PAGE 2.-THE FRONTIER, O'Neill, Nebr., Thurs., Dec. 29, 1955.

## Prairieland Talk

## **Cryptic Note Revives Memories**

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN-A line in The Frontier's 50 years ago items some weeks ago was of special interest to one of our Page friends, Mrs. Dora C. Townsend. In a few words it told the story of the birth of her son who now is a mining engineer and making his home in the town of Frontier, in western Wyoming.

Mother-like, Mrs. Townsend treasures those few words and wrote the editor

an interesting letter which the editor passed on to Prairieland Talker. In addition to the information telling of the whereabouts of her son, Mrs. Townsend says her daughter, Velva Townsend Weir, is the county superintendent of public instruction of Cedar county-Hartington the countyseat. Her grandson, Roy Ed Weir, is serving in Uncle Sam's air force in northern Africa.

Romaine Saunders

This is a period in our his-"tory when the long and irrevocable arm of the federal government reaches to prairieland and sends our boys to the ends of the earth. Mrs. Townsend mentions other friends of other years, among them Mr. and Mrs. Page from whom the charming village of eastern Holt derived the name. Mrs. Page was school teacher and postmaster at a time when the postal department gave the name of the postmaster to a newly-established postoffice.

And a little earlier than that, Mrs. Page, babe in arms, faced her first winter on prairieland with nothing to eat but parched sweet corn. Mr. Page was Holt's first county surveyor.

Mrs. Townsend says, "E. Roy has been gone 71/2 years." Just another of the friends of long ago who was called upon to lay off the tattered garments of earth to put on the robes of immortality. He and his brother, Clint, had conducted a hardware business in Page. Before that, E. Roy managed the Townsend Bridge company which had been the work of his father and doubtless some of their bridges in Holt county, as well as those elsewhere in the state and in Wyoming, have survived the wreck of time.

If an ordinance proposed by the Lincoln city council becomes law, do it yourself is hit a blow in the solar plexus. The thrifty citizen who tries to build a home for himself and family will no longer be permitted to drive nails or saw boards at night as that disturbs a nervous neighbor, if he be a neighbor that goes to bed at night. Nothing yet proposed to reduce the racket in the neighborhood of the toil-worn citizen who works at night and gets his sleep during the daylight hours.

"Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed." A decree by the court of heaven. The electric chair at the state penitentiary will be heated a night next March after years of remaining cold. The convict to be strapped in the seat of death will be led there because he was convicted of the murder of a citizen of north Nebraska who was clothed with the authority of our state highway department. What the jury findings were that send him to the electric chair and gave another from that part of the state a comfortable home in our penal institution as a reward for taking the life of a young woman is not clear to some. Hands and voices will be raised again in horror protesting the execution of the convicted murderer. But neither the tears of the sob sisters, judicial findings, reams of florid prose or sugar-coated lies of rhyme can emblazon evil deeds or consecrate a crime.

In various ways crime is being glamourized by moving pictures, by television, by crime stories. This, and the leniency shown convicted criminals, contribute to the enactment of such revolting crimes as the recent murder of an Omaha university young woman student and the young wife of a Lincoln park forester. Whether the laws providing the punishment for crime should be amended or the officials assigned to meet out the retribution are too lenient, the criminally inclined fear none of it. The one who takes the life of another has he has been for several weeks at bartered away his right to life, but is let off with a a hospital undergoing an operalife sentence and in time is released on the score of "good behavior," when another victim may fall

by his hand. A crook is taken to court, pleads gulity to the charge and is then put through the farce of a trial instead of being escorted off to prison and the electric chair. We are sympathetic, other scientific men of the Unido not wish that anyone suffer, but to bring an end to the flood of shocking murders all over the country schools of crime should be eliminated, "police investigating" superseded by crack downs and no mercy shown when the guilty one is caught.

Didn't know that Jim had changed his name that he was known by in the days of neighborly familiarity if we met James A. Donohoe on an O'Neill street. A Lincoln newspaper guy writes it up as "Federal Judge John Donohoe of Omaha." Not likely that his honor will cite that newswriter for contempt of court.

The concrete sidewalk that six months ago would cook an egg, today the winter solstice has frozen. The bleak December marches to the close leaving a record of frost-bitten days and nights with lower temperature readings than for some years past. A little snow but an absence of blinding blizzards that winter monster may have stored at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elsnow and ice and hurricane winds for January 12 mer Coolidge of Amelia. . . Ike, with which to sweep prairieland with another 1888 blizzard. And should such be, it will find '88 survivors at their annual banquet board here in Linvivors at their annual banquet board here in Lin-coln, eating and drinking—nothing stronger than Arbuckles coffee—and telling the story again of death riding uot of the Arctic. .

Gents once arrayed themselves in trousers and shirt and closed the openings by looping a buttonhole over the buttons. Now you begin at the top and fumble and fuss with a cord where there should be a buttonhole to slip a button through and close the collar of your shirt. A thing on the family. trousers they call a zip that can and does mean embarrassing moments.

. . Another year, another month, another week start 1956 off on the first day of the week. There are but two other months in the year ahead that begin with the first day of the week, April and July. The year of 52 weeks will have in '56 but 51 Sundays. Moreover, February gives leapyear an extra day.

When You and I Were Young ... | Ewing Homemakers Iowa, Illinois Men Buying Holt Land EWING—A two-act play was presented Tuesday morning, De-cember 20, at the Ewing public school. The play featured the an-

**Plant Studied** 

**50 Years Ago** 

Real estate men report an in-creased demand for Holt county land. The buyers mostly are coming from Illinois and Iowa. A great many are putting their money into the land as a matter of speculation. . . Bennet Martin arrived home from Omaha where

tion. . . The North Western railroad announces another special train for instructing farmers in crop and soil culture. Free illustrated lectures will be given by the professor of agriculture and versity of Nebraska. . . Mayor Doyle and City Clerk Saunders went to Atkinson to look over the gas lighting plant in use there and report their findings to the city council. . . Will Hammond, who is attending school at St. Paul, is spending the holiday va-

cation at home. 20 Years Ago

Frank P. Leahy, former O'Neill resident, died at his home at Winner, S.D. . . Miss' Ilene Grutsch, teacher at district 150, gave a program and pie social at the school. . . A party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wayman in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Kuhns and daughter of Chugwater, Wyo. . . Earl Ressel of Chambers is in the hospital for medical treatment. . . A new arrival, a baby boy, is reported James Conway farm. son of Mr. and Mrs. George Van Every, has infection of his foot, caused by excessive pressure of

judicial district. **10 Years Ago** 

ent post as judge of the Fifteenth

George Washington Mellor died at Lynch at the age of 81. . . Frank Nelson of the Meek coun- and Mrs. Lou Speers of Verdel try left for Calhoun to spend the holidays with his brother and **Romiane Saunders** spent the holidays with his daughter and family in Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Conley Harmon of Scottsbluff spent several days visiting relatives and friends. . Thomas Coyne, one of the pioneers of this county, died at a liness of several weeks. . . Rich- until Sunday evening at the Donard Cronin, who is attending Nor- ald Clyde home.

at the home of Mrs. John Con-

One Year Ago

ard for a Christmas party.

in Xmas Style Show

Rapid City, S.D. nual homemaking Christmas style home

Atkinson Gas Light hual homemaking Christmas style by Miss Marion Finley at the piano. The cast of characters in scene one in the living room of

the "So and So" home included Sandra Shrader, Patty Wright, Karen Tuttle and Sherry Tuttle. In act two, the scene was at the home of "Mrs. Taylor's Sew and Sew" home. The cast included Mary Lois Noffke, Beverly Rotherham, Judy Stamp and Vivian

Wright Miss Fern Pruden was narrator. The following were models, each wearing a garment she had made: Freshman group-Lorraine Bar-tos, Shary Daniels, Sharon Kropp, Roberta McDaniels, Janette Noffke, Tamzam Peterson, Gloria Schroeder, Audrey Sladek, Carolyn Tams, Karen Tuttle, Sherry Tuttle and Waunetta Wraggee. Sophomores-Patty Ernesti, Marilyn Finley, Patricia Hahlbeck, Darlene Latzel, Patty Wright, Mary Lois Noffke, Maryetta Peterson, Beverly Rotherham, Patty Schindler, Judy Stamp, Vivian Wright and Shirley Wright. Jun-iors — Judy Cloyd, Virginia Mc-

Tuttle. Seniors- Vera Del Danand Sharon Schmidt.

days this week as a guest at the Miss Bonnie Burival spent few days this week with Miss will become scouts after the holi-

Carla Schoenle. days. Miss Betty Harmon of Scottsbluff arrived Monday night to spend a few days visiting friends and relatives and to attend the wedding of Miss Mildred Crabb and Owen Davis. Miss Harmon

was soloist at the wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Elbridge Maynard and family of Norfolk and Mr.

Mrs. Eldon Butterfield. Mr. and Mrs. Arnott Buxton

were Monday dinner guests of the George Calkins home. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Psotta of Pilger came Saturday evening and

spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Clements. Mr. and Mrs. Claude Kendal of ospital in Sioux City after an Pierce came Saturday and stayed

folk Junior college, is spending Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cook and the holidays visiting at the D. H. family of Omana spent Christmas Cronin home. . . The South Side with his mother, Mrs. Robert Improvement club of Emmet met | Cook.

Mrs. G. C. DeBacker. Mr. and Mrs. D. D. DeBolt and new names drawn for another year. Next meeting will be with I Miss Patricia spent the Christ-Mrs. Loren Hickok January 11. mas holidays with their son-in-Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman attended

law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. a meeting of the Immanuel Lu-Richard Farrier, and family at theran Ladies Aid at the church Tuesday afternoon, December 20. Sidney Frahm was a Christmas Nine were present. Election of ofdinner guest at the D. R. Douglas ficers was held. Mrs. Victor Frick-

el was chosen president; Mrs. Ben Mr. and Mrs. Merl Keiser and Hamlin, vice-president; Mrs. Ledaughter, Kay, of Valentine spent the Christmas holidays with T. J. George Syfie, treasurer. The ses-

Donohoe. sion was the society Christmas party with a grab bag gift ex-Mr. and Mrs. John H. McCarville and family will depart today change. (Thursday) for Ellsworth, Minn.,

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman where they will spend the new and sons attended the Christmas year's weekend with Mrs. McCarprogram at the Presbyterian ville's parents. They will return church in Atkinson Friday night on Monday. and the Immanuel Lutheran

S/Sgt. and Mrs. Henry Mangan and daughter, Susan, of Edward and the Immanuel Lutheran church program Saturday night. Gary air force base, Texas, spent Christmas dinner guests of the Monday and Tuesday in the home Frickel brothers were Mr. and of Mr. and Mrs. J. Leo Moore. Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Beck and fam-The Moores had spent Christmas Mangan's parents, Mr. and Mrs. ily, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Frickel H. G. Mangan who are former O'- and family and Inez Hayes.

Neill residents. Sergeant Man-Glen and David Frickel visited gan expects to be separated the Hoffman boys Monday and from the air force in three were overnight guests. months.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman Robert Allen of Omaha spent attended the George Syfie funeral the Christmas weekend with his Monday afternoon in the Methomother, Mrs. Mary Dusatko. dist church in Atkinson, also ser-Mr. and Mrs. George Hammond vices at Phoenix where he was and family spent the Christmas buried. weekend in South Sioux City

with Mrs. Hammond's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ryan.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Barnett and Donald, Patsy Pollock, Alvera Shilousky, Barbara Snyder, Linda Bobby of Lincoln came Sunday and stayed until Monday at the iels, Mona Mosel, Maxine Noffke John McClellan home.

Brownies in Yule Party-

Mrs. Stanley Holly entertained Brownie troop IV and the leaders at a Christmas party Friday afternoon. The time was spent making Christmas wreathes and playing games. Mrs. Holly served lunch and Mrs. Henry Benze treated them with candy and cookies. This was the last meeting of the girls as Brownies as they

Celia News

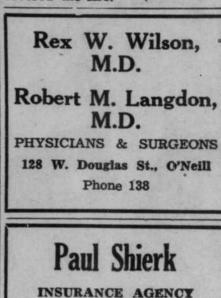
Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman was host-ess to the Young Homemakers extension club Monday afternoon, December 19, at the Amelia Hoffman home in Atkinson. Eleven spent Christmas with Mr. and members were present. Mystery sister gifts were exchanged and

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HOME DAMAGED

ATKINSON-The Owen Galligan farm home, 4½ miles southeast of Atkinson, was damaged by fire and smoke Friday, December 9. Most damage was in the kitchen. L. W. Ulrich, a neighbor, discovered the fire.



O'NEILL, NEBR. Insurance of All Kinds Res. Ph. 235



Coffee and rolls were served after the show.



The compatriot of the Madison Star thinks there is less danger in trying to keep up with the Jones than in wanting to pass Smith on a hill.

Editorial . . . .

ways.

\* .\*

Airbase fire and tragedy, a mysterious murder, fire at the state house, breakins, a couple of the city drops out of sight in Colorado for a week, Indians coming to town from the nearest wigwam, not hunting scalps of the paleface but on a visit to a welfare center where the needy are supplied now scoots from her home to her with clothing and food-Lincoln keeps apace with office, thanks to an electric car

the times.

The estimate (or is it a guess?) has it that Ne- will again shower the first-born braska's corn crop the past year amounts to more Holt county baby in the new year. than 95,000,000 bushels, about 90 bushels for each citizen to grind into cornmeal for "johnny cakes" and mush. A goodly slice of cornbread, a lump of country butter with comb honey to adorn it, other delectable products of our "beef state." Prairieland people feed on the best.

Miss Forence Ponton, who was

rived Tuesday to spend the week crippled by polio at the age of 4, with Mrs. Edna Coyne. Miss Genevive Biglin and Nora

Phone 150

McAuliffe of Sioux City spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. F. -Christmas gift from her uncle, David Garvis of Santa Ana, Calif. N. Cronin. Leading O'Neill merchants

spent Christmas with her parents at Camel. J. V. Johnson, president of the Nebraska Bankers association, has appointed F. N. Cronin, presspent Christmas eve in Atkinson ident of the O'Neill National with Mr. and Mrs. Will Morbank, as county liaison banker gan and family. They spent for Holt county. . . Rev. Earl Christmas day with her parents, Schwenk of East St. Louis, Ill., Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Davis. has accepted the charge at Me-Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rohrer

morial Baptist church in Chamspent Christmas with Mr. and bers. . . A prefabricated metal Mrs. Don Clyde. Clarence Farr hangar is in the process of erecwas also a dinner guest. tion at the Stuart-Atkinson air-

port, located on U.S. highway 20 west of Atkinson.

Calves that make the most

noney for farmers are born in

January, February and March,

according to Henry Mayo, exten-sion animal husbandryman at

Purdue university, Lafayette, Ind.

of Successful Farming magazine

that calves are worth abcut \$10

more for each month earlier in

the year they are born. In other

words, a calf born in January is

worth \$10 more than one born

Mayo gave two reasons why

early calves are worth more.

their mothers, and second, these

calves are big enough to start eat-

ng grass as soon as it becomes

Mrs. D. R. Douglas enter-

tained Thursday in honor

of the fourth birthday anniver-

Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Howard Newton and Patsy; Mrs.

Art Holz and Suzie; Mrs. Frank

McKenny, Glea and Bobby; and

Centralize

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on Anniversary-

Mayo says in the January issue

January, February **Calves Are Best** 

As a matter of principle they do not believe it is Uncle Sam's proper role to be passing out considerable sums of money to the states. However, as the editor of the Lincoln Star

Nebraskans Are Not Consistent

pointed out in an editorial this week, as a matter of actual practice rarely do Nebraskans miss an opportunity to get every cent of money from Uncle Sam available to them.

They snipe at the colossus in a thousand different

Fish and game funds furnish an excellent example. The state collected 197-thousand-dollars in 1955 under the Pittman-Robertson federal aid and wildlife restoration program. Nebraskans had their hands extended for 107-thousands-dollars under the Dingell-Johnson fish restoration program. Almost two million trees and shrubs were planted in Nebraska with federal funds to furnish food and cover for pheasants, quail and grouse.

Nebraskans thrive on federal handouts in agriculture, military establishments, highway construction, airport improvements, power, irrigation, telephone, weather services. Some zealots ( a miority in this state) want more federal dough for schools, although the state's delegation at the recent white house conference on education took a stand against federal aid to schools.

Congressmen have a pet explanation for increased federal spending in a myriad of projects. They say the folks at home are "clamoring" for such-and-such. Actually, there's no organized demand at all for many of these activities. The socalled "clamor" is simply a handy excuse for the free spenders.

Some of the tremendous spending is recovered on a loan basis and therefore becomes a legitimate business proposition, i.e., irrigation.

If you are asking us, Nebraskans are not doing too badly for a people traditionally critical of big government

## Exit the Texans

Texas-a key state in presidential electionshas come into the political spotlight in recent months. One of the reasons for this is the resignation of several prominent Texans from President Eisenhower's administration.

The second man in the defense department, Robert Anderson, left his post in that establishment and went home to Texas. Shortly afterward, the secretary of health, education and welfare, Oveta Culp Hobby, also left her post. Mrs. Hobby was a prominent Eisenhower democrat from Texas, of which there were millions in 1952.

Nebraskans complain about big government. | Governor Allan Shivers is not "in the bag" for Eisenhower again in 1956. It will be remembered that President Eisen-

hower split the solid south wide open in 1952, carrying four of the 11 southern states and almost carrying South Carolina, another of the 11 and getting sizable votes in nearly all of these states. Whether he can achieve such a result again is problematical, but it seems that he is still very popular.

Even so, one must concede that the president's administration has stirred up a considerable ruckus in many portions of the deep south with its antisegregation policies and whether this will have much effect on Mr. Eisenhower's vote totals in 1956 is a good question. About all that can be pre-dicted at this moment is that the fight over Texas born in March, and so on. in 1956 is going to be a spirited one.

Most seasoned observers feel that Ike can win First, early calves are able to for the republicans in '56 if his ailing heart can utilize all of the milk produced by hold up.

Teen-Age Ten Commandments available

Four thousand students, delegates to a high school convention on the west coast, recently adopted a "Teenage Ten Commandments." Here they are:

1. Stop and think before you drink. 2. Don't let your parents down; they brought sary of her daughter, Dianne.

you up 3. Be humble enough to obey; you will be giv-

- ing orders some day. 4. At the first moment turn away from un-
- clean thinking-at the first moment.

5. Don't show off when driving. If you want to race go to Indianapolis

6. Choose a date who would make a good mate. 7. Go to church faithfully. The Creator gives

us the week. Give Him back an hour. 8. Choose your companions carefully. You are

what they are.

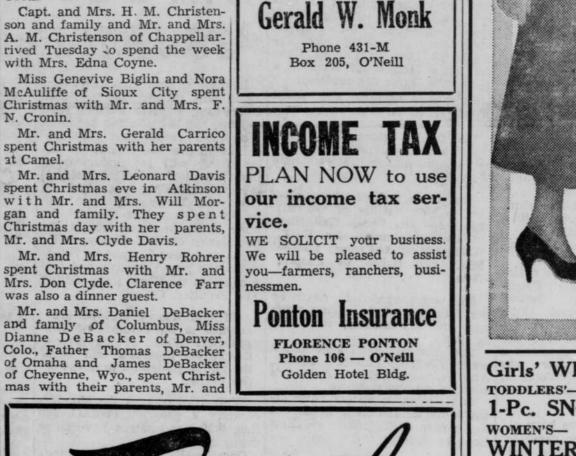
- 9. Avoid following the crowd. Be an engine, not a caboose.
- 10. Or even better keep the original Ten Commandments.

Happy new year, everyone!

THE FRONTIER

CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher Entered at the postoffice in O'Neill, Holt county, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter under

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Other events have also transpired. Democratic National Committee Chairman Paul Butler recently journeyed to Texas to visit John Nance Garner and much publicity was given this meeting. It seemed to be a tacit reminder to democrats that a Texan had been vice-president for eight years with Franklin Delano Roosevelt. There seems to be no doubt but that the national democratic party

paper is a member of the Nebraska Press Association, National Editorial Association and the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

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is wooing Texas and there are indications that | Audited (ABC) Circulation-2,530 (Sept. 30, 1955)

de the

Lorp. C. E. Jones, Mgr. Harmon Bldg. - Phone 14 O'Neill

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