

Prairieland Talk—

# 1880 Gazette Restored to Owner

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

LINCOLN—I feel indebted to Mrs. Nellie Fauquier, who with her husband and children make their home on a ranch five miles east of Chambers, their pleasant home a few rods to the left as you come to the turn that takes you into Chambers as you travel south.

That wife and mother 45 years ago was Nellie Burtwhistle, who taught in our district school house that then stood two miles south on the county line as you step across into Wheeler county. No school house there now and no kids to go to school. One of ours took to school for the teacher to read the account of the death and funeral of George Washington as it appeared in the Ulster County (New York) Gazette. My son neglected to bring the paper home from school, but Mrs. Fauquier has taken care of it through the years.



Romain Saunders

Stopping at her home on a recent trip to Holt county she extended a hand and said, I have something of yours! Now I have my Ulster County Gazette bearing date of January, 1800, and read again of "Washington the great, the father of his country and the friend of man, the unclouded brightness of his glory to illuminate the future ages!"

Morning comes this September day grey and gloomily, the midnight rain still pouring out tubs full. The flashes of lightning, the crash of thunder, most of the night, now no more, that which floats about in the air above to oppress and bring discomfort on a hot day now burned by lightning flashes and washed away by the downpour. The southeast prairieland is washed and cleaned as mild autumn days come to us again; and robed in rich green the landscape is nature's picture spread for miles around. Next the autumn brown touched on frosty nights by a diamond studded hand. The products of prairieland's fruitful season now in barn and bin and on store room shelf; march on, world trouble-makers, prairieland dads and mothers, kids at school, bachelor and maid go on their way rejoicing.

The wise ones say to be ready soon to travel the trackless space from earth to moon; and there to park our winged wagon until frightened away by ghostly elf and horned dragon. Then back to earth again where Tom and Mary, Ruth and Joe still make their berth. Centuries along the highway of eternity we may go from starry world to starry world clothed in the robe of immortality. But now as calm September nights are here we bask in the moonlight right here below and await another winter and the winds that blow.

Editorial—

## Talking About People

People are interesting subjects of conversation, and all of us talk about other people—some much more than others. If you'll notice there are some among us who spend most of their conversational time talking about other people.

This is good, perhaps, if we are sympathetic and say good things about our neighbors and fellow men. But some of us are inclined to gossip about practically anyone and spread all sorts of tales, even exaggerating them as we go. This can cause, and does cause, untold harm in every community.

One bad thing about tearing down people is that one's time is wasted on a non-productive pursuit. Did you ever notice that the man or woman who is busy doing things, planning things, and thinking ahead, has little time to sit around talking about menial things and other people? He or she who is not idle, will usually spend less time in the art of gossip than do the idle, the envious, and those who want to attract attention above all else. A good rule to follow, as much as possible, is to arrange to say nothing if you can't say something good about a friend or neighbor. It is surprising how much damage can be quickly done to the reputations of those who are on the receiving end of unfounded, untrue gossip—some of which is always malicious and born of envy.

Another thing we might all keep in mind, in making our contribution to community life (and all of us have this obligation to society) is that anyone who does something different is sure to come under the fire of the old order, the stand-patters, the jealous, and the envious. So inevitably, it seems, the persons who strive to push ahead, or who is different, or who achieves more than his fellows, will be the object of petty talk and gossip.

### 'Average'—for Better or Worse

Someone has said that the most abused person in America is the "average" man. He is used to prove almost everything, and yet, when analyzed he melts away into nothingness. Who is this "average" American we hear so much about, then? Government sources figure him out this way:

Mr. "Average" American is slightly over 30 years old, stands 5 feet 8½ inches high. He is 4½ inches taller than his wife. He weighs 156 pounds and his wife tips the scales at a secretive 133 pounds. Mr. Average inhales 13 times every minute, and exhales the same, we suppose.

If you are a man and have reached the age of 35, you are at the exact mid-point of your life, and according to the statisticians, you have exactly 35 more years to accomplish all the things you want to do. Mrs. Average doesn't reach the mid point of her life until 37.4 years. The average couple is married when the man reaches 23.8 and the bride reaches a blushing 21.4. In the average community, one out of every 10 will go to the hospital this year. He will stay an average of 8.3 days.

If you disregard the mortgage, about 55 per cent of all American families own their own homes. During the year 1953, one person in five moved to a different home. Approximately half of the homes in the country are mortgaged to the average tune of \$4,800. If you are "average," you probably spend \$250 a year for home repairs and improvements, received 305 pieces of mail in your box during the year and make 438 phone calls.

In one year Mr. Average manages to consume more than 150 pounds of red meat, 33 dozen eggs, 717 pounds of cheese, 109.3 pounds of fresh fruits, 114 pounds of fresh vegetables and 16.5 pounds of coffee. Just in case you think you are underfed, it all totals up to 3,200 calories a day. Based on national averages, food tops the list of expenses in

It was a week in September, 1905 C. E. Stout took in the tri-state fair over at Sioux City. Word came from Omaha that Tom Tierney, an O'Neill young man, at work on a building fell some 50 feet to his death. Mr. and Mrs. O. O. Snyder and two daughters departed on a trip to Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. Snyder, a delegate to an Odd Fellows lodge gathering. Sam Howard took a job of looking at figures at the county treasurer's office.

Casper Englehardt, who had recently sold his Holt county ranch, was looking over prospects in central Iowa. P. C. Corrigan was in Sioux City for a day or two on business. Mrs. Francis Staham of Omaha, a sister of J. C. Harnish, spent a few days in O'Neill. A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Howard. Miss Zink of Cleveland township was nominated for county superintendent at the republican county convention, and was elected in November. Mrs. T. P. Mullen went to Omaha for medical care. Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Kelly left for a visit at their former home community in Michigan.

The 279-million-dollar measure voted by congress to aid some hardup folks in Yankeeland was tossed aside by President Eisenhower unsigned, another dead dog from federal congressional halls. "Unsound," says our chief executive. Doubtless Mr. Eisenhower has a clearer view of depression's picture than this prairie wolf, but if assisting needy citizens in the homeland is unsound wherein is foreign aid sound? He was sitting the cold January night through in a railroad station, not waiting a train as I was but there because it gave him shelter from the cold, hoping next day to hitchhike his way to other parts. Penniless and hungry, I have wondered what has become of him, and did he regard that dollar and a half I placed in his hand an "unsound" act?

Those who set up our human gods and goddesses have placed the laurels of Miss America on a Mississippi beauty. A pretty face, a graceful form, a cultured mind and ambition to become a television performer—is that the ideal set before our daughters? Miss America—some maiden lady here on prairieland, her once auburn tresses now whitened, her once calm features now crowned by a furrowed brow, a slightly bent form denoting a life of usefulness in the community, of helpfulness to many. Who says amen!

Mrs. Den Hunt handed me a letter to read she recently received from Mary L. McGee, a daughter in the Early family, pioneers of the historic and beautiful Eagle creek region of northern Holt county. Now in the 86th year Mrs. McGee lives life's golden years in a home for the aged in Hyattsville, Md., and cherishes memories of her life among friends and neighbors in Holt county. Another from this community now far away.

When You & I Was Young . . .

## Prairie Fire

### Gobbles Up Hay

## McNichols, Ernst A re Big Losers

Joe McNichols and J. K. Ernst lost all their hay while other heavy losers were William Gray, A. H. Poe, Michael Castello and William Wall in a prairie fire northwest of town. James Gans, Inman and Miss Martha Bernt of Stuart were granted a marriage license. Married at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Madison were their son, Harry and Miss Etta Bigler, daughter of Charles Bigler of O'Neill. A boy is reported at the C. O. Tenborg home in Emmet. Mrs. Mary McNichols, 75, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. E. Haley, in Valentine. She was the mother of nine children.

Rev. A. J. May will be transferred to the Methodist church in Tekamah. An Inman youth, Lowell Frank, 18, was killed by suffocation when a gravel truck he was driving overturned. Jack Vincent is a second year student at the University of Nebraska. Guy Cole, Harry Werner, Milt Lawrence, John Conard and Pat McGinnis spent the weekend fishing at the Niobrara river. R. R. Morrison opened up for business in his old location after the fire Everything has been repaired.

Legal interference and lack of entries are blamed for the cancellation of the endurance horse race from Valentine to Clearwater. A new rolldome will open Saturday. Atkinson copped the league title when it won from O'Neill, 16 to 12. Deaths: Mrs. F. H. Griffith, 71, a longtime resident of the county.

Deaths: Jennifer M. Kellogg, 9, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Kellogg, who live 2½ miles northeast of Orchard, in an auto accident; Peter Engler, 92, of Stuart; Mrs. Lottie Hamman, 80, who died three weeks after her husband; Mrs. Agnes M. Ziska, 76, of Atkinson; John A. Lansworth, 67. A fish-killing toxin was put in Van Horn's lake to rid it of rough fish. Many people took advantage of the "free" fish.

## Burlington Now Twice Weekly

The Chicago Burlington & Quincy railroad last Thursday reduced mixed train service from three times a week to twice a week between Osmond and O'Neill.

Authority for the cutback in service was granted CB&Q about two months ago by the Nebraska state railway commission, but Burlington continued three times a week service due to the volume of freight service. Daily Sioux City-O'Neill service was offered until about 15 years ago when it was reduced to three times per week. Sioux City-Osmond will continue to have service three times per week.

Under the new schedule freights will arrive in O'Neill Mondays and Thursdays. DELOIT—Lambert L. Bartak, government weather observer in Wheeler county, recently received a commendation for his 10 years of service. The commendation was from the department of commerce. "You have added valuable data to the store of climatological information by keeping accurate records in all kinds of weather."

Mr. and Mrs. George Beatty of Madison stopped overnight last Monday at the home of their daughter, Mrs. William W. McNintosh, on their way to the Black Hills. They planned to stop in on their return trip.

## COMING IN PERSON! American Legion Hall O'NEILL Sat., Sept. 20th WNAX - 570

Presents The All-New "Missouri Valley Barn Dance" Featuring Casey Clark and the Lazy Kanch Boys Evelyn Harlene Star of Sage Records Barefoot Brownie Glen Beeler Terry Bethel Carroll Smithers Nat and Bill

Enjoy Stage Show, Radio Broadcast, Round and Square Dancing Four Full Hours of Entertainment

## Make Plans for Bazaar, Festival

INMAN—The Women's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist church met Thursday afternoon for their regular meeting. Mrs. Woodrow Gaughenbaugh, president, had charge of the business meeting. Mrs. Mary Mewmaw was in charge of the devotions. Plans were made for the bazaar to be held in conjunction with the annual fall festival that will be held early in October.

The members of the society whose birthdays occurred during June, July, August and September were honored at a birthday party. All enjoyed a covered dish luncheon at the close of the meeting. Eighteen members were present. Tuesday afternoon the group headed by Mrs. H. D. Snyder, met at the church annex and turned in the articles they had made for the bazaar. Plans were made to try and finish some unfinished articles before the fall festival. Mrs. Snyder served lunch to her group.

## 107th Anniversary of Rebekahs Noted

INMAN—Arbutus Rebekah lodge met Wednesday evening, September 10, at the IOOF hall for their regular session. Mrs. Elsie Keyes, noble grand, was in charge. Mrs. Hazel Lorenz was in charge of the program in observance of the 107th anniversary of

the Rebeleh degree. The group enjoyed a covered dish lunch following the meeting.

Other Inman News Mr. and Mrs. James M. McMahon, James Coventry, Mrs. Ray Siders and daughter, Marilyn, were Omaha visitors on Tuesday. Leslie Tompkins of Kelso, Wash., arrived here Wednesday, September 10 and spent the remainder of the week visiting in the home of his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Tompkins and also in the H. P. Tompkins home.

Miss Kay Coventry of Omaha spent the weekend here in the home of her parents, Mr. and James R. Coventry and Bill.

Mr. and Mrs. George L. Colman drove to Omaha Friday to get their daughter, Miss Brenda, who attends school there. Miss Brenda spent the weekend in the home of her parents.

Mrs. C. Zimbleman of Gregory, S. D., came Thursday and spent the remainder of the week visiting in the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Moore and also in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gallagher and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Seastead have returned to their home in Largo, Fla., after spending a month in the home of their brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Young.

Ned and Neal Kelley and Dick Coventry of Norfolk spent the weekend in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Kelley

and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Coventry.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Holmes of San Diego, Calif., were Saturday afternoon guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. James M. McMahon. They also called on Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Kelley.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Coventry and son, Joe, of Norfolk came Saturday evening and spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Coventry and Bob.

Bob Retke came Thursday afternoon from Omaha and is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Retke.

Mr. and Mrs. I. L. Watson drove to Valentine Saturday evening

and spent Sunday in the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Stisher, and boys.

Mrs. James McMahon attended a stated meeting of Symphony chapter OES in O'Neill Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Kopecky and Dickie and Mrs. Josie Kopecky spent Sunday in Newman Grove where they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ardeen Sawyer and Mrs. Anna Sawyer and girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Louie Vitt of O'Neill were Sunday evening guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Coventry and Bill.

# AUCTION

## COMPLETE STORE FIXTURES SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

— 1:30 P.M. —

- About 3,000 Board Feet Shelving
- Outside Neon Sign
- 28 Finest Chrome Finish Chairs
- Several Chrome Fitting Stools
- Plastic Window Fixtures
- 4 Tables
- 1—X-Ray Shoe Fitting Machine
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