

Prairie Land Talk

Irony of Ice and Fire

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

Two firemen, called out to subdue flames burning a great building in a great city met their death, not by fire but by frost.

Mr. and Mrs. Cal Stewart and children came down to the Capital City from O'Neill the last week in February, visited the Statehouse, and no doubt the State Press Association offices, but passed up the compiler of Prairie Land Talk...



Romain Saunders

An 11-year-old Lincoln boy has been taken away from what should be his rightful heritage by juvenile court order. It is a story which stirs the milk of human kindness in many breasts...

Two days remained in the month of February. The sun shining out of the bright blue sky warmed and lighted the land. Snows of winter gone and yards and streets and fields bare again under the glow of the glaring orb of day.

Maybe with a vision of what a cold January day for assessors can be, to travel snow blocked roads in his district, Senator Frank Nelson voted against adopting the measure changing the assessment starting point from March 1 to January 1.

Editorial

State Salaries Raised

A lot of attention will be given to state employees in this session of the Legislature. There are numerous proposals affecting pay scales of employes, including many judges.

Until recent years, pay of state employes, especially those in the statehouse, was unusually low. Standard now for most executive department heads, with some exceptions, is \$8,000 per year.

It has been the policy of the Legislature in past years not to look at salary hikes in a block but separately. This probably is more design than accident since scrutiny of pay proposals in one package could result in lower salaries possibly, and in some cases, no raise at all.

Gov. Ralph G. Brooks made a statement in Washington after the Legislature abandoned the recount of the governor's race that caused a fuss.

At a new conference, the new Democratic governor said he intended the remark to be humorous but from the amount of correspondence he got that impression apparently had not been conveyed by the news stories.

Sen. John Donner of Elgin, who submitted a letter of resignation to Gov. Ralph G. Brooks, changed his mind and reported back to duty in the Legislature.

Donner wrote the letter after being misled about the Agriculture Committee reporting to the floor a bill on brand area changes.

After word of Donner's intentions go out, the law-makers gave him a vote of confidence, to which Donner was the only dissenter with the comment that the senators had more important matters on their minds.

One O'Neill citizen came out adorned with the real shamrock from his native Ireland on St. Patrick's day in 1901. Col. Neil Brennan had been from time to time, sending gifts to a group of women overseas who engaged in charitable work.

I saw it today (March 2) in our Lincoln paper. An infant of 6 months, the child of a Ewing couple, came to its brief life's end on highway 20, two miles east of O'Neill, the infant's mother in a car that collided with a car driven by Frank J. Brady of Atkinson.

It was more than sixty, it was seventy years back along the highway of life that the two "upstarts," the late Denny Cronin and this child of the prairie, stood at the type cases in the old Frontier building and set the type, one letter at a time, that went to make up the news stories and classical editorial outbursts of Editor J. R. Riggs.

The March number of the Nebraska Newspaper, organ of the State Press association, has a splendid picture of the Cal Stewarts and the story of the Frontier passing into the hands of new owners.

From the cradle to the grave, life has its joy and sorrow, struggles and pleasures, smiles and tears, prosperity and adversity. And it is soon over.

A flash in the pan, a fleeting vision—then all over. So "recount" is consigned to the heap where lies "civil defense" and other forgotten undertakings.

Sorrows have a purpose that the sorrowing may not see. But as sure as the day will dawn after night is gone what is to come must be.

Several bills were re-scheduled for public hearing before legislative committees this week. The reason: Nebraska's March snowstorm which cut to a handful the number of persons who appeared when the measures were heard.

Another was a measure to give farmers permission to shoot fireworks in their fields to scare away song and game birds making a meal out of their crops.

Commented Frank Foote of the Game Commission: Farmers don't have time to stand in their fields and shoot off a shotgun every five to 10 minutes to scare away the birds.

Dr. O. H. Person of Wahoo has resigned as State Veterinarian and Dr. F. E. Ziegenbein of Nebraska City, replaced him.

Person quit after the office of Gov. Ralph G. Brooks indicated he would be replaced. Ziegenbein, on duty this week, has been a member of the Nebraska City council. Person is a former state senator who had only recently taken the post of state veterinarian.

A bill was introduced in the Legislature by its revenue committee concerning lists of stockholders. The bill is designed to block anyone from getting information from the state tax commissioner regarding ownership of stock in foreign corporations.

The bill states such information in the future would be for the use of the tax commissioner only or his agents. As the law now stands someone could demand the list of companies who reported stockholders and see if a certain firm had reported. If the person owned stock and didn't want to turn it in for taxation, it would be difficult for enforcement officers to find this out.

Now the list is public information.



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Frontiers Ago

Editor's Note—This is the first installment of "Frontiers Ago." It will be dedicated to time, but not in specific years.

Because numbers alone and the measuring of years in a man's lifetime mean little, and because what men can do is more important than the years in which they did it, this column will re-tell stories in three periods of time.

The Frontier Was Young. This section will tell stories which occurred when the newspaper was getting its start.

The Century Turns. This section will tell stories of the early 1900s.

Most Of Us Remember. This section will deal with events reported in The Frontier within the past few years.

The Frontier Was Young. It was a black day for Jim Connolly in July of 1897 because somebody got his liquor. Nobody really knew what happened, but Jim told a Frontier reporter that someone broke into his saloon on a Sunday night and "swiped several bottles of his best brand of A. L. producer."

People in O'Neill were getting tired of cattle on the sidewalks and streets. The editor complained as follows: "What's the use of having a city council, and of their passing ordinances for the good of the city, unless those ordinances are enforced. Scarcely a day passes but what stock may be seen on sidewalks. No longer ago than this morning (July 15, 1897) we saw two fences surrounding gardens broken down by the cattle. How long should such things be?"

The Century Turns. Theodore Roosevelt, then a governor, stopped off in O'Neill and spoke on the morning of October 4, 1900. He came to O'Neill on a special train. The Frontier reported:

They came from the north and the south, from the east and the west. They crowded the depot platform and hung upon the cars. Roosevelt said: "A word to you here. This town is named O'Neill. The name will always have a very close association with me, for two of my captains, two who were together with me at San Juan, and two of the best men I had in the regiment, one of them was Captain Bucky O'Neill, the other was Captain Allen Capron, young Bucky's best friend."

Most of Us Remember. Now, at a time when O'Neill is again getting ready for baseball season, consider the record of the town team in July of 1939. The Frontier reported: "The O'Neill baseball team trimmed Verdigre at the city park, which brought their record to seven wins and one loss for the season. The assessed value of Holt county increased by \$599 in the year 1939 over 1938."

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Ewing News

King and Queen Chosen At Athletic Banquet

By Mrs. Harold Harris

Ronald Thoeney and Miss Sharon Kropp were crowned king and queen at the Athletic Banquet held Thursday evening at the gymnasium of the Ewing public school. The twin sons of Coach and Mrs. Tom Hutton, Bruce and Mark, were the crown bearers. Attendants were: seniors—Larry Rotherham and Roberta Jean McDaniels, juniors—Leon Hahbeck and Lois Jean Kaczor, sophomores—Jerald Black and Annette Rotherham, freshmen—Jerry Tams and Betty Wright. Decorations were in the school colors of orange and black.

After the six p.m. dinner, served by the mothers of the pep club members, who also assisted the preparation, the following program was given with Lyle Larson as toastmaster. Tom Finley gave a talk on "Ambition"; Song, "Left Right Out of Your Heart" by the girls quartet, Ardis Parks, Betty Wright, Patty Hobbs and Linda Larson; "Memories," Jerry Jeffery's A solo "A Very Special Love" Douglas Shrader with Sharon Johnston, accompanist; Lois Jean Kaczor gave a talk on "Responsibility" and Roberta Jean McDaniels presented awards to the members of the pep club; a solo "There Goes My Heart" by Sharon Johnston with Sharon Kropp at the piano; Larry Rotherham spoke on "Eligibility and Coach Hutton on "Responsibility".

Athletes honored at the banquet were Larry Rotherham, Lyle Larson, Ronald Thoeney, Jerry Hahbeck, Don Wright, Donald Hawk, Duane Salt, Bill Bauer, Gary Eacker, Ronald Cloyd, L. Hahbeck, Harold Parks, Jerry Jeffery, Duane Bolt, Tom Keene, Freddie Wright, Jerald Black, David Zeims, Owen Schmidt, R. Lange, Douglas Shrader, Clifford Juracek, Clifford Steskal, Ronnie Brion, Gene Daniels, R. Minarik, L. Wragge, Larry Noffke, Donnie Hahbeck, Dan Rotherham, Jerry Tams, Tom Sisson, Tom Finley, Alfred Schlousky, Kenneth Barlow, H. Salt, J. Taylor, Robert Woepfle, Larry Tuttle and Sam Verhune.

Pep club members are: seniors; Sharon Kropp, cheerleader, Roberta McDaniels, Janet Noffke, Carolyn Tams, Sherry Tuttle; Juniors—Ruby Carl, cheerleader, Lois Joan Kaczor, Coralee Schmisser; Sophomores—Mary Ann Bauer, LaRoyce Blunt, Bertha Harris, Sharon Hobbs, Sharon Johnston, Karen Minarik, Annette Rotherham, Judy Tinsley, cheerleader; Leonora Tuttle, cheerleader; freshmen—Patty Hobbs, Bonnie Kaczor, Linda Larson, Ardis Parks, Marcene Schmisser, Betty Wright and Donna Wright. Parents of seniors were guests, also school faculty, waiters and waitresses were students of the eighth grade.

An interesting skit on the goals of the Women's Society of Christian Service was presented by the members in charge of Mrs. Henry Fleming, secretary of promotion, when the group met March 4 at the parlors of the First Methodist church.

Mrs. J. L. Pruden, opened the meeting with a poem, "Give Your Best", and conducted the business session in the absence of the president, Mrs. James Tinsley. Mrs. Earl Billings, absent for many months due to illness, was present to give the secretary report. Mrs.

Ray Sedivy substituted for Mrs. Willis Rocky, treasurer.

The devotional period was in charge of Mrs. Fleming, the theme, "One In Christ—Progress Ecumenicity". Mrs. L. A. Hobbs presented the lesson on the same theme.

The District Spring meeting to be held April 3rd at Page was discussed. Members desiring to attend are to contact Mrs. Tinsley by March 29th.

A St. Patrick's theme was carried out on the refreshment tables with Mrs. Ray Tucker and Mrs. Pruden, hostess. Thirteen members were in attendance.

Mrs. Glenn Harpster took his father Fred Harpster to Savannah, Mo., March 2 for treatment. Fred will stay for about 10 days. Glenn was snowbound in Nebraska City March 4 and 5. He arrived home Friday evening.

Elayne Born has been hired to teach the second grade in Plainview for the third consecutive term.

Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Stearns called on Mrs. Bing Jones at the Ord hospital March 2 evening. Mrs. Jones was injured by a car in the snowstorm Feb. 22.

Mrs. and Mrs. Henry Reimer were Sunday dinner guests at the Mike Born home in Plainview.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Bartak were Sunday dinner guests in the Carl Bartak home in West Point. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bartak returned recently from Florida.

Mrs. Mary Stearns accompanied a group of women to Norfolk March 4 to attend a meeting.

Mrs. Harold Werkmeister was called to Gregory, S.D., March 3 because her father was seriously ill. He passed away the same day. Funeral services were held Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Werkmeister and son, Darold, attended the services. We wish to express our sympathy to these neighbors.

Mrs. Ralph Tomjack, who is making the acquaintance of her new granddaughter at the Gene Tomjack home in Orlando, Fla., is expected home soon.

Mrs. Fred Harpster Saturday visited her sister, Mrs. Roy Johnson, in Neligh.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wulf have

moved from the farm to Ewing.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Carnes of Neligh were callers Sunday at the Henry Reimer home.

Mrs. Jerry Rotherham of Ewing is teaching the Tuttle school. Mrs. Ashcroft of Clearwater was the teacher the first six months.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Maben and daughter attended the funeral for Rose Marwood age 87 Saturday at Clearwater.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Knapp are the parents of a baby boy born recently at the Anielope Memorial hospital in Neligh.

Crissy Bartak daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Bartak, had a tonsilectomy in the Neligh hospital March 2.

Mrs. Anna Savage was an honored guest for her 83th birthday at the Charles Bartak home Sunday. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Savage and family of Ewing and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Knowles of near Inman. Mrs. Knowles is the former Elsie Bartak.

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