

Prairieland Talk—

Each Dawn a Milestone

By ROMAIN SAUNDERS, 4119 South 51st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

LINCOLN—I saw him yesterday, an 81-year-old widower, a native of Norway, irrational, mentally befuddled, dying of cancer, two months confined to his bed, few if any friends had come to his bedside.

He once owned much property in the city, a section of land about 30 miles south of O'Neill in Wheeler county. He may breathe his last any minute. Will he own a mansion over yonder?

Another patriarch was the next to be visited, a 92-year-old native of Illinois who came or was brought to Nebraska when he was three-years-old in 1868, now living in the home of his daughter and husband, gets about, walks the nine blocks uptown, never misses his church services and had farmed all his active life near Lincoln. A cheerful old guy.



Romaine Saunders

The next stop was at the home of a mother of four daughters and three sons, left a widow 43 years ago and had worked and struggled through the early years to provide for and care for her children, now all grown and maintaining their own homes. Wrinkled and gray she owns her own home and still goes out to work. One, a former citizen of the Amelia community in Holt county, was not at home when we called there. The dawn of each new day marks another milestone for someone along life's journey.

"Call him not old whose visionary brain Holds o'er the past its undivided reign. For him in vain the envious seasons roll Who bears eternal summer in his soul. If yet the minstrel's song, the poet's lay, Spring with her buds or childhood at their play, Or maiden's smile or heavenly dream of art Stir the life drops creeping 'round his heart— Turn to the record where his years are told, Count the gray hairs—they can not make him old."

Everybody is at work, well fed, clothed and richly furnished homes. What more do you want? Oh, the out want in to make a grab at the pork barrel!

After a day aglow with sunshine again a curtain is drawn across the heavens and dark and gloomy out in the open as the day moves on to the close, a day symbolic of the gloom that has come into the lives of a father and mother, a grandfather and grandmother—a 12-year-old daughter was taken to the cemetery this afternoon to lay now in her grave. Friends from Omaha where the parents make their home, friends in Lincoln where the grandparents lived, filled the auditorium of the large church where funeral rites were conducted. A child blooming as a flower into the realm of young maidenhood touched by the cold hand of death. The ones left to mourn go their sorrowing way until they, too, hear the call of eternity.

I sit by the uncurtained window and look out upon nature's befogged scene, no sunlight glow in radiant splendor, no children at play, all is quiet, only the swish of a passing car is heard—a day to spend the passing hours in the house, to walk again in fancy's alluring vision, back over the trail of youthful aspirations, youthful hopes and youthful follies. And I hear again the shouts, the laughter, and look again into longing eyes of the friends of the long ago marching along the highway of early life. And I see again a maidenly form divine crowned by crimson-tinted tresses above a smiling face. Now guys, don't SMILE! You did what every fellow has done—since time began when Dan Cupid shot his darts. Life has its treasures of heart and soul. So out of memory's rich store there comes to us again the vision of days of happiness and times of care and struggle coming down the long highway of life hand in hand with that divinely endowed maiden met along the way in the long ago. She now lies under Holt county sod but in quietude as I turn the leaves of fancy I see her radiant form again and the cares of life for the moment cast their anchor in the harbor of a dream.

Via telephone, I had a visit today with Mrs. Nellie Hunt, widow of the late Den Hunt, both of pioneer families of the O'Neill community. Mrs. Hunt and her late husband made their home in Lincoln for many years. She recently was in Omaha and paid her sister-in-law, Mrs. Dan Cronin, a visit. Mrs. Cronin is now 89 years of age. She and her late husband were among the pioneers of the O'Neill community, her husband serving as county treasurer of Holt county during a period of political wrangle between factions of which Dan was sometimes a victim and of the scandals of which he did not approve. Honest, straight forward, Dan conducted the affairs of the job he was elected to with credit to himself and dismay to the partisan gang that he did not manifest an interest in their program. His brother, Bill, was one of the posse that ran down and caught Billie Reed, the cowboy who shot and killed Sheriff Barney Kearns. Mrs. Hunt keeps well, her son and wife being with her and the day I talked with her the son's little daughter was keeping Grandma Nellie busy looking after her.

The ladies are on the farm, in the shop, in offices and stores, run the schools and hospitals. Men still have a monopoly serving as pallbearers at funerals.

Little Rock, Ark., has been in the news much lately. Now a grandmother from down there comes to Lincoln with a guy supposed to be her son-in-law, go to an orphan's home where children are cared for like kids are over at Boys Town, flash a gun in the face of the matron and drive away with a 5-year-old girl that was being cared for in the home. The child's mother divorced the father of the little girl, married again and the little girl was placed in the care of those in charge of the orphan home. Now warrants are out for the arrest of the kidnapers. Another little one to have such a start in life.

Editorial—

Lindy May Have Been Right!

A recent newspaper article about Charles Lindbergh, discussing his past and present views on foreign policy, reminds us that in America the right to disagree is one of our most cherished possessions.

Currently the United States supreme court has come in for some harsh criticism, and many well-meaning people do not understand that the criticism of the supreme court is fair game in this land. It will be remembered that Lindbergh did not agree with President Roosevelt and the administration in the immediate pre-World War II days, and that this disagreement finally led the president to utter uncomplimentary remarks about him and caused Lindy to lose much of his once-tremendous popularity.

However, Lindbergh proved the stuff he is made of conclusively, after being denied a chance to perform in the armed services by the Roosevelt administration for several years, by flying 50 combat missions in the Pacific at the age of 42 without authority, and by working with this country's armed forces throughout the war.

Although Lindbergh felt that the United States should not get involved in the European war, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, he quickly announced his eagerness to serve his country, although he was rebuffed by Washington. The right to disagree, even in matters of foreign policy, is a precious political heritage in this country. And, who could have doubted Lindbergh's sincerity when he asked to serve his country in 1941? It may well be true that Lindbergh's speeches, in behalf of the America First committee, and other organizations, proved an obstacle in the path of those who were convinced that the freedom of the world was at stake and that only U. S. intervention would save it.

However, the interesting part of the story today is that Lindbergh is still convinced that we could have stayed out of the war in Western Europe. Lindbergh said, in the immediate pre-war days, that the United States was safe from German air attack. He suggested that this country help in arranging a negotiated peace between Germany and Western Europe, which would leave the communists and the nazi free to fight it out between themselves.

In light of the post-war developments in the world, which show communism to be an even more ominous menace to the world than was nazism, we must agree that Lindbergh had a perfect right to his views, and if he felt conscientiously that he should expound them, he was both proper and courageous in doing so.

Although this cost him much popularity, it seems that history will not discredit him for it, for man has a right to be wrong, as well as right, and cannot, indeed, be always right.

Snap Courses

Former President Herbert Hoover has said the nation is lagging in science as a result of too much academic freedom in high school.

He told the United Engineering societies in a prepared speech in New York City:

"In my view there is a fundamental weakness from the too prevalent high school system of allowing a 13- or 14-year-old kid to choose most of his studies. Academic freedom seems now to begin at 14.

"A youngster's first reaction in school is to seek soft classes, not the hard work of science

and mathematics. Also, he has a multitude of extra-curricular activities which he considers more beguiling than hard work.

"You simply cannot expect kids of those ages to determine the sort of education they need, either for daily living or for the professions, unless less they have some guidance."

Exactly four days earlier the head of one of Holt county's high schools preached the same language to assembled parents, declaring that parents should insist their children take challenging courses—studies that require work, study and teach the young people to think.

The administrator said only four pupils are currently studying French, only a few more are taking chemistry, and some of the so called snap courses are filled to capacity.

In World War II there was a rumor (perhaps started deliberately for the benefit of the Germans) that our night flyers were improving their vision by eating lots of carrots, which contain vitamin A. It was not true since this vitamin won't make normal vision better. It is a fact, however, that it will help cure night blindness caused by malnutrition.

An Unnecessary Gamble

(Guest editorial from Nebraska State Journal)

Anyway you look at it, the human species is unique. Persons, who are dead set against gambling for money, will gamble with life itself. The recent report of Dr. E. A. Rogers, state health director, that about 360,000 Nebraskans under 40, including 120,000 children, have not had a single polio shot, is a good example.

Perhaps the approach is wrong. There is plenty of vaccine available. If there were scare headlines; that polio vaccine is limited, probably there would be a mad dash to get vaccinated.

Doctor Rogers says the full three injections take eight months to complete so persons should start now to have protection in the summer months when the danger from polio is the greatest. There is another reason why there is some urgency. If the vaccine isn't used, it will have to be discarded and this could result in manufacturers curtailing production and a shortage might result in polio season.

There is no guarantee that polio will strike only in the summer, but still people gamble with their health, their children's health.

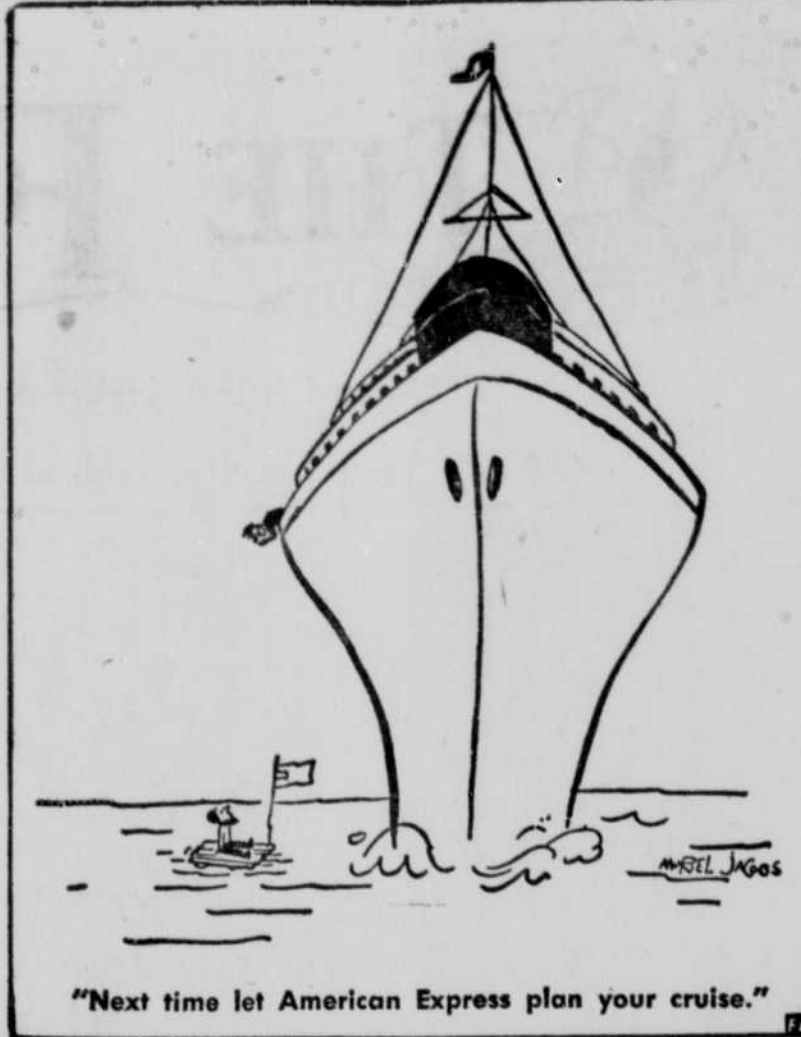
In the fertile regions of southern Europe, about 100 BC, white bread was quite common. In fact we're told that Roman debutantes and matrons wore bread packs at night to preserve their delicate complexions.

THE FRONTIER

CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher

Entered at the postoffice in O'Neill, Holt county, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. This newspaper is a member of the Nebraska Press Association, National Editorial Association and the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Terms of Subscription: In Nebraska, \$2.50 per year; elsewhere in the United States, \$3 per year; rates abroad provided upon request. All subscriptions payable in advance.



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When You & I Were Young . . .

Mrs. Horiskey Suffers Burns

Attempts to 'Liven Up' Furnace

50 Years Ago Mrs. J. C. Horiskey was badly burned about the face and arms when she undertook to "liven up" a furnace fire with some kerosene and a match. The embers were hardly smoldering when Mrs. Horiskey tried to revive the fire. . . . Marriages: Edmund H. Clark of Inman and Eva Dryden of Clairmont, N. Y.; and Myron L. Gilbert of Ewing and Harriet Griggin of Clearwater.

20 Years Ago The O'Neill high football team lost to Ainsworth. It was the first game lost in two years for the local team. . . . The annual WCTU county institute was held in Atkinson. . . . Mrs. Helen Simar, who conducted a style and millinery shop in Bassett, purchased the Boehme Style shop here. . . . Deaths: Mrs. Lena Crossman of Phoenix; John C. Addison, who was a resident of the Opportunity community.

10 Years Ago The O'Neill Methodist church celebrated its 65th anniversary with an all-day program. . . . Deaths: Mrs. Phillip Robertson of Chambers; Gilbert R. Davis of Atkinson; and Cora A. Winchell of O'Neill. . . . The recently-completed pipe line, which will link the city's water system and twin wells south of town, were formerly accepted by the city engineer.

One Year Ago Mrs. Alice Axtell of Stuart celebrated her 105th birthday anniversary. . . . Deaths: Charles Prussa of Atkinson; Mrs. Pearl White of Amelia; Mrs. Eunice Gallagher; Roland E. Boelter of Whittier, Calif., who was born and raised in Orchard.

Lois Ann Bergstrom Is Shower Honoree

EWING—Miss Lois Ann Bergstrom of Norfolk was guest-of-honor at a miscellaneous bridal shower Tuesday evening, November 19, at the parlors of the Ewing Methodist church. Hostesses were Mrs. Waldo Davis, Mrs. Elmer Bergstrom and Mrs. R. H. Shain. Mrs. Shain had charge of the guestbook. Humorous games furnished entertainment.

The serving table was centered with a large blue and white heart, flanked by candles of matching colors. Mrs. R. M. Johnson and daughter, Julie, were out-of-town guests.

Miss Bergstrom, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Bergstrom of Ewing, was married Sunday to Carl Johnson of Norfolk.

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Book Week Noted at Ewing Library

EWING—The Ewing public library observed book week November 17-23 and had on display new books for elementary grades and another group for high school students and adults.

On Wednesday afternoon November 20 Mrs. Ruth Hansen and her first and second graders of the Ewing school visited the library.

How to draw and use library books was explained by Mrs. H. R. Harris, librarian. The pupils were shown where books of interest could be found. In this group of children, Monica Munn, Glenda Napier, Bob Black, Jerdine Snyder and Mary Bergstrom have read books from the library the past year. David Shrader, David Rotherham, Mau-

rice Hahlbeck, Richard Shain and Jan Ruby signed for their first library card that day.

Other visitors were Patty Reifert, Joe Rotherham, Bonnie Arehart, Vicki Miller, Linda Yell, Kim Ruby, Leon Spangler and Jim Schlosky. The visiting hour closed with a story by Mrs. Harris.

'Truth About Races' Meeting Topic—

EWING—"The Truth About Race" was the topic of the lesson of the Women's General Missionary society of the United Presbyterian church when members met Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Keith Biddlecome was the leader at the home of Mrs. Alfred Napier with Mrs. Lionel Gunter, assisting hostess. Eleven members answered to roll call. Refreshments were served by the hostesses.

Herman Jaschke NELIGH—Herman Jaschke, 64, of Omaha, formerly of Neligh, was found dead at his home Sunday, November 17. It is believed he died in his sleep.

Money to Loan

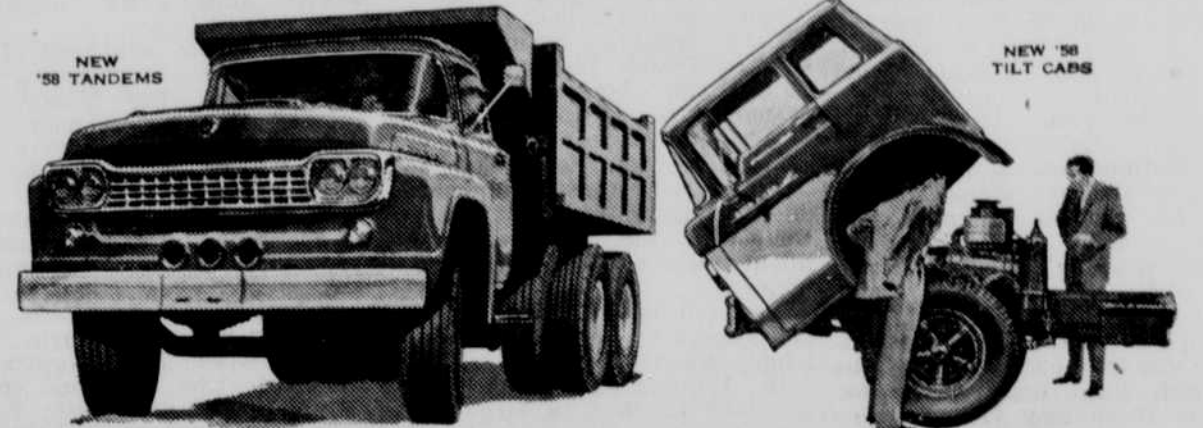
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