

Prairieland Talk

Belonged to O'Neill That Was

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN—The funeral Friday, November 25, for Mrs. P. J. Biglin consigned to the tomb another of the community's noble women.

Mrs. Biglin grew up in O'Neill after coming to the community from the East at the age of 12-years when Holt county was young and drawing settlers from various states. Her declining years were spent with her daughter in Kansas but she belonged to the O'Neill that was.



Romaine Saunders

I met her first as Miss Dalley when she and Mary Belle were the capable functionaries in the Heinrichson establishment that served meals to the young bloods of the town, and I held the exalted station of roustabout for a few weeks at that emporium of great things to eat.

Miss Dalley became the wife of Patsy Biglin, one of the popular and industrious young gents of the O'Neill of 60 years ago. As wife and mother, Mrs. Biglin, as in her girlhood, sought to exemplify the characteristics of true womanhood. Mr. Biglin laid down life's burdens 10 years ago. She, too, has responded to the roll call to join the others of the generation to which they belonged.

Now, like a million inherited by a beggar, comes the story to disperse the gloom and silence the wailing over the effects of summer heat and rainless days. Who'd have guessed it! Down in Custer county a corn field is said to have yielded 153 bushels to the acre. The growing corn had been encouraged by irrigation.

December 1, 1902, R. J. Marsh became the owner of the O'Neill Bottling Works. Having taken over the business from S. L. Thompson. . . Pay \$5 on what you owe and you have a chance to win \$100 in gold to be given away January 1, 1903, was P. J. McManus's way of dunning 'em. . . S. J. Weekes, as register of the U.S. land office, was summoned to Omaha by the United States district attorney to appear before the grand jury investigating alleged frauds relating to homestead entries. . . Dr. J. W. McLeran withdrew from professional duties long enough to pay a visit to friends in Ashland. . . Claud Stout of Tekamah spent Thanksgiving in O'Neill on a visit to his brother, C. E. Stout, and sister, Mrs. J. P. Gilligan. . . William Lakey and family moved to Spencer where Mr. Lakey opened a hotel. . . Jack Meals planned to move his family to Valdez, Alaska, in the spring, believing a great future was on the way for that north land. Some of the family are still in Valdez, Mrs. Meals being one of them, but their son, George, returned to his native Holt county and lives near Atkinson with his wife, two sons and their wives.

A year ago the people over at Naper voted \$25,000 bond debt to build a town auditorium. Now they assume a \$15,000 bond debt to build a schoolhouse. Nebraska City taxpayers feel they can take care of just under one million bond indebtedness for similar purposes.

Mrs. Joseph Axtell of Stuart has recently arrived down the highway of time at her 104th birthday anniversary. Much of her life has been spent in Holt county and is rich in the lore of pioneer days which, if compiled in a volume of memoirs would be more thrilling to prairieland patriots than the "memoirs of our late president."

Lancaster county high school students numbering 202 visited the county courthouse the last day of November, the occasion being county government day devoted to giving school students firsthand information pertaining to official affairs and the duties devolving upon county officers.

The sun shines upon the mountain top before it glows upon the plain, but snow and hoar frost cover the mountain top when roses bloom upon the plain.

Editorial

Wrong Is Righted in Argentina

In Argentina a great wrong which was felt by the press of all the free world has been righted. A decree by Provisional President Aramburu has restored the Buenos Aires newspaper La Prensa to Dr. Albert Gainza Paz, who was its editor and publisher when the paper was taken over by the regime of former President Peron.

In this is not only a victory for freedom of the press but also and perhaps more importantly for freedom of information. The pre-Peron La Prensa was known not only as probably the largest paper in Latin America but also for objective and thorough news reporting. Hence it stood in the way of the president, who was well on the way to becoming a dictator.

The seizure of La Prensa was no less a theft because it was clothed in the name of expropriation and in unconstitutional legislation adopted by a rubber-stamp congress.

Note to Private Pilots

G. B. Caesar, writing in Flying Magazine, has a tip for the nation's private pilots. It may also prove of value to others who fly, whether they be pilots or not.

Caesar contends that an old basic weather rule—outlined in 1860 by a Dutch scientist named Buys Ballot, is still sound. In brief, the rule is that a right drift, in the northern hemisphere, is a sign of deteriorating weather. Conversely, a left drift, in this hemisphere, means weather conditions should improve enroute.

Modern weather students, and some officials of the weather bureaus, will contend that this rule is not altogether sound, but Caesar cites several examples, personal experiences, which show that the rule has often worked for him.

Generally speaking, the most widely accepted rule in this hemisphere is that low pressure areas, with counter-clockwise winds, are the surest sign of deteriorating weather. Winds in a low pressure area circulate in a counter-clockwise direction. It would seem, accepting this bit of established scientific weather information, that these winds could cause drifts in any direction, depending upon the area of the counter-clockwise rotating circle one found himself in.

However, low pressure areas do not necessarily always constitute a circle, and there is much yet unknown about the weather. It is possible that the omen about a right drift could have substantial basis.

At any rate, the weather rule is almost one hundred years old and might be kept in mind by all those who observe the weather closely and seek to pry more information and knowledge out of the behavior of the layer of gases which surrounds the earth.

Someone who has taken time to count them comes up with the figures disclosing that there are 141,733 more places dispensing firewater than there are churches and temples of religious services in the country. From the number of church notices seen in the papers it appears that the churches in O'Neill outnumber the booze joints. . . A star gazer down in Mexico looked into the heavens studied the position of the planets and came up with the warning that within a few hours San Francisco, Calif., would be sunk into the Pacific. The city by the Golden Gate still lives. . . The day SD began, one thousand cars crashed on icy streets in Chicago, Ill. . . The mother of 12 down in Greeley county makes a newspaper story and is quoted as saying a large family makes her less work than when there were but two children in the home. She can relax and let the kids do the work. They stow away three dozen eggs for breakfast and two gallons of milk a day. They milk 11 cows and have 1,200 chickens.

Impossible is a word found only in the dictionary of fools, said Napoleon. But that was before he met his Waterloo.

The bakers are shouting it over the air, the kids must have ample slices of the loaf if they are to grow physically, develop mentally and acquire moral conception. Now the bake ovens roll out what they call chuck wagon bread. Chuck wagon—that revives memories. I was riding the cow-trails with the late John Addison doing the cooking. John became ill from eating his campfire products and the cook's job fell to me. Bread was the chief culinary problem. My first "chuck wagon" bread consisted of biscuit about the size of a football baked until hard enough to knock a steer down if he were hit with one. John thereupon managed to crawl out of his blanket, take over and send me back to the herd. But instead, I hung up saddle and lariat and went back to the print shop to set type. No "chuck wagon" bread since.

Edgar Faure ousted as French premier, Peron saved his neck by taking to flight. The way of those who aspire to run things is strewn with roses for a brief moment and then come the thorns. The vitals of King Saul were pierced by his own sword, Belshazzar sat down on the throne of Babylon and was slain by Medes and Persians, the great Alexander died in his cups, Julius Caesar met his Ides of March and Napoleon perished at the hands of a mob, Hitler defaced the map of Europe and he, too, perished. The czar of all the Russians and household name of sorrow for a time only to meet his end, and there he lay, a crimson robe round a form of clay. Prairieland patriot, stay in your overalls! Sister, hang on to the calico gown!

World War II accounted for 1,070,000 Americans killed or wounded in combat. On the home front at the same period of time 3,396,000 were killed or injured in traffic accidents.

If you had the courage or were of necessity bounding out of bed before dawn this last morning of November, your attention may have been drawn to the full moon shining in splendor as it was about to disappear below the earth's north-western rim. A sheet of snow over the land, temperature near zero and no cloud in the firmament above, in that quiet hour before daybreak nature's picture holds within its scope a captivating charm and so the sidereal heavens and earth unite to form a scene for contemplation that inspires the mind with thoughts of the Infinite. Pause a moment before the unrivaled grandeur if not in a hurry to get seated at the breakfast table to fill your belly.

Early came the winter chill, nipping frost on vale and hill. Whose delight is for a Christmas white see it now almost in sight.

Odds Are Narrowing

"The odds are narrowing," the Omaha World-Herald's Washington correspondent writes, "on the possibility that President Eisenhower will seek reelection next year."

"There is a well-defined belief now that only an adverse recommendation from his physician will keep the president out of the arena in 1956. "Speculation at this time is futile," the correspondent adds.

Announcement that Pete Elliott has been tabbed as new head football coach at the University of Nebraska is encouraging. At least with a "confederate" on our team we might be able to cope with the wreckers from the University of Oklahoma.

The short-lived December 3 storm came as no real surprise, because the weatherman had foretold its coming for a number of hours. But somehow the early storm parallels the start of the historic 1948-'49 winter—the worst seige in the annals of the area.

At 4:30 p.m., on Wednesday, November 30, was "signing-on" time for O'Neill's new radio station, KVHC. The Frontier offers congratulations and best wishes to the newcomers.

Leo Durocher, it seems, is ready to take up acting in preference to baseball. The pay is better you don't have to win pennants and no one throws pop bottles at you while you work.

THE FRONTIER

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When You and I Were Young . . .

O'Neill Winner in Titanic Grid Battle

New River Discovered in Sandhills

The greatest football game ever witnessed in western Nebraska took place at the new fair grounds on Thanksgiving day when the sturdy gridiron athletes from Long Pine met O'Neill's stalwart eleven. Final score was O'Neill 15, Long Pine 5. . . A wonderful geological event has recently taken place in the sand hills; a great new river of clear water, rivaling the Niobrara, the Elkhorn and the Platte, has suddenly sprung into existence. The new river is more than 150 miles long and its waters vary in depth from a few feet to 50 feet. In some places New River is half a mile wide. . . Smoke was discovered rolling from the roof of the Roberts building on Douglas street.

Twenty-two Holt county students registered at the University of Nebraska this year. . . Clyde R. Burge of Emmet and Ruby Irene Holcomb were married in the Presbyterian church in O'Neill. . . Under the supervision of Miss Roberta Arbutnot, a group of O'Neill ladies collected money for a toy fund for those children whose Christmas happiness depends entirely upon the assistance of others. . . Football playing came to a climax here Thanksgiving day when Atkinson won over the local public school 7 to 6.

Miss Mildred Cavanaugh and Richard Perry were married at Oakland, Calif. . . Mrs. Frank Froelich was called to Audubon, Ia., by the serious illness of her mother. . . Miss Margaret Gibbons, pioneer settler of this community, died at her home in Butte, Mont. . . St. Mary's lost its first game of the season to Spalding high. . . Eighty-five persons were employed at the Tri-State Produce getting ready for Thanksgiving 626,500 pounds of prime turkey meat and 201,000 pounds of chickens. . . Clyde Keller has bought a cafe on lower Fourth street and will continue feeding that section of all cities. . . The town needs a bus terminal with "no parking" signs where buses stop. . . Fred Zink, who resigned as county clerk for the benefit of his health, is in Sundance, Wyo.

Bernard Hynes, 28, former O'Neill resident, died of pneumonia in a Portland, Ore., hospital. . . Two trucks collided four miles west of Emmet. . . Men interested in joining a national guard tank company, the event O'Neill is chosen as the site for the not yet activated company D, are asked to contact Robert Hornby, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. . . Duane Alton, O'Neill high backfield star, was accorded honorable mention for all-state grid honors by the Lincoln Star-Journal. . . Preliminary planning is underway for a new 75-thousand-dollar Presbyterian church to be erected here.

Atkinson Doctor Sails to New African Home—ATKINSON—Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Sutherland, medical missionaries, sail for a new home in South Africa this week. Their new home will be Raleigh Pitkin Memorial hospital, Bremersdorp, in Swaziland, South Africa.

Visitors at Seward—Mrs. M. J. Baack and Rickey spent the weekend in Seward visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hans, while Mr. Baack was in Lincoln attending a national guard conference.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Becker left last Thursday for Kansas City where Barbara is employed. Mr. and Mrs. Becker returned home Monday.

Why the "X" in Christmas?

If Mary and Martha of Bible story fame were living today, Martha would probably be in a dither with a thousand and one last minute Christmas preparations. Mary, according to the description Christ gave of her, would put the spiritual significance of the season in first place. She would spend her time, first of all, in private meditations, family devotions, and frequent holiday church attendance. The modern world has lost sight of the "one thing needful." And in doing so, it has replaced the Christian Christmas with the pagan Xmas—the Xmas of excitement, extravagance, and exhaustion. Put Christ back into your Christmas by coming to church and worshipping at the manger of the Christ Child. Our Church extends a hearty welcome.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 7th and Clay Streets Phone 460 Rev. E. G. Smith, pastor

Regional Deaths

Caroline Louise McClain ROYAL—Funeral services were held Sunday, November 27, from the Methodist church in Royal for Caroline Louise McClain, 91, who died Thursday, November 24, at the Antelope Memorial hospital in Neligh. Survivors include five children, one sister, 11 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Leonard Weber BUTTE—Funeral services were held Thursday, December 1, from the St. Peter and Paul Catholic church in Butte for Leonard Weber, 48, who died Monday, November 28, at the Sacred Heart hospital in Lynch. Survivors include: Widow—Sarah, parents—Mr. and Mrs. Nick Weber; several brothers and sisters.

Mrs. Mary Schulte BUTTE—Funeral services were held Monday, November 28, from St. Peter and Paul Catholic church in Butte for Mrs. Mary Schulte, who died Saturday, November 25, at Fairfax, Minn. Survivors include 10 daughters, five sons, two sisters and two brothers.

Fred W. Dittick VERDIGRE—Funeral services were held Saturday, November 26, from St. Wenceslaus Catholic church for Fred W. Dittick, 82, who died Tuesday, November 22. Survivors include: Widow—Rose; one daughter, one son, two grandchildren, two brothers and two sisters.

Mrs. Alma Thorell SPENCER—Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 23, from the Rosedale Lutheran church for Mrs. Alma Thorell, 67, who died Sunday, November 20. Survivors include seven children, 11 grandchildren.

Hospitalized After Stove Explosion

RIVERSIDE—Wayne Fry had misfortune while lighting the tank heater Wednesday, November 30. It puffed up into his face, slightly burning his face, neck and some of his chest. His father took him to a doctor in Neligh, who had him spend a day or two in the hospital. He returned home Thursday.

Other Riverside News

Will Conner, Vet Schlotman and Lionel Gunter helped D. E. Conner saw wood Thursday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Willie Shrader and Doug, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Fry went shopping in Norfolk Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Rol Hord, Glenda and Dennis Napier brought James Gunter to the Lionel Gunter home Tuesday afternoon, November 29. He had spent Thanksgiving weekend visiting at the Hord home. Dewitt Hoke, Dale Napier and Robert Montgomery helped Lorraine Montgomery shell corn Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Shrader and family were supper guests at the Lynn Fry home Monday, November 28. Mr. and Mrs. Victor Vander-snick and family ate supper at the Mick Hobbs home Friday.

Mrs. Frank Hawk and son, Leonard, and Bobby Kreitzner returned Thursday from Malbeta Leonard and Bob were pleased with the trip and each boy got his deer. Bonita Bollwitt helped at the Vic Vandersnick home from Tuesday, November 29, until Thursday. Bert Finks were at Lee Finks on Friday and spent the day.

A youth meeting was held at the Free Methodist church on Wednesday, November 30. Ministers from Illinois, Wyoming and South Dakota were in charge. Walter and Howard Miller had the ministers as their guests Wednesday night. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lofquist accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rotherham to Sioux City on Friday.

Wayne Pollock is working part time at Stoney Service Station.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Anson called at Wayne Frys Sunday afternoon.

Letter from Stanley Rickert family stated that they spent Thanksgiving with Zelma Litscomb and family at Viasla, Calif.

Wednesday, November 30, Stevie Meiler had his sixth birthday anniversary. On Thursday evening his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Ora Switzer also Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Switzer and family, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miller helped celebrate with refreshments and birthday cakes. Wayne Switzer and family of Clearwater called the same evening.

Rex W. Wilson, M.D. Robert M. Langdon, M.D. PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS 128 W. Douglas St., O'Neill Phone 138

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O'NEILL LOCALS

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hansen loaded out this week moving to Wilmar, Minn., where they will farm.

Sam Lidell of Omaha was a Thursday dinner guest at the Harry A. Larson home.

Key coveralls, stripe, shorts, medium and long, two-way zipper, all sizes 34-50, \$4.95. — McCarrilles.

Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas and family spent Sunday afternoon at the Donald Franklin home. Paul Baker spent the weekend in O'Neill.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Goree of Long Pine spent Friday visiting relatives here.

DR. H. D. GILDERSLEEVE OPTOMETRIST Northeast Corner of 4th & Douglas O'NEILL, NEBR. Phone 167 Eyes Examined - Glasses Fitted Office Hours: 9.5 Mon. thru Sat.

ANNOUNCING The Official Opening of the Tompkins Livestock HEADQUARTERS At the Lewis Kopecky Hay Office, Inman, Nebr. and the following TERRITORY DISTRIBUTORS: OSCAR PETERSON, Amelia MELVIN HINZE, Bartlett E. J. GOTSCHALL, Atkinson CLAIRE McVAY, O'Neill CLIFFORD DICK, O'Neill under the direction of HARVEY A. TOMPKINS, INMAN TERRITORIAL SUPERVISOR for The Rogers Grain and Feed Co. Ainsworth, Nebraska On Saturday, Dec. 10 8:00 A.M. — 6:00 P.M. SPECIAL PRICES ON FEED LUNCH — DOOR PRIZES See these men for a complete line of Feeds, Minerals and Salt for Range, Dairy and Feed Lot Cattle, Sheep, Swine and Poultry Get Their Prices for a Complete Line of Fertilizers, Insecticides, and Livestock Remedies, Grass, Legume and Field Seeds, Fertilizer Spreaders, Feeders, Stock Oilers and Good Rye Straw PATRONIZE YOUR LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR AND FEEDS MANUFACTURED IN THE HEART OF THE SANDHILLS FOR SANDHILLS CONDITIONS! Anyone interested in becoming a distributor for this company contact Harvey A. Tompkins, Inman.

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