

State Capitol News

More Trouble Behind Walls

LINCOLN — Repercussions are still echoing this week from the abrupt firing by the state board of control of its employee, George Morris, superintendent of the state reformatory for men.

The dismissal came as a climax to weeks of critical statements by Morris—duly printed in the press—blasting the board, Gov. Victor Anderson, and the administration of the state penitentiary.

The board gave as its only reason that it considered firing Morris to be "in the best interest of the Nebraska state reformatory."

And on the heels of the Morris firing came unrest at the reformatory. The unrest touched off another costly fire Friday afternoon—simply another sordid chapter in the screwy goings-on behind walls at Lincoln.

The reformatory demonstration apparently meant that Morris was held in esteem by the inmates. During the blaze he sat in his home across the road and wept.

But it took no searchlight to figure out that the board had become fed up with Morris's insubordinate statements. Earlier the board had become fed up with Morris's insubordinate statements. Earlier the board had been advised to wait until controversy had died down before firing the superintendent.

But Morris made a speech before the Lincoln Junior chamber of commerce in which he blamed Governor Anderson for "setting the stage" for the August 16 arson riot at the state penitentiary by his act of taking charge during the March 28 "hostage" rebellion. Morris also said that the board of control members "are nice people but they don't know much about institutional operation."

That did it. The board, which had often been criticized for failing to take decisive action, lowered the boom quickly this time. Reporters, who had visited Morris right after the action, said he seemed stunned. He frankly said he was "surprised."

Appointed in his place was M. L. Wimberly, who had compiled a good record during the 28 years he worked up the ladder of command at the state boy's training school at Kearney. Wimberly took immediate charge, including squelching a "protest" riot the first night of his command.

The Lincoln Star declared Monday the board of control should now resign in the light of what has been happening.

Repercussions—
Early indications were that the whole Morris affair might eventually become injected into politics. There was bound to be an effort to include his dismissal in those things the forthcoming Lancaster county district court grand jury would be probing.

It might well be brought into politics, particularly by those unfriendly to the republican administration of Governor Anderson. There was strong evidence that in the two days when the board of control met behind closed doors to decide the fate of Morris, its members decided for themselves. On this occasion apparently they did not seek the advice of the governor's office.

But since Morris blasted directly at the governor on several occasions, this same ammunition was bound to be used later.

However, the immediate reaction was that Morris was in a much weaker position than he had been two weeks earlier. When he first spotlighted some of the weaknesses of the penitentiary administration and the activities by the board of control, he was generally hailed by the

public for his forthrightness. A man with a reputation for running a good institution, Superintendent Morris was never loathe to talk about it. He complained of being "hamstrung" by the board of control and aimed sharp-tongued barbs at the State Penal Director B. B. Albert, hired by the board to supervise all the state penal institutions.

Typical of Morris's all-encompassing statements was his release to the press after his dismissal in which he said that during his superintendency . . . "we have built up the best institution in the country."

But regardless of these traits, there was little doubt but that the state was losing a good public servant. Morris had stacked up a good record of rehabilitating men by running a full program of work. Inspection by legislature committees, investigating committees, and penal experts had been uniformly favorable.

It was because of all the contradictions involved that it seemed likely the Morris affair would boil for a long time. Morris is a native of Boone county and headed the reformatory for 8½ years.

Relocation—
A firm hand was taken in another dispute as Governor Anderson ordered the state highway department to relocate state highway 35 between Wayne and Wakefield. This matter has been hanging fire for many years as a group of Wakefield citizens fought in the legislature and through the courts to keep one 10-mile stretch of highway from being relocated. A purported reason for their resistance was that they feared it was the first step to bypassing Wakefield altogether. Another reason might have been that they feared the new location would send more business to nearby Wayne.

Governor Anderson had consented to hold the matter up while Wakefield citizens sought a ruling from the state supreme court on the constitutionality of LB 187, a highway reclassification bill which specifies the new road location for highway 35.

But the supreme court refused to hear the case and it had to be refiled in Lancaster county district court. Anderson said he hadn't bargained for the months and years the case might now take. So he got a legal opinion from the attorney general that it wouldn't make much difference whether or not the law were unconstitutional. If it is unconstitutional, the governor will still have the say-so on relocation. To reassure the citizens of Wakefield that their town won't be by-passed the governor ordered the state highway department to complete the next stretch of highway to the east of Wakefield, over to Emerson.

Blind School—
There were some indications that a fight might come again in the 1957 legislature over whether the state school for the blind should be moved away from Nebraska City.

Parents of blind children being schooled there appear to be determined that the institution be moved to some more centrally located place. They feel they were not given a complete chance to prove their point to the 1955 legislature which killed three bills aimed at moving the school.

Meanwhile, leaders in Nebraska City have been playing into the hands of the "relocation" bloc by insisting that the present 75-year-old building not be torn down. For this reason the state board of control has been taking its time about building anything new at the institution.

The issue was one of the most touchy in the recent legislative session. A continuance next session could bring the same bitterness on both sides into the open again.

Taxes Up—
Most Nebraskans could get set for lighter pocketbooks after tax-paying time this November. A compilation by the Nebraska Citizens Council, a tax research group, shows that the average tax bill will go up 10.4 percent.

County expenses on the average will jump the most, about 26 percent. The state levies account for about a 16.8 percent increase, the council's estimates showed. School expenses are up on the average 10.5 percent. City governmental units have done the best job of holding down climbing expenses, for an average of 4 percent.

The council warned, "In some areas of the state taxes are reaching the point of being confiscatory."

Celia News

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hendricks who were married in Miltonvale, Kans., Tuesday, August 23, were guests of honor at three charivari past week Thursday evening the Wesleyan Methodist

church group charivari'd them and also gave them a "shower". On Friday night they were supper guests at the Otto Lorenz home at O'Neill where they were charivari'd and given a shower of gifts.

Neighbors of the young couple gave them an old fashioned charivari on Saturday night.

Miss Lois Adams visited Isla Ruda Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Frickel, Harold, Gerald, David and Vickie left Wednesday to attend the Nebraska state fair. They returned home Friday evening. Their three youngest children, Glen Bonnie and Rodney stayed at the Connie Frickel home until Friday when they visited Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman and sons.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Green of Fremont were Saturday morning visitors at the Ray Pease home.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Forsythe of Grant, Ia., were Wednesday through Friday visitors at the home of his brother, Alex Forsythe. They were enroute to Iowa from a trip to Colorado to see their son, Paul.

Alex Forsythe was a Tuesday evening visitor at the William Maloun home.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman and Mr. and Mrs. Duane Beck were Norfolk visitors Wednesday. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Alan Marquardt at Norfolk.

Sunday dinner guests at the Leon Hendricks home were Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd McDowell, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hendricks and family, Mr. and Mrs. Omer Poynts, Grandpa Blow, George Woolstrom and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Eastburg.

P. W. Kilmurry was a Friday evening supper guest at the Frank Kilmurry home.

Mr. and Mrs. Duane Beck were Sunday afternoon visitors at the William Maloun home.

Ale Forsythe was a Tuesday evening visitor at the William Maloun home.

Dorothy Scott and Mr. and Mrs. William Maloun were visitors in O'Neill on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Manning of Pender spent Monday at the Earl Schlotfeld home.

Mr. and Mrs. George Syfie, Jr., and daughters were Sunday supper guests at the Connie Frickel home.

Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Hammerberg spent Saturday at the William Maloun home. The men put

up a stack of hay and the women canned chicken.

Mr. and Mrs. William Maloun and Billy and Emil Cofack, Denton and Dennis were Monday evening visitors at the Charles Dobias home.

The Celia Homemakers will hold their next meeting at the Hans Lauridsen home on September 28.

Mr. and Mrs. Hans Lauridsen and sons were O'Neill visitors on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman and sons attended a birthday picnic supper at the Edwin Krugman home, honoring Mr. Krugman. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Mlinar and family and Alex Frickel.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Pease and Mr. and Mrs. William Spann left Sunday morning for a trip to the Black Hills and into Canada.

Dorothy Scott was a Saturday dinner guest at the William Maloun home.

Ronnie Frickel was a Sunday afternoon visitor at the Clarence Focken home.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Collars of Tampa, Fla., who have been visiting their daughter, Mrs. Aaron Lauge, and family the past

two weeks, left for a trip to Wyoming Monday morning, September 12, before returning to Florida.

Jim Lauridsen was a Saturday evening visitor at the Louis Lauridsen home.

Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Smith

and family were Sunday afternoon at the Merrill Smith home.

Visit at Wahoo—
Dr. and Mrs. O. W. French spent the labor day weekend visiting Dr. and Mrs. Ivan French and family at Wahoo.

Prairie Schooner Mobil Homes



WE FINANCE — WE TRADE
O'Neill Trailer Sales — Phone 254
DICK TOMLINSON, Prop.

MELVIN RIECK'S C-O-M-P-L-E-T-E

CLOSING-OUT SALE

Land - Cattle - Feed - Equipment

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23d

SALE STARTS AT 12:30 O'CLOCK — LUNCH SERVED ON GROUNDS BY CHRIST LUTHERAN LADIES AID
REASON FOR SALE: Change of occupation, moving to Washington State right away.
LOCATION: 6½ miles south of O'Neill, or 10 miles north of Chambers, Nebr., corner on U.S. Highway 281.

Improved 409-Acre Holt County Ranch

LAND

This is an all-grass operation consisting of about 50% sub-irrigated hay meadow and 50% top-quality pasture land. Carrying capacity over a period of years will range from 50 cows and increase or 85 yearling cattle.

New country school located on excellent road within 2½ miles. O'Neill city schools and churches only 6½ miles. REA, daily mail delivery, all-weather highway. Reasonable taxes—last year (1954) \$137.80.

IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements are adequate but not elaborate. Improvements include: Six-room house, barn, brooder house, machine shed, cave, chicken house. Well-fenced and cross-fenced for economical operations. An abundance of water, trees and shelter. An ideal location for purebred breeder or small operator.

LEGALLY DESCRIBED:

All of section 31, Township 28, Range 11, except the Southeast 240 acres, all in Holt County, Nebr.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

Twenty-nine percent down payment day of sale. Settlement on balance may be made any time after January 1st and not later than March 1st, 1956. A 20-year loan at 4½% in the amount of \$12,000 has been approved by a loan agency and is available if needed.

Buyer may have immediate possession NOW or any time up to March 1st. Your inspection is invited. Contact at any time—

MELVIN RIECK, O'Neill, Nebr., the Owner
VIRGIL L. LAURSEN, O'Neill, Phone 434, the Broker
ERNE WELLES, Atkinson, Nebr., Phone 5141, Auctioneer

65 -- Head of Cattle -- 65

- 24—Hereford Stock COWS, 3- to 5-years-old, bred to calve the middle of February
- 26—Hereford Last Spring Sucking CALVES, weighing 375 to 400 pounds
- 5—Last Spring Bucket CALVES

- 1—Purebred Hereford BULL, 3-years-old
- 1—Yearling STEER
- 8—Extra Good MILK COWS, milking now, all bred to calve in middle of March. These include:

- 1—Black Holstein, 5-yrs.
- 1—Guernsey, 5-yrs.
- 1—Red Whiteface, 4-yrs.
- 1—Holstein, 9-yrs.
- 1—Blue Roan, 4-yrs.
- 1—Brookle Face, 3-yrs.
- 1—Red Whiteface, 5-yrs.
- 1—Guernsey, 3-yrs.

3 Horses

- BLUE ROAN MARE, weight 1,500 lbs., smooth mouth
- SORREL MARE, weight 1,500 lbs., smooth mouth
- BLACK SADDLE MARE, weight 1,000 lbs., 9-years-old

Prairie Hay

ABOUT ONE HUNDRED TONS OF NO. 1 PRAIRIE HAY

Ranch Equipment, Etc.

- 1952 Model W.D. Allis Chalmers Tractor (used very little)
- 1939 Model H John Deere Tractor
- No. 5 J-D Power Mower, like new
- Heavy Duty Dempster (Overshot) Stacker & Cage
- 2—12-Ft. Hay Rakes & Double Rake Hitch
- Buick Hay Sweep (good condition)
- Cable Rack (on steel 9-inch wheels)
- Hay Rack with all steel running gears
- John Deere Hammer Mill (new hammers & fan)
- 5-Ft. John Deere Tumble Bug
- Walking Plow — 3-Section Harrow
- Slip Scraper — Buzz Saw
- Set 12x28 Tractor Chains (new)
- 400-Gal. Fuel Tank
- 3—50-Gal Fuel Barrels—One 30-Gal.
- 250—Red Cedar Posts, 3- to 4-in. top
- 25—Corner Posts — Used Wire
- 2—Spoils Barb Wire (new)
- Feed Troughs — Shop Tolo s
- Ton Crushed Rock Salt in paper bags
- McComb Oil Burner Brooder Stove
- Chicken Feeders & Waterers
- DeLaval Cream Separator (electric)
- Set Harness — Saddle
- 2 Doz. White Rock Laying Hens (1-year-old) — 8—Geese

Household Goods

- Bedroom Suite — Bed & Springs
- Chest — Platform Rocker
- Davenport & Chair (Simmons springs)
- Youngstown Sink (double tub, like new)
- Dining Room Table (light oak)
- Buffet (light oak)
- Sewing Machine (Eldrege)
- Oil Burner (14-Inch, Duo Therm)
- Baby Carriage
- Numerous Other Articles

TERMS OF SALE: Cash. No property to be removed until settled for.

MELVIN RIECK, Owner

VIRGIL L. LAURSEN, O'Neill, Nebr., Broker
ERNE WELLES, Atkinson, Auctioneer
FIRST NATIONAL BANK, O'Neill, Clerk

EDW. M. GLEESON
DENTIST
2d Floor Gilligan
Rexall Bldg.
Ph. 240 - Box 149 - Hrs. 8:30-5

JOHN R. GALLAGHER
Attorney-at-Law
First Nat'l Bank Bldg.
O'NEILL -- PHONE 11

O'NEILL DRIVE-IN THEATRE

FRIDAY-SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16-17

Double Feature

"THE OUTCAST"
Live and let live!

"BOOGIES BUMP"
Baseball in Brooklyn

SUNDAY-MONDAY-TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 18-19-20

Santa Fe Passage

TRUCOLOR by Consol dated

STARRING **JOHN PAYNE** A REPUBLIC PRODUCTION

ADDED SHORTS

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21-22

Family Night

"MAKE HASTE TO LIVE"
Buck Night — Bring 'Em All!