

Black Prairies Tell Tale of Sweeping Fires... 300 Volunteers Fight Blaze Near Chambers...

The black aftermath of an epidemic of prairie fires has spotted the Beef Empire.

Cautious ranch hands have been watching the horizon closely for telltale wisps of smoke that could mean one of the black patches has started up again.

One of the oldest menaces of the plains, the prairie fire, was no fun for hundreds of volunteers in Holt and surrounding counties. Dozens of small fires and two large ones broke out Monday and smoldered into Tuesday.

Approximately 600 acres or more of prairie burned on and near the Wolf brothers ranch about 30 miles south of O'Neill.

Bulletins from the west ranch site late Monday morning called for volunteers and about 300 men and eight fire trucks arrived on the scene.

By noon the blaze was believed to be under control but not before long tongues of flame whipped by strong winds swept the fire into Holt county.

Men fought the blaze with wet blankets, gunny sacks and in some cases, even the shirts off their backs.

Fire departments from as far south as Burwell and north as far as O'Neill were on the scene. Before most of the trucks arrived, including the O'Neill and Atkinson trucks, the fire was fairly well under control.

Groups from Elgin, Bartlett, Chambers, Atkinson, Burwell and O'Neill fought with just about everything they could lay their hands



The Wolf ranch fire . . . It blacked the earth for miles.

The Frontier Photo.

on to stop the blaze. The fire, which started on the Darnell ranch, spread to the Thunderbolt and Wolf ranches, and according to press reports, burned 680 acres.

Chambers firemen also put down a blaze on the Hendrickson ranch at the Darnell ranch. A brooder house, granary and bottle gas tank were destroyed.

Chambers firemen also put down a blaze on the Hendrickson ranch six miles southeast of Chambers on the same day.

In addition to these fires, two small ones were reported to have burned several acres north of Atkinson on Monday morning. Local ranch hands and volunteers had these blazes out in short order.

Some of the latest fires in this general area were reported in

Grant county. An unconfirmed report said eight head of cattle were killed in the Henderson and Phipps ranch fire 15 miles northwest of Hyannis. Smaller fires were also reported around Alliance.

By far the most serious fire of the day broke out in South Dakota near Vivian.

The fire at Vivian blackened a strip over seven miles wide and 20 miles long as Governor Ralph Herseth called out the National Guard.

High winds and extremely dry conditions sent fires roaring over several hundreds of acres in Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota. Some of these areas included Lower Brule, Aberdeen and Mission and lesser ones at Leola, Westport, Onida, Carpenter, Salem, Kodoka and Chamberlain in North and South Dakota.

One of the biggest problems in fighting a prairie fire is the good chance that it can start up hours after it's believed to be out according to local firemen.

Several of the fires, including the one on the Wolf ranch and the smaller blazes north of Atkinson started up several times after they were believed to be under control.

Men fighting the fires used sprayers, bulldozers, road graders, tractors and disk harrows to stop the blazes.

One method used quite successfully on the Darnell ranch fire south of O'Neill was the use of a grader pulled by a bulldozer. Deep slices of earth were overturned a few feet from the outer edge of the blaze to keep the fire from jumping.



Eyes On A Winner

Just a few seconds after this picture was taken, Larry Tomlinson won first place for his St. Mary's team in the shot put in Burwell. See sports page. The Frontier Photo.

Tomlinson Sets Shot Record at Ord Yesterday

Larry Tomlinson pitched the shot 52 ft. 6 in. yesterday at the Ord Invitational track meet setting a meet record. Despite this herculean effort, plus a win in the discus, the O'Neill cinder men had to be content with a second place

finish behind Mullen. St. Mary's lost by only 1 and 5/6 points. Besides Tomlinson's two first place wins, he placed second in the 60 yd. high hurdle event and second in the 100 yd. low hurdles. Lambert Belina took first in the 440 dash and second in the 220. St. Mary's also placed first in the 880 relay and compiled 45 points in the second place finish.

Election Results In O'Neill Area

CHAMBERS
J. W. Walker and Glen Adams defeated Vernon Harley and Duane K. Miller for the village board. The police magistrate will be George Porter, who defeated Bill Rick.

EWING
Willis Roekey and Frank Noffke were elected to the village council. They defeated Lloyd West and Lester Bergstrom.

ATKINSON
City clerk R. S. Griffin said the \$10,000 fire bond issue carried "by a good margin." Dr. James Ramsey and Wayne Galyan were elected to the school board.

PAGE
Ivan Heiss and A. G. Braddock are the new school board members. They defeated Willard Fre-

next two weeks. received 37 of the 41 votes cast for a one-year term.

Dr. Rex Wilson and Henry Lo-haus were both elected to the school board. The voting for Lo-haus was as follows: First ward, 46; second ward, 62; third ward, 43; fourth ward, 35. The voting for Dr. Wilson was as follows: First ward, 42; second ward 51; third ward, 36; fourth ward, 34. Both men will serve three years.

STUART
N. W. Coats and Lawrence Hamik and J. B. McGrew were elected to the town board.

Cancer Fund Meeting Is Held at Claussens
Chairman of the O'Neill cancer fund drive, Mrs. William Claussen, held a meeting of city captains in her home Monday afternoon.

Red Heads Will Play Guard Men in O'Neill
The All-American Red Heads women's basketball team will play an exhibition basketball game with the local National Guard unit April 27.

Seat Five Unopposed Councilmen
A total of 210 voters came out to the O'Neill polls in the city election Tuesday to seat five unopposed councilmen and two members of the board of education.

WJAB
"VOICE OF THE FRONTIER"
MON. - WED. - SAT.
9:30 to 9:55 A. M.

THE FRONTIER

SECTION ONE
Twelve Pages

"The Voice of the Beef Empire"

Volume 78—Number 50

O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska, Thursday, April 9, 1959

Seven Cents

O'Neill's Guard To Be Infantry

The O'Neill company "D" of the 195th National Guard tank battalion will be changed over from a tank to an infantry company May 1 according to First Sergeant "Bill" Kramer.

Kramer said this was the second time an anticipated change has been made. It was believed that the company would become an artillery group a few weeks ago.

Kramer said headquarters has made it possible for the company to enlist 12 more men in the Guard. "We have been authorized to look for six men to leave for six months active duty on April 26, five men on May 10 and one man on May 3," he said.

He said anyone interested in meeting their military obligation in the Guard should contact him at the office.

Auto and Equipment Fair Date Set Here

The O'Neill Chamber of Commerce has set April 16 as the day for the Auto and Equipment Fair.

Automobile and equipment dealers in O'Neill will display their new products at a place to be blocked off on north Fourth Street.

In conjunction with the Auto and Equipment Fair, local merchants who will not be displaying merchandise will offer shoppers in the area same good buys. Coupons, which will be found in next week's issue of The Frontier, may be used to get big discounts on hundreds of items.

Coupons will be in use for the entire weekend.

Sale Dates Claimed

April 15—Mr. and Mrs. George Wright machinery, livestock, clean-up sale. Ranch located 4 miles northwest of Ewing on Highway 275 (Golden Valley Ranch.) Col. Wally O'Connell, auctioneer.

April 18—To settle the estate of the late Charles Sobotka, all real and personal property will be offered at auction at the west edge of Inman by heirs of the estate. Col. Ed Thorin of O'Neill, licensed real estate broker and auctioneer and George Colman of Inman auctioneer.

April 18 — Over 20,000 feet of material consisting of lumber, posts, wire etc., at public auction at the O'Neill speedway. Wally O'Connell, auctioneer and Ed Murray, clerk. (Details in next issue.)

April 17, the estate sale of Henry Cook, selling 160 Acre improved farm and all personal property, located 1 Mile West of O'Neill Drive in Theatre and approximately 2 1/2 Miles North of the store. Watch next weeks issue for large sale bill. Ed. T. Campbell, Administrator; Col. Wallace O'Connell, Auctioneer.

Sorry, Some News Left Out
Due to a last minute flood of advertising in this week's issue of The Frontier, a number of items concerning the people in the area had to be left out. If you do not find a particular item in the paper this week, watch for it in next week issue of The Frontier.

O'Neill City Council Says 'No' To Another Liquor Permit

Music Contest Is Scheduled

O'Neill schools will be hosts next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to a six-day music contest. The first events will be Wednesday with piano and miscellaneous entries at St. Mary's Academy. Class C and D entries will participate Thursday at St. Mary's and at the O'Neill High Auditorium with class A events on Friday. Band entries will be Thursday and Friday nights at the O'Neill High Auditorium.

Wilson Rites Held In Ewing Wednesday

The funeral of Frank Wilson, 76, a long-time resident of the Ewing community, was held Wednesday at the United Presbyterian church with Dr. W. H. Ross officiating. Survivors include his wife, three sisters, Mrs. Addie Hartford of Bonesteel, S. D., Mrs. Rose Zolters of Kearney and Mrs. Lillie Harris of Rising City; one brother, James of Bonesteel; four step-daughters, Mrs. Michael Haynes of Vermillion, Kans., Mrs. J. Frank Taylor of Crosser, Wash., Mrs. Iola Hill of Beatrice and Mrs. Boyd Dochow of Concordia, Kan.

Sorenson Rites Held

The funeral of Mrs. Anna Sorenson, 72, of Page who died Saturday in Page Wednesday.

Husband of Former Chambers Girl Dead

CHAMBERS—Friends here have just learned that Captain Charles A. Walker, a navigator on a B-47, was killed Thursday when his plane crashed near Boise, Idaho. Captain Walker's wife was Bavone Hansen, a former resident of Chambers and a graduate of the Chambers high school class 1942.

Red Heads Will Play Guard Men in O'Neill

The All-American Red Heads women's basketball team will play an exhibition basketball game with the local National Guard unit April 27.

The game will be played at the high school gym and the proceeds will be used to defray the expenses of the dance held a few months ago.

Rites Held Tuesday For Tractor Victim

ORCHARD—The funeral of the six-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Walmer was held Tuesday at the Evangelical church here.

The boy was killed in a tractor accident at the farm home between Orchard and Rye.

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Jefferies Funeral

The funeral of Everett Jefferies, 67, of Ewing was held Tuesday at the Church of Christ in Clearwater. Burial was in the Clearwater cemetery.

Tompkins Celebrate 50th Wedding Date

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Tompkins of Inman celebrated their 50th wedding on March 17. No formal celebration was held.

Our Thinclads Win

The O'Neill Eagles came home Wednesday with first place in the Ainsworth Invitational track meet.

Catholic Women Meet

A meeting of the officers and board members of the O'Neill deaconry of the National Council of Catholic Women was held Friday.

Retreat Sunday For Presbyterian Elders

The Ruling Elders of the First Presbyterian church of O'Neill held a planning retreat Sunday afternoon and evening at the Bethany Presbyterian church near Chambers.

The program of the church was evaluated and plans for the coming year were made. Committees were formed to carry out the plans.

O'Neill PTA Elect State Delegates to Norfolk on April 30

Members of the O'Neill PTA elected two delegates and an alternate to attend the Nebraska Congress of Parents and Teachers to be held in Norfolk April 30 and May 1.

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4 Council Members Present

The O'Neill city council said "no" to an additional liquor license in the city Wednesday night.

After deliberation for nearly an hour, the four present members of the council cast their votes unanimously.

Present to vote were William McIntosh, Dr. E. W. Gleeson, Leigh Reynoldson and A. W. Carroll.

R. E. (Bob) Moore and Fred Heermann were not present at the council meeting.

Earlier 500 names had been placed on petitions circulated in liquor stores and taverns objecting to the granting of more licenses in O'Neill.

The petitions grew out of the formal application of the Town House for a license to sell mixed drinks.

The council room was crowded with observers as well as those men who would be directly affected by the granting or refusing of the license.

Dick Tomlinson spoke for the present holders of liquor licenses in O'Neill before the council deliberated.

"We believe that the granting of another license would work a hardship on the present holders," he said. "The liquor business is not now considered to be the best business because of increased operating expenses."

Robert Clinkscapes, speaking for the Town House, asked that his application be accepted because of a survey he had conducted at the business establishment for the past two months.

"The survey shows that 77 percent of the guests in the Town House are tourists and this goes to show that we are serving people out of town. We believe that our selling mixed drinks would not hurt the present holders of licenses," he added.

The vote by the four present members of the council brought to a close the controversy.

In other council action, the board admitted the building permits of four persons for the construction of new homes. One warehouse permit was granted and the Standard Oil station building permit was granted.

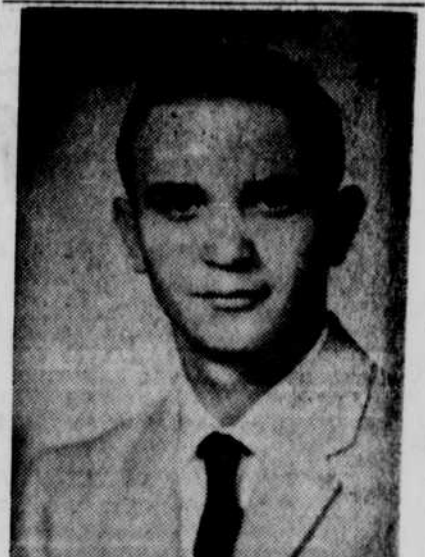
The council also discussed the possibility of licensing all sellers of fireworks. In the past it has not been necessary for retailers to obtain permits. Action on this issue was tabled.

Catholic Women Meet

A meeting of the officers and board members of the O'Neill deaconry of the National Council of Catholic Women was held Friday.



Diane Cork was elected "Queen of Sports" at the annual Page athletic banquet. James Wilson gave a speech at the banquet and awards were presented for basketball and volleyball. The five senior girl members of the pep club received a necklace.



Clair Parks was crowned "King of Sports" at the Page athletic banquet. The attendees were James Nissen and Donna Crumly. The welcome was given by Vivian Ragland and the response by Clair Parks. The toastmistress was Donna Crumly.

O'Neill Legion Post Plans Talent Show On Friday, April 24

The O'Neill American Legion post has planned a talent show patterned after a late television show on Friday, April 24.

The cast will include James Earley as Bat Masterson, Hugh Benson as Roy Rogers, Joe McElligott as Chet Huntley, Virgil Laurson, Verne Reynoldson, Marlin Wickman and Chuck Fox as the Lena sisters, George Janousek as Charlie Weaver, Jack Everett as Johnny Cash and Bud Cold as the lonely tramp.

Other players will include William Cousins as Jack Parr, Ed Hunt as Kate Smith, Archie Bowen as Houshay, Wayne Fox as Irish McGinn, D. Worcester and Ed Winkler as a balloon salesman, Bob Cole as Genevieve and Francis Belzer and Bob White as Trigger.

Dean Streeter will play the man with the fiddle, Don Becker will be the commercial man, Dale Curran and Sam Fuhrer will play the brats, George Eason will be Tennessee Ernie Ford, Russell Moler and William Kelly will be Charlie Weaver's parents.

Fred Appleby and Al Hamik will play the brats' mother and baby and Bill Jansen will be Red Foley.

Tickets will be on sale at most business places. The show is under the direction of Bill Jansen.

First Annual Party

Approximately 250 persons attended the American Legion's first annual public party at the Legion hall Tuesday evening.