a plea for voluntary conservation. The peak periods during the winter months are between 4 and 7 p. m.

completed to give this area better electric service, Mr. Walling said preliminary work is under way for the new 115,000-volt transmission line from Norfolk to O'Neill which will complete a triangular loop in the Norfolk-Neligh-O'Neill area and provide "more dependable" service to many communities and also bring additional power supply to this area. Material has been ordered for this line and will start about the first of the year. It was anticipated to have this line completed by the Spring of 1948, but delays in obtaining some material will make this impossible.

Mr. Walling said the cost of this project, along with some associated construction in this area, is estimated to be in excess of one million dollars.

In connection with the project is a 115,000-33,000-volt substation at Neligh to supply power for both Consumers loads and rural development. Another substation of 115,000-66,000-33,000-volt capacity will be built at O'Neill to accommodate power from this line

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