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THREE MEMBERS OF AK-SAR-BEN GIVE A LUNCHEON MONDAY

Here In The Interest Of Having Pari-Mutuel Betting On Horse Races Legalized In Nebraska.

Bert Murphy, head of one of the largest automobile sales agencies in the middle west, was in the city last Monday, accompanied by Mac Baldridge, formerly congressman from Omaha, and W. H. Millard, of the Omaha National bank. All these gentlemen enjoyed a brief visit with their many O'Neill friends.

These gentlemen were in the city in the interest of Ak-Sar-Ben, the greatest state advertising organization that has ever been organized in Nebraska or any other state. For close on forty years this organization, composed mainly of business men of the city of Omaha, but with many out-staters on its membership rolls, has been advertising the state of Nebraska and bringing to the attention of the people of the other states of the Union the many advantages of this state without any expense to the people of the state as a whole. This expense has been borne by Ak-Sar-Ben, and the three gentlemen who were in the city Monday are prominent leaders in the Ak-Sar-Ben, two of them, Mr. Millard and Mr. Murphy, being members of the board of governors.

These gentlemen put on a luncheon for a party of O'Neillites in the dining room of the Golden hotel Monday, which was enjoyed by about forty of the representative citizens of the city, of both sexes. At this meeting Mr. Baldridge, in behalf of the Omaha delegation, told the assembled guests what Ak-Sar-Ben desired, in fact needed, if their ideas for the betterment of Nebraska as a whole was carried to a successful conclusion. Ak-Sar-Ben is a non-profit organization, not for any profit for itself, but to enable them to be of better service to the livestock and horse breeding industries of the state. This organization was born in 1905 and has grown up with the state. Its chief objective has been to advertise the state, its livestock, butter and eggs, its farms and factories. In their grounds and buildings at Omaha they have an investment of \$1,500,000 and its livestock shows there have been recognized as among the best in the United States. The money that was put into these buildings was secured from the Omaha track, when races were held there from 1921 to 1929, when the supreme court ruled that the law under which the meets were held was unconstitutional.

In order to bring back horseracing to Nebraska the Ak-Sar-Ben is sponsoring an amendment to the constitution that will legalize pari-mutuel betting on horse racing in the state. In order to get this upon the ballot for the coming election it will be necessary to secure 60,000 signatures to an initiative petition. The members of the organization are asking the people of the state to circulate these petitions, as they say the organization is without funds to bear this burden. They are asking for pari-mutuel racing for Omaha only, but the legislature will set up the regulations if the amendment is adopted and no county that doesn't want race meets will have them. Pari-mutuel races are now legal in 17 states, five of them having legalized this form of racing within the past year. During 1933 in five states, Maryland and Kentucky, pari-mutuel racing brought into the states in taxes the sum of \$2,452,883.31, which lessened the tax burden of the people of these states to that amount.

A very large part of the population of this city are very partial to horse racing, in fact some of the most successful race meets held in the state, outside of Omaha, have been held here. The people of this vicinity are signing the initiative petitions very liberally and when the election rolls around we do not believe there is a question but what a majority of the people of this county will set their approval on the pari-mutuel form of horse racing.

The people of the state are now strong for the new deal, and tired of fanatical liberty-depriving legislation, and we believe will give the people of the eastern part of the state what they want in this line. As far as we are concerned, let them have their racing, we do not have to attend unless we want to and if we do attend there is no one who will compel us to bet on a horse unless we have the inclination and desire to do so.

George Clark, of Page, was in O'Neill Thursday morning on business.

Dwight Griswold Stops In O'Neill For A Visit

Dwight Griswold, of Gordon, candidate for the republican gubernatorial nomination, was in the city for a few hours last Saturday renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. Mr. Griswold was on his way to Cedar Rapids, where he was to deliver a speech that evening, on the celebration of the establishment of the city. Dwight says that prospects for his nomination grow brighter every day and he is firmly convinced that if he does secure the nomination that he will be successful at the polls next November.

McNulty-Grutsch

Mr. James McNulty and Miss Margery Grutsch were united in marriage in this city on April 5th by Rev. Father B. J. Leahy, of St. Patrick's church.

They were attended by Miss Edna McNulty, sister of the groom and Mr. John Grutsch, brother of the bride.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Grutsch, living north of O'Neill. She is a graduate of the O'Neill public school, and has taught in our rural schools for the past five years.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John McNulty, of Atkinson, and is a graduate of the Atkinson public schools. Both of these young people are among our most popular young folks, and the best wishes of a host of friends follows them to their home on a farm 14 miles northwest of O'Neill.

About 60 friends and neighbors gathered at the Will Grutsch home on Sunday night to charivari the newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. James McNulty.

O'Neill City Finances Are In Excellent Shape

It is doubtful if there is another city in the United States having the fine financial record that is O'Neill's. With no outstanding debt, there is on deposit with the Holt county treasurer \$3,200 of general fund money, labor, \$660; city gas tax, \$645; fire and bond, \$440; water bond, \$1,220; balance sewer bond, \$152.22. The accounts are paid and the above are balances.

On deposit with the city treasurer is water fund, \$558.61; general fund, \$503.38; road fund, \$5.69; special water fund, \$2,500. Figure the amounts up and try to find another town in this year of our Lord, 1934, like it.

Pete Todsén, local manager of the J. C. Penney store here, left last Saturday evening for Kansas City, where he is attending a convention of the managers of the Penney stores from five states. The convention will be attended by 320 managers and by representatives of the firm from the east who will discuss with the managers the business conditions and the best manner of catering to the wants of the patrons of the company thruout the country. The convention will last all week and Mr. Todsén is not expected home until next Sunday night. During his absence James Tuor, the efficient and obliging head salesman of the Penney store here, is the local manager, and James will see that the wants of their various patrons will be attended to.

Now vice chairman of the Nebraska state republican committee, Lyle Jackson, of Neligh, republican leaders here heard, is slated for state chairman to succeed Robert Smith, of Omaha. It was not known if Jackson will accept the chairmanship. At the state convention next fall it will be necessary to name a chairman for the general election battle, and Jackson would be renamed or reelected at that time. He has a host of friends here, and was one of the attorneys defending Earl Treppish about a year ago.

The ball given at Danceland last evening by Mayor-elect Kershenbrock proved to be one of the most popular events of the season. The dance started early and continued until 2 A. M. It is estimated that 1,500 people attended the party, by far the largest crowd that ever attended a dance there, and everyone claimed to have had an enjoyable time. The mayor-elect was a genial host and was around there all evening seeing to it that his guests enjoyed themselves.

According to state and federal statistics Nebraska's 1933 potato shipments are liable to set an all time record for the state. Shipments to date are 8,711 cars. This is the second highest shipment record and is more than twice that of a year ago. The record for shipments was established in 1930 when 5,160 cars were moved.

BRIEFLY STATED

Several head of hogs were reported to have died in this vicinity of influenza the last week.

Early potato planting is about completed in this city and an April shower will be needed soon to sprout the tubers.

Tuesday was one of the finest days enjoyed here for some time, no wind and a steady stream of sunshine of just the right temperature.

Several persons here saw a huge meteor fall in the west last Sunday evening at about 8:30 o'clock. The missile was reported as red, and looked like it struck the earth in the sand dunes.

Lem Bitney returned last Sunday night from Omaha, where he had spent the past month receiving medical treatment. His health is much improved and he seems to be on the road to recovery.

Weatherman say, contrary to general belief, that the month of April is the windiest of the year in this part of the country. That is easy to believe by those able to hang on until the first of May.

The measles epidemic still continues in this section and an odd thing about it is that adults contract it almost as often as children. Few are very ill of it but a few have to remain in bed for several days.

Mrs. F. H. Butts, of Nebraska City, Mrs. R. E. Benson, Mrs. R. L. McIntyre and Mrs. Ned Knapp, of Omaha, drove up from the latter city last Monday for a week's visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Cronin.

A highly successful picnic was enjoyed by the pupils of rural school No. 170 in northeast Holt county last Friday afternoon in celebration of the termination of the school term. Stella Van Every was the teacher.

The condition of Mrs. Alice (James) McDermott, residing one mile south of here, who has been ill several weeks, was reported by friends as greatly improved this week. She is able to sit up, read and converse with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Pierce, of Lincoln, came up last Friday and visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Kershenbrock until Monday morning, when they returned to their home. Mrs. Pierce is a sister of Mrs. Kershenbrock.

Mrs. Archie Bowen returned from Omaha Wednesday and said that between here and Omaha, as far as moisture is concerned, there is no difference, the ground plainly showing there is a very small amount of it available for starting crops.

Preliminary work on the paving is moving along nicely. They expect to have all the gutters completed by the end of next week and then will get the street ready for the laying of the concrete. It is expected that the work will all be completed by July 1.

California, this is one on you. W. C. Davenport, recently returned from the west coast to Sioux City, reported rain is badly needed in California around Los Angeles where about January 1 a fall of 12 inches may have been called a mist by the natives.

The Roberts Construction company, of Lincoln, having the contract here for paving a mile of Douglas street, has a dragline and unloading plant in operation near the stockyards of the Northwestern railway here where interesting problems in moving heavy objects are easily and quickly solved.

Mrs. J. F. O'Donnell and daughter, Miss Grace, returned last Sunday evening from Omaha, where they had taken their daughter and sister, Mrs. Z. W. Credle home, after a visit here of two weeks. Mrs. Credle, nee Irene O'Donnell, had spent a couple of weeks visiting the home folks and visiting with her girlhood chums in the old home town.

A greater number of wild ducks than usual is found on the Elkhorn river and sportsmen believe that a shortage of water in lakes, slough and marshes is forcing them to look for nesting places on the river. The river is never overly popular with the fowl because there is scant supplies of wild rice, colery and the like along its swiftly moving course.

Two Sentenced To State Penitentiary For Carrying Concealed Weapons

Two men arrested April 14 at Atkinson for carrying concealed weapons after they had failed to pass a fake check bearing the forged signature of a man named Spangler, and who have been in the Holt county jail here since April 14, 1934, were brought before Judge Dickson Wednesday afternoon and after they had plead guilty to carrying concealed weapons were sentenced to serve one year each in the Nebraska penitentiary at hard labor.

One of the men gave his name as John Lampert, 30, born in Keya Paha county, but without a home, and the other fellow said his name is Elliot D. Moore, 30, born in Wyoming and without home although his folks live at Richmond, Missouri.

Lampert had been in the Nebraska penitentiary before on a forgery conviction and he was released only last December. Neither of the men are married. Lampert said his father is dead but his mother is living. The penitentiary sentences are to start with this April 14.

Sheriff Duffy said he would make an effort at taking the men to Lincoln to start their "raps" Friday, April 27.

JOHN CONWAY

John Conway died at the home of his brother, Martin Conway, northwest of this city Wednesday afternoon at 4 P. M., after an illness of several weeks, of stomach trouble, at the age of 70 years. The funeral will be held at 9 o'clock Friday morning from St. Patrick's church, burial in Calvary cemetery.

John Conway was born in Trenton county, Iowa, on July 7, 1863. In 1875 the family moved to Harrison county, Iowa, where he grew to manhood and lived until 1900 when he moved to Dixon county, Nebraska, where he resided until 1931 when he came to this county and since that time has made his home with his brother. Mr. Conway never married. In his youth he learned the carpenter trade and followed that vocation all his life, having been one of the leaders in that line of work in Dixon county for 30 years. Of a family of eight children, Martin Conway is the only survivor.

STROKE SUFFERED DURING CHURCH SERVICES FATAL

A stroke suffered Sunday during services at the Presbyterian church here resulted fatally to Mrs. Elizabeth Groff, 48, at a local hospital. Mrs. Groff was stricken at 10 o'clock Sunday forenoon and passed away that afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Not much is known definitely of Mrs. Groff here, but friends say she had been divorced from her husband in South Dakota and that she is the mother of eight children. She came to O'Neill from Atkinson. Services were held at the Presbyterian church at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon and burial was in Prospect Hill cemetery, O'Neill.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Heitman returned last Sunday night from Grand Forks, North Dakota, where they were called a week ago Friday by a message announcing the sudden death of Mr. Heitman's father. Mr. Heitman was 67 years of age at the time of his death and had been a resident of Grand Forks for over 40 years. He died very suddenly from a heart attack. He had been a traveling salesman for years, having retired from active business a few years ago. He is survived by his wife, three daughters and one son.

Children in the habit of playing in the streets here may have to cease a few hours some of these days to attend the funeral of one of their number who may get what several have narrowly escaped. Children, it seems, have little control of the driver of a vehicle whose idea of safety may be one arm around some girl and the other around another, while his eyes may be in need of glasses.

A new gasoline storage tank of 12,000 gallons capacity has been set up just east of the Armour Creameries by the Farmer's Union Co-operative Cream and Gas association and has been filled with the thirst quenching liquid of automobiles. Now there are four tanks in a row there and each holds 12,000 gallons of petroleum products, all owned by the above company.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kershenbrock and family and Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Pierce, of Lincoln, spent Sunday visiting relatives and friends at Osmond, returning home that evening.

Grasshopper Meeting

O. S. Bare, State Leader in grasshopper control will be in O'Neill Friday, April 27 to explain the program as outlined for Holt county. The meeting will be held in the Court room at 8 P. M.

Much cooperation from those living in the infested area will be needed to derive the most benefit from the limited funds allowed for this work. All those interested are urged to be present.

Celebrates 83rd Birthday

A week ago last Friday, Mrs. George Jones, mother of Mrs. Dave Loy, celebrated her 83rd birthday at the Loy home. Mrs. Jones enjoys singularly good health, and while fairly old, in years, she is not mentally nor physically, and she recounts events that occurred many years ago in minute detail.

Mrs. Jones came to Holt county 57 years ago in a covered wagon and this mode of traveling then was in wide use, the snowey tops glistening on roads that wound around like dark serpents in thousands, like so many white ants ever moving to west or east.

O'Neill has been her home town for 57 years. She recalls that prairie fires once burned near O'Neill for weeks and even greater ones burned west of here, in Cherry and Keya Paha counties, and that for days after the ashes of them sifted down here like black rain to soil clothes on lines and dot white buildings with specks of black.

She saw thousands of covered wagon travelers go on and on because times were so hard they could find no stopping place where life might be bettered. As the home seekers went on, night skies often showed patches like mashed red-beets under which some conflagration at away at vegetation perhaps a month while the movers wondered where the trouble was, who was losing homes, with no phones to explain to the rest of the world details of the red mystery of the ghostly night.

A great number of friends, neighbors and acquaintances called on Mrs. Jones Friday to tender her felicitations and to talk over scenes and incidents of the good old days on the prairies of Holt county.

Hospital Notes

Mrs. Carl Dahlstein was dismissed from the hospital and went to her home here Sunday afternoon.

Edith Baker and Everett Michaelson who were operated on last Monday left for their homes Monday.

W. F. Harris was admitted to the hospital Thursday and underwent a minor operation Friday morning. He was dismissed Tuesday afternoon.

Harold Parks, of Page, was dismissed from the hospital Wednesday morning.

Charles Manson went to his home in O'Neill Saturday evening.

Mrs. Margaret Hughes was admitted to the hospital Sunday evening for examination and consultation. She left Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Elizabeth Groff suffered a paralytic stroke and was brought to the hospital Sunday morning at 10:30. She died at 1:30.

A cat half way up a tree was neatly outwitted Saturday morning, according to one who witnessed the contest, by a red squirrel. The squirrel tried desperately to scare the cat by running from the ground to near the cat and making passes at it, but the cat pawed back and held its perch. The squirrel then used its head as well as its feet, climbed another tree, leaped to the one the cat held, and continued plans for a new cottage.

Reports say sand drifted so deep at points near Winner, S. D., Saturday of last week on highways that teams and scrapers were used to remove it. Strips four feet deep and 400 feet long impeded traffic. At several points west and north from Valentine the sand is said to have sifted over snow fencing set to stop it, burying the fencing and causing difficulty to automobilists.

Forecast of rain for this section Wednesday brought one of the finest organized layout of clouds imaginable and a few drops of what old timers suspected might be rain. A light wind was toying with dust again Thursday afternoon while stratas of clouds looked like they were in serious effort at making water.

Grasshoppers are reported hatching out in several sections, but no definite information was obtained.

NEW CITY OFFICERS WILL TAKE OFFICE ON TUESDAY NEXT

Three Elective Officials And Three Appointive Officers Retire When New Regime Takes Over Affairs.

The city council held a meeting last Tuesday night. This will be the last council meeting for Mayor Stout, Clerk Campbell and Councilman Johnson, unless a special meeting is called, as Mayor Elect Kershenbrock takes office next Tuesday morning, with C. W. Porter as city clerk and Councilman Yantzi replacing Councilman Johnson in the Third ward.

Mayor Stout has been the Mayor of the city for the past eight years, having held the office longer than any man in the history of the city. He was a good official and he can look backward to his tenure of office as one beneficial to the city, as the present paving contract was let and work started thereon during his term of office.

Like Mayor Stout, Mr. Johnson has also held the office of councilman longer than any other man in the history of the city, having represented the Third ward for about a quarter of a century. He has been president of the council for several years. He was a good active member of the council and devoted a good deal of time to the duties of the office.

Ed. Campbell, city clerk, who also retires next Tuesday, has held the office of city clerk for several years, and was a splendid official.

W. J. Hammond, who has been city attorney for several years, retires also the first of the week and will be succeeded by Emmet Harmon. Mr. Hammond has handled a good deal of work for the city during his tenure of office—a good deal of it coming within the past year, including the drafting of ordinances providing for paving the intersections of the city, along Douglas street, as well as the contract for the new well—in a very creditable manner and future meetings of the council will seem odd without the presence of Councilman Johnson, Attorney Hammond or Chief of Police Scott Hough in the assembly.

Scott Hough also retires as Chief of Police next Tuesday and he will be succeeded by John Martin. Scott has been chief of police of this city for so long that he seemed to be a permanent fixture in that department. While Scott made enemies, as any man can not help but do to serve any municipality in that position, he made a good officer, in a position that is always trying.

The new administration takes office next Tuesday with the well wishes of all the people of the city for a successful term of office, and Mayor Kershenbrock expressed the wishes of the rest of the city officers that we all pull for a greater and better city in which to live.

New Candidate Filings

Charles N. Gonderinger, of Atkinson, has filed for the democratic nomination for representative from the Sixty-fourth district.

J. C. Stein, at present a member of the county board, has filed for the republican nomination for supervisor from the First district to succeed himself.

Scott Hough and Mrs. Bernard Hynes made a trade last week by which Mr. Hough comes into possession of the Hynes property in the eastern part of the city and Mrs. Hynes the new Scott Hough home in the northwestern part of town, that he had been renting for the past few years. Mr. Hough will move to his new property within a couple of weeks and he expects to devote his time to raising hogs, chickens and possibly a garden.

Phil Welsh, assistant manager of the Gamble store at Norfolk who had charge of the local Gamble store during the absence of Manager Jack Heitman at Grand Forks, N. D., left for his home at Norfolk Monday afternoon. Mr. Welsh made many friends during his short stay and he expressed himself as highly pleased with O'Neill and the splendid people in this city and vicinity.

Mrs. L. C. Chapman went down to Omaha Monday night. Her son, Lawrence, of Omaha, has been ailing for some time and went to a hospital the first of the week for an operation, the operation being performed yesterday. His many O'Neill friends hope that the operation will be successful and that he will be up and around again, as well as ever, in a few days.