

Tragedies, Floods, Donna Mae Make 1947's Biggest News

TRAGEDIES . . . NO. 1

A wave of violent deaths made the biggest news in pictures and headlines during 1947, a survey of The Frontier files reveals. Among those perishing in accidental death were the four young people pictured below:



Zane Cole



Kathleen Mack



Arthur A. Jurgensmeier

These three were fatally injured in the crash of a pleasure aircraft while night flying near Emmet on November 16. Pictured below is John F. Schmit, 21, a Navy veteran of World War II, who was electrocuted September 4 while working on a high tension power line in West O'Neill.

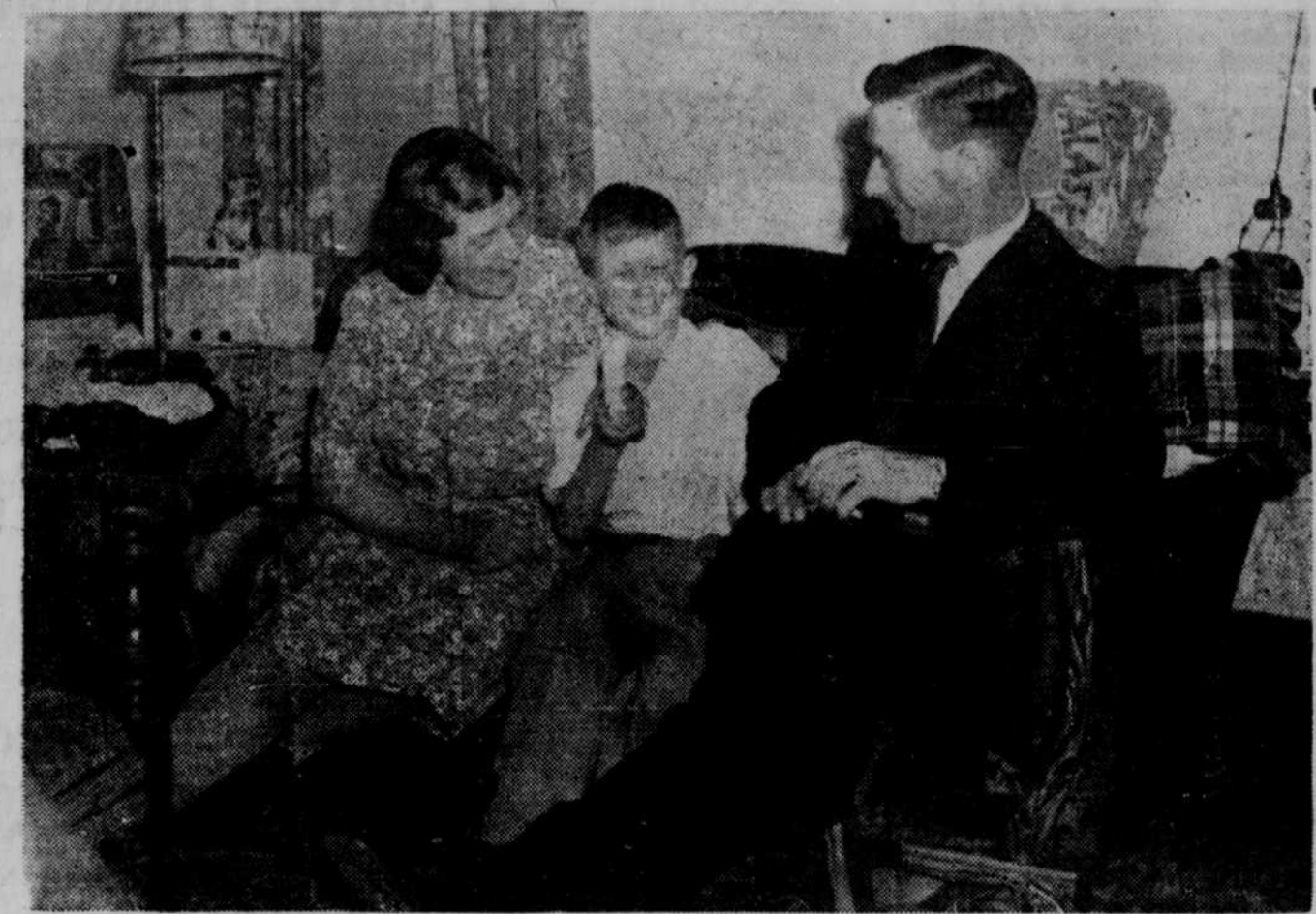


John F. Schmit



FLOODS NO. 2

Elkhorn river flood waters rose to unprecedented heights as a result of a series of rains and the cloudburst on June 21. The 1936 Ford automobile (shown almost submerged) was parked on dryland a few hours earlier on the Joe Jaraski farm, one-half mile south of the city. Flood waters along the Elkhorn and its tributaries spread over thousands of acres of farm land, causing considerable damage. The communities of Inman and Ewing on the Elkhorn and Chambers on the South Fork suffered heavy flood loss.



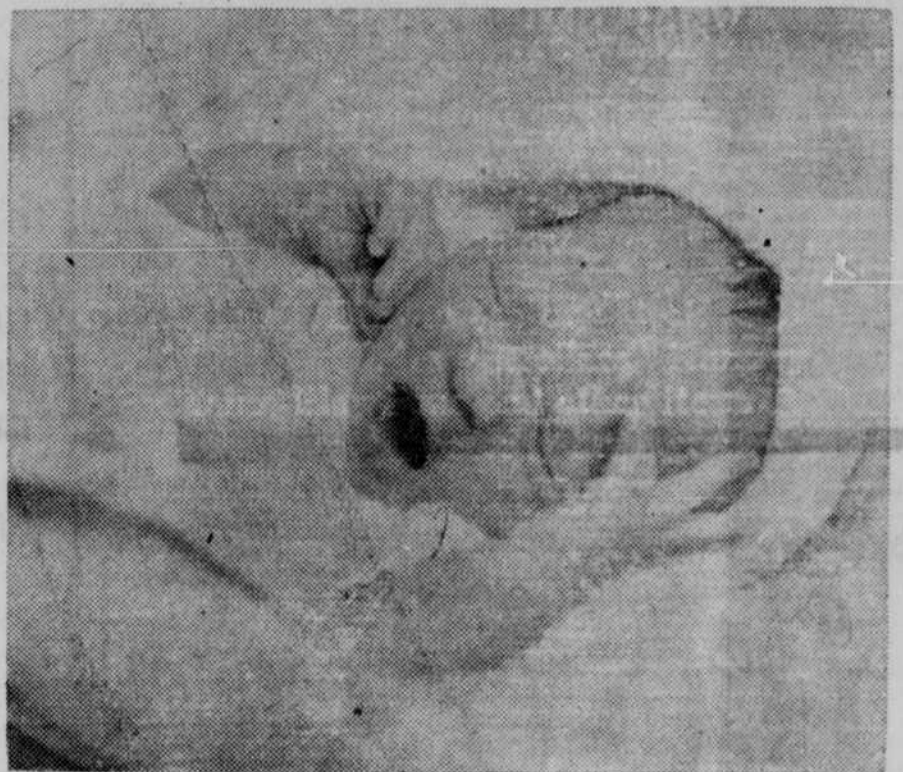
IMMIGRATION 1947 STYLE

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith and son, John, endured everything the Germans could hand out in a London suburb during the World War II 'blitz' era. Before war's end, however, they decided to go to America where they could be near the couple's daughter, who had married a Yank from O'Neill. Immigration 1947 style included a 2½ day journey for the Smiths — to New York City by air; to Omaha by rail, to O'Neill by auto arriving here June 15, carrying only a few personal effects.

CREDITS: Photographs on this page are accredited as follows: Cole, Mack, Jurgensmeier, Wanser, Cronin and McNamara—O'Neill Photo Co. Flood, Smiths, Donna Mae, Legion building, and Mrs. Burge.—The Frontier Photos by John H. McCarville.

DONNA MAE . . . NO. 3

Donna Mae Fuhrer, 14, was an obscure little O'Neill farm girl until the day that County Superintendent Elja McCullough presented her an eighth grade graduation diploma. A polio victim and virtually helpless, Donna Mae had persevered in her studies and on May 19 graduated with honors. Her achievement caused Ted Malone, famous radio commentator-philosopher, to pay Donna Mae a tribute over the nationwide American Broadcasting company network. The radio and the press made Donna Mae a household name, and today she ranks as one of Holt county's best-known people. In the photo with her are: Miss Twila Hicks, teacher (center) and Miss McCullough.



HOLT'S FIRST 1947 BABY

"Hello, world!" Kathleen Wanser created quite a stir when she arrived at 4 a.m. on January 2 and was labeled as Holt county's first 1947 baby. A daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Max Wanser, of Inman, Kathleen was showered with gifts from O'Neill business firms that cooperated with The Frontier in a first baby contest.

WAR DEAD HONORED



S-Sgt. Floyd E. Burge

Two Holt county World War II dead made news during 1947.

The grave of the late S-Sgt. Floyd E. Burge (above) was adopted by a family in Holland, and on Memorial day the soldier's mother, Mrs. Bessie M. Burge, of Emmet (right) knew that her son's grave was being decorated and that prayers were being said there by persons who cared. Mrs. Burge and the Willy Holterbosch family, of Waubach, Limburg, Holland, developed a warm friendship through correspondence. Sgt. Burge was killed in Germany.

The body of T-Sgt. Laddie Cary (below) reached this country with the first of the World War II dead being returned to this country. Sgt. Cary was killed in Germany shortly before hostilities ended. Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Cary, of Inman, are the parents.



T-Sgt. Laddie Cary



'SNUBBED'

Michael ("Mike") O'Sullivan, native O'Neillite and now a Phoenix, Ariz., insurance executive, was "snubbed," he said, by a Boston, Mass., hotel dining room that refused him service in his shirtsleeves. His Irish aroused, Mike exploded in a letter to the Boston Herald. A verbal controversy resulted.



Mrs. Burge . . . her son's grave in Holland was adopted



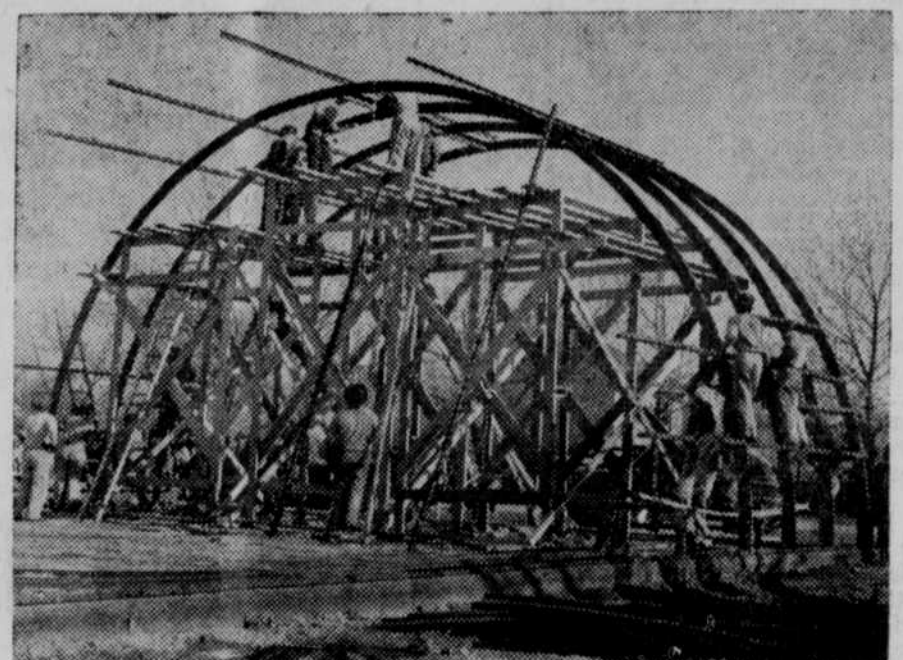
DENNIS H. CRONIN DIES

Scores of pioneers, including Dennis H. Cronin, 78, a former state legislator and United States marshal and for more than a half-century the editor of The Frontier, were removed from the scene by death. Each year the Grim Reaper's toll makes important news in a country weekly newspaper, especially with the passing of oldtimers.



CELEBRATES GOLDEN JUBILEE

On March 4 Rt. Rev. J. G. McNamara, pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church here, culminated 50 years in the priesthood in a golden sacerdotal mass attended by more than a score of clergy and several hundred parishioners and other friends. The late Rev. M. F. Cassidy, who died in 1933, was honored at a golden jubilee celebration in 1928, the only other event of this kind ever held here. — O'Neill



LEGION BUILDS \$25,000 CLUB

Operation QUONSET is what the American Legion and ladies auxiliary named their \$25,000 club building program. Legionnaires are shown swarming over the framework during a May building bee. Simonson post 93 now boasts one of the finest clubs in the state.

THE FRONTIER . . . "The Picture Newspaper"

• It published more "homeprint" pictures during 1947 than all other Holt county newspapers combined!