

Prairieland Talk—

Seasons--Symbolic of Human Life

By ROMAIN SAUNDERS, 4110 South 51st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

LINCOLN—It's the twilight hour of February 23 as I write.

Sat in the full glow of sunshine this afternoon on the front veranda. The snows of winter gone, a cardinal was perched out there in a treetop pouring forth a song of welcome to the sunshine and warmth of a February closing hour on prairieland. But before the goldenrod puts on summer's shining coat, the prairie roses bloom and the morning glories adorn the wall days must come and go and with them other winter blasts.



Romaine Saunders

Today is grand and we know the things of life one day until the next. A landscape robed in green verdure and tinted with floral bloom springs from without the moving scenes of nature as time winds its way onward.

Springtime's renewed life, the green of summer; the brown of autumn, snows of winter—symbolic of human life, the joy of childhood, the bloom of youth, mature years shaping human destiny, old age crowned in snow white passing the days in serenity that comes to the has been.

Capital punishment: Kill the killers. It has ever been the human tradition that the murderer has fortified his right to life. Among the various modes of "capital punishment" and human torcher the ancient Persians crucified, men offenders hung on the cross facing their persecutors, women their face toward the cross. The Hebrews were said to recognize four forms of capital punishment, stoning, beheading, burning and strangling. The Romans crucified, killed with the sword and spear, laid the victims neck across a block and cut off his head, and on holidays gathered at the arena to see wild beasts eat human victims. Burning at the stake, hanging and various forms of butchery, not alone for murder but if you had an idea, a way of life the bigots did not approve. In our fair state you may think and talk and boast as you please, and if convicted of a killing the worst that awaits you is a seat in the electric chair.

Five-cent letter postage and eight for airmail gets the ok of the senate committee. Write to your friends and your sweetheart while you can save two cents. . . Congressmen woo the favor of farm and ranch men and ladies by demanding the retirement of Secretary Benson. Grain and livestock prices have been at an all-time high during Mr. Benson's official career. When President Grover Cleveland's secretary of agriculture, Nebraska's J. Sterling Morton, held down that job and grain and livestock prices were at an all-time low, no one demanded a new secretary of agriculture. . . They tell us it is "out of old Nebraska," but should they not say young Nebraska? We were young then; now we are old.

It is noted with pleasure that the train-saving boys are not licked yet. As that organization is headed by Holt county and adjacent county citizens, they by so doing perpetuate the tradition of the community. For more than three-quarters of a century citizens in that green-robed section of prairieland have prolonged the struggle to get what they wanted until victory was won. One guess is that the railway passenger trains serving North Nebraska are not so much lacking in public patronage as being overstocked by railway union bosses, their members riding from Omaha to Chadron and back doing nothing much but drawing big pay. Railroad officials don't know how to end it other than to discontinue the trains.

Prairieland patriots down in Custer county think a sales tax is the answer to the tax burdens of the day. Property tax, poll tax, income tax, automobile tax, social security tax, luxury tax. Cheering that our neighbors down in Custer like it all so well that a sales tax gets a big boost right where was born the populist party to set the country straight on the highway to prosperity during the 1890's. Somehow they missed the mark. But things got going again in the American way as they always have and no doubt Nebraskans will survive with or without the sales tax.

A widow lady a block up the street, owner of some valuable properties and in need of nothing, accepted a call from an outstate city to teach in the public schools. The monthly pay check of \$400 was sufficient inducement for the lady to return to the work she had once been engaged in. Four hundred a month—poor teachers! If our pioneer \$20-a-month teachers could know if they might want to come forth from their graves and go back to teaching.

Gerald M. Mullen of Omaha, a nephew of O'Neill's democratic war horse, the late Arthur F. Mullen, is mentioned as a candidate for the democratic nomination for member of congress in the Second Nebraska congressional district. His uncle, Arthur F. Mullen, was county attorney of Holt county, later settling in Omaha and became nationally known as democratic national committee man for Nebraska. He was offered a federal judge seat by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, but his aggressive makeup inspired him rather to continue his course as the party war horse.

Will Lowrie, a dashing and cultured young man, the focus of adoration of the girls in "his crowd" something like a half-century ago in O'Neill, is wintering with his wife in San Diego, Calif., where they have a son living. Will's home is at Lake Hubert, Minn., and in a recent letter from him I learn that he and Mrs. Lowrie are enjoying it in sun-warmed Southern California. They plan to head for home when sunbeams warm the waters of his Minnesota lake.



"Does This Mean I've Flunked?"

No More Help for Distressed Dogs! Art Chambers Learns Hard Way

50 Years Ago Frank P. Hunter of Star and Carrie B. Carson of Dorsey took out a license to wed. Dave Moler, who is in the nursery business at Wayne, was in town getting orders from his friends. . . Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Coppoc of Chambers honored their son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Coppoc, who were married recently in Valparaiso. . . Art Chambers of Atkinson has decided it doesn't pay to be kind to dogs in distress. He found one with its leg caught in a fence. When he tried to free the animal, the little pup would not have any of it, but grabbed his benefactor's leg and held on. Consequently, the doggie is dead and Art is badly crippled and swears vengeance to all dogs hereafter found in distress.

30 Years Ago Mrs. Mary Reider, mother of J. B. O'Sullivan of O'Neill, died in a Gregory, S. D. hospital. . . Mr. and Mrs. Henry Murray were honored at a farewell party. They are leaving this locality. . . Mr. and Mrs. John Vih, who live south of O'Neill, became the parents of a daughter. . . Dr. Charles Archibald Tompkins, a native of Inman, was recently mentioned in Time magazine for applying pectin to a badly mashed foot of a child who had been run over. Instead of amputating as was thought necessary, the foot was saved. Dr. Edith Haynes, a bacteriologist, had conducted experiments with apples and pectin and had announced favorable results. Doctor Tompkins used her formula and succeeded.

10 Years Ago John Hull, about 70, of Redbird, fell on the ice near his cabin and injured himself. Crawling, he managed to get back to the cabin and keep his fire going and prepare some food. Living alone, he stayed this way for four days. By chance two neighbors, Howard Graham, and his father, Thomas, heard his cries for help, as they passed by. He was taken to the home of a brother, Halsie Hull, where he is being cared for. . . Mrs. William Menish, known as "Grandma" Menish, celebrated her 99th birthday anniversary. . . Deaths: Mrs. W. H. McInerney of Cheyenne, Wyo., formerly of O'Neill; Rudolph Kramer, 69, of Stuart.

One Year Ago Mrs. Ada Cox celebrated her 92d birthday anniversary quietly at her home in Chambers. . . Deaths: Edward J. Matousek, 73, of Atkinson; Robert J. Yantzie, 34, of O'Neill, father of two small children; Clarence H. Johnson, 74, a resident of southeast of Chambers; Elmer O. Froese, 57, of Spencer; E. N. Cronin and Ira H. Moss announced that they would not be candidates for the board of education. . . A Chamber of Commerce committee presented a plan for redesignating the streets of O'Neill to the city council.

ANNOUNCEMENT Federal Land Bank Interest Rate REDUCED from 5 1/2 % to 5 % All Land Bank loans now bearing 5 1/2 % also reduced automatically to 5 % Come in and talk with us about a Federal Land Bank loan on your land to: Refinance Debts Make Farm Improvements Buy Land Other Uses Elkhorn Valley National Farm Loan Association LYLE DIERKS, Sec. O'NEILL

Church Notes

METHODIST (Page-Inman) Rev. Leslie E. Mewshaw, pastor PAGE— Thursday, March 6 (today): Women's Society of Christian Service all-day meeting with study class on the Gospel of Mark at 10 a.m. and covered dish dinner at noon; junior choir, 4 p.m. Third Sunday in Lent, March 9: Sunday-school, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; MYF, 7:30 p.m.; young adult waffle supper and meeting. Monday, March 10: Commissions will meet at 7:30 p.m., followed by official board meeting. Wednesday, March 12: Chancel choir, 7:30 p.m. March 16 to 20: Spiritual life mission special lenten services. Plan to attend. March 24: Fourth Quarterly conference.

CENTER UNION (O'Neill) Rev. C. P. Turner, pastor Sunday, March 9: Sunday-school, 10 a.m.; preaching service, 11 a.m. Young people's meeting at 7:30 in the evening; preaching service following; young people's meeting. Prayer meeting and Bible study will be in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ernst Wednesday, March 12 at 8 p.m. You are cordially invited to any and all of these services.

FULL GOSPEL (Butte) Sunday, March 9: Sunday-school, 2 p.m.; worship, 3 p.m. You are invited to come and worship the Lord with us and enjoy these inspirational services and our very fine quartette. FULL GOSPEL (Ewing) Sunday, March 9: Sunday-school, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m. We cordially invite you to attend these services and hear the soul-stirring and soul-searching messages of the full gospel. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Milnar were Feb. 23, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Larson of Clearwater.

ROYAL THEATER O'NEILL March 6 Thurs. SAYONARA Say "Sayonara" whenever you say "good-bye" . . . write it on your letters . . . say it on the phone. Once you've seen Sayonara you've seen the greatest! Marlon Brando and the exquisite new Japanese star in Sayonara. Adults 90c; Children 25c All children must have tickets unless in arms Fri.-Sat. March 7-8 CATTLE EMPIRE Starring Joel McCrea, co-starring Gloria Talbot, Don Haggerty, Phyllis Coates. When the West roared with the thunder of the cattle drives that carved a nation out of the lawless wild. Sun.-Mon.-Tues. March 9-10-11 He's a sergeant's dilemma . . . A captain's nightmare . . . A general's riot! Paramount presents Jerry Lewis as THE SAD SACK Jerry's wild and whacky in khaki! A Hal Wallis production. Co-starring David Wayne, Phyllis Kirk, Peter Lorre, Joe Mantell, Gene Evans. Jerry joins the comic greats! With this unforgettable uproarious performance, Jerry takes his place high among the laugh-leaders of all time! Matinee Saturday & Sunday 2:30 Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Friday and Saturday admission—Adults 50c; Children under 12, 12c. Free if accompanied by parent. Wed., Thurs. Family nite, family admitted for two adult tickets.

Lion-Like Weather Unlike February's

DELOIT—March is coming in like a lion this Saturday morning, March 1. Such a contrast to the 70 degree temperatures that the community enjoyed last weekend, proving the adage there's all kinds of weather in Nebraska. "If you don't like the weather just wait 15 minutes".

Other Deloit News Mrs. Myrtle Jewell and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Jewell of Dallas, S.D. were Sunday dinner guests at the Ralph Tomjack home on Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Bauer and Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Mower and family and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Donohoe of O'Neill were afternoon guests.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Reimer and Elayne were Sunday dinner guests at the Don Larson home in honor of Mrs. J. A. Larson of Ewing who was celebrating her birthday anniversary. Several from here attended the Anton Tomjack funeral in O'Neill on Friday morning.

11 Farm Bureau Delegates to D. C.

DELOIT—Eleven Nebraska Farm Bureau leaders left by air for a three-day visit in Washington to learn how congress operates. They represent seven counties which achieved increases in membership. Those from Wheeler county were Mrs. Charles Bartak, west of Bartlett. Mrs. Don Kellner visited her mother, Mrs. Anna Pollock, in Ewing on Monday, February 24.

Walton, Wheeler in Re-enlistments

M/Sgt. William (Bill) Cousins, the army recruiting sergeant at O'Neill, has announced the following enlistments and re-enlistments in this area: Robert Lamont of Denby, S.D., for transportation corps (re-enlistment). Lawrence Levi of Gordon, for signal technical school. Lester Walton of O'Neill, for ordnance corps (re-enlistment). Sherman Wheeler of Long Pine, for army engineers (re-enlistment).

O'NEILL LOCALS Gene Closson, teacher in the city school system at Irwin, Ia., spent the weekend here. Irwin is located about 90 miles east of Sioux City. Paul Baker returned to Omaha Sunday afternoon after bringing his wife here to spend several weeks with her grandmother, Mrs. Mary Zastrow. Mr. and Mrs. Vere Butler and Mrs. Sophia Lashmett of New-guests of Mr. and Mrs. D. D. De-bolt. Mrs. Mary McCloud and P. C. Donohoe visited their sisters, Mrs. Margaret Agnes and Mrs. Elizabeth Grady in Norfolk on Sunday, February 23.

Paul Shierk INSURANCE AGENCY O'NEILL, NEBR. Insurance of All Kinds

New! Exclusive! Amazingly Lower-Priced! WORLD'S FIRST AIR-COIL RIDE Come today and drive the first car to combine AirSuspension with advanced Deep Coil Springs. There's nothing like it! See the difference—no "rear-end squat" with heavy loads. Feel the difference—cloud-soft on roughest roads, flatter cornering. Only air suspension that "can't let you down" if air is lost. Try it on the new Ambassador. 270 HP V-8 Ambassador by Rambler FINEST CAR EVER PRICED SO CLOSE TO THE LOWEST American Motors Means More for Americans

OSCAR'S RAMBLER SALES 125 West Douglas, O'Neill THE SHAPE OF TOMORROW IS HERE! 1958 WESTINGHOUSE SPEED ELECTRIC RANGE Biggest Value Your Money Can Buy! MODELS START AS LOW AS \$179.95 Easy Budget Terms IT'S NEW!... Miracle Oven has Spread-Even Heaters top and bottom, plus Miracle Seal on door to assure perfect baking results every time. IT'S NEW!... Plug-Out units throughout... both surface and in oven... make cleaning a breeze. Only on WESTINGHOUSE. PLUS ALL THESE SHAPE OF TOMORROW FEATURES Super Corox color . . . fastest heating unit made! Automatic Unit . . . Foods can't burn! Color Glance Controls . . . 1001 heats! Automatic Timer . . . for both oven and appliance outlet! Confection Colors! Automatic Grill available as accessory! YOU CAN BE SURE...if it's Westinghouse A Few "WHITE SALE SPECIALS" Left! AT YOUR LOCAL OFFICE OF CONSUMERS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

Editorial—

Another Side of Redistricting

Bill Cox, publisher of the Pierce County Leader and Wisner News-Chronicle, is author of thought-provoking and generally sound editorial comment each week in his two newspapers.

Last week he discussed "Another Side of Redistricting", which is entitled to some serious thought by rural and town people alike.

The Cox editorial is reproduced below in full: Much has been said "pro and con" about the advantages and disadvantages of redistricting of rural areas, but 99 percent of the talk has been from the rural side of the question.

What about the towns—the towns where the K-12 school is to be located? Somebody has misconstrued redistricting into a picture of a "bed of roses" for the towns and nothing but "thorns" for the small district.

When you investigate the details the towns are often going to be the loser on redistricting.

Consider any single rural school district near your town. The rural district may consist of as little as 10 or 15 sections of land.

So the small district decides to consolidate with the town school. In effect, this might be described as forming a partnership.

Here are the rules that "partnership" as set forth by the state of Nebraska: (1). The rural district becomes part owner, without cost, of all the buildings owned by the town district. This may have a net worth of \$300,000 to \$500,000 or even more in a town of around 700 to 1,000 or more population.

(2). The city district may be up to its neck in debt for buildings and classroom improvements. The new partner (the rural district) does not assume one cent of that debt. The rural district students enjoy the use of the new buildings but only town people can pay on the debt.

(3). A rural district valuation is so small compared to the total valuation of the town district that people in the city will not feel any relief in the tax burden by consolidating with a single small district.

It has already happened, and it will happen again when you see town districts fight consolidation with rural school districts. The consolidation of a single rural and a town school district is a financial loss for the town.

In this discussion there is one "forgotten person"—the student! Yes, there are advantages for the youngsters in consolidation on an orderly manner—but in Nebraska the word "redistricting" has eliminated all thought of the student and the taxpayer has become the important person—at least in the mind of the taxpayers.

Take just a moment to look at a situation in Aurora. Several rural districts consolidated with the Aurora city school district. The rural units moved into the school in the city at "no cost", then a fire wiped out a town school and a vote of the new consolidated district was needed to build a new school structure.

Five elections have been held and every time the bond issue of a new building has been defeated. The rural vote plus a few city votes control the city school. The city school district has lost control of its own school district!

The rural areas received a half million dollar school plant "free" when they consolidated, but to vote bonds to build a new plant 15 to 20 miles from the farmer's home is another question. Consolidation has two sides. It is well to look carefully at both sides, the rural side and the city side.

Immediate Savings Seventy-seven percent of the 497 separate

recommendations of the Hoover commission have been adopted in whole or in part. Since the commission presented its final report on June 30, 1955, a total of 210 recommendations have been accepted wholly or with minor modification while 173 have been accepted partially or as to basic objective. Not accepted were 79 recommendations. Of the 383 recommendations accepted, 146 have been implemented with 145 more in the process of being placed in effect.

Some of these changes in government have brought immediate savings. The benefits from others may not be fully apparent for several years.

The aged Former President Herbert Hoover never accepted a cent in many years of distinguished service, unlike Messrs. Roosevelt (a squirrel), Truman and Eisenhower. He was mistakenly blamed for the great depression of a generation ago, but history has vindicated most of his positions and now, in the twilight of his life, his true greatness is being appreciated by more and more people.

Except for his advanced years he is one who could lead our nation out of fiscal depths and global confusion. To be sure he would restore the ship of state to a sane and reasonable course.

Governor Will Provide Leadership

Meeting in Omaha, the Nebraska Farmers Union added more confusion to the state's mixed-up tax picture. The group's legislative committee went on record as opposed to both a combination sales and income tax or a straight sales tax. The group approved a straight income tax.

The important thing is that the action points out the need for leadership in the state tax picture. Farm, school, business and other groups have been rather far apart in their separate thinking on how the tax base should be broadened. It does not look at this point as though any mutually satisfactory program could ever be attained.

It would seem that, with the interest evidenced in the issue, Gov. Victor Anderson could provide the leadership that is lacking in this field. A program from the governor to the legislature would carry with it the weight and influence of that office.

We feel that he will provide that leadership. "Terrible Terry" Carpenter's inconsistent views can be gotten along without.

In the small towns the horsedrawn village dray was still one of the main means of delivery less than 30 years ago.

It says we might cut taxes if business gets worse. But in our experience business never gets that bad.

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