

Nebraska Gov. Victor Anderson (left) made Publisher Cal Stewart and other members of a press party honorary "admirals" in the mythical Nebraska "navy" prior to takeoff on aerial trip to Miami.—U.S. Navy Photo.

Navy Air Reservists 'Make Like Birds'

By CAL STEWART
Editor, The Frontier
MIAMI, Fla.—They told us at a briefing at the navy air service station in Lincoln we would complete the 2,000-odd mile dog-leg course to Miami at 7:22 p.m.

The briefing officer knew what he was talking about. The big (33 tons) twin-engine Neptune patrol plane set down at Opa Laska field within one minute of the estimated time of arrival Wednesday evening, March 14. And six other editors and publishers aboard the training craft were equally impressed by the precise teamwork.

The commanding officer of the navy station at Lincoln had invited the press group to climb aboard for the "cruise" to Miami and there to watch navy air reservists from Nebraska busily at work during their two weeks of active duty.

I equated a cavernous hangar (equivalent to a square block) at Opa Laska and the first person I met was O'Neill's Lt. C. R. ("Russ") Force, a reservist. Instead of wrestling with and recapping auto and truck tires and directing his employees as he does at home (Force: Tire & Supply), "Russ" was sweating out his supply of tires for the P-51 Gurney jet fighter planes. Crosswinds on the main runway were causing tires to sear and holdout for only one or two landings.

Oh yes, and "Russ" has something like 27,000 parts to worry about for each of the Gurneys in the squadron.

He is in charge of fuel, from high test gas to kerosene (jets use kerosene for fuel).

"Russ" loves to fly privately with props but doesn't shepherd a jet.

Lt. H. J. Lechtel, a Leigh banker, had been shooting landings in the Gurney when Force and I went onto the line. Lechtel has been doing "weekend warrior" duty at the navy base in Lincoln for several years.

After a few days at Miami he had checked out in this craft—a brother to some of the navy's front-line planes.

He ran down his preflight check list (external inspection) and permitted me to sit in the pilot's seat for the painstaking scratch of 137 items in the cockpit check-off.

We learned lots about jets and made private observations about the men who fly 'em and keep 'em flying.

The newspaper crowd had been briefed thoroughly before venturing onto the line. We were told the Lincoln navy installation

ATKINSON — An L-shaped wing, costing approximately 50-thousand-dollars, is planned for Atkinson's Memorial hospital. Half the construction cost already is accessible. Ten thousand dollars is available through the Ford foundation, which has authorized a grant in that amount; a 10-thousand-dollar gift has been made to the hospital by the Mother House of the Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kungunda; and there is other money present on hand in the hospital's building fund.

The hospital advisory board will ask local citizens to match that amount.

Architectural plans for the new addition have already been prepared. The hospital is now in its fourth year of service to the community.

Two School Board Positions Open
EWING—A school caucus was held Tuesday evening, March 13, at the Ewing public school. A fair crowd was in attendance to select candidates for two three-year terms. Candidates chosen were: J. L. Pruden, Alfred Napier, Everett Ruby and Wilbur Spangler, whose term expired this year and who was nominated as a candidate for reelection.

was homebase for two fighter squadrons, one attack squadron, two patrol squadrons and one service squadron—all reserve units. They are kept in combat readiness. In the event of war these units could be the core of new expanded organizations.

All conceivable types of planes were parading overhead and around Opa Laska, and the Nebraska reservists were taking advantage of the highly desirable flying weather—a Florida characteristic.

Lt. Harry Anderson of Hartington looked like a man from Mars as he headed for the plane.

"Gonna make like a bird," he exclaimed and began his external check-off outside the 18-ton fighter—moments later to be soaring 30-, 40- or 50,000 feet overhead.

The reservists who do dull surface jobs to keep the jets flying are great chaps. You must have a yen to be near planes, have pronounced technical ability and a desire to do a bit for national defense if you are to be a successful "weekend warrior"—navy air reserve style.

These fellows have all that and are keeping abreast of developments in the aviation field.

Fighters are built to kill the enemy. One squirt is all you get at the other fellow in a fight. Usually by the time you make your turn your respective 600-mph speeds have taken you out of each other's sight.

As an air force veteran of World War II, I've been quite a skeptic about the navy. But the navy's reserve air program makes a lot of sense and offers economy, too.

Accompanying us were Cmdr. Frank Holt, CO of the Lincoln station; Cmdr. Ray Thorpe, training officer; and Lt. Roy Highberg, all of Lincoln.

Our Neptune crew included Lt. Merle Hofer of Lincoln, pilot; Lt. Marv Skappel of Lincoln (just returned from Alaska), co-pilot and navigator; AD1 Carroll Young of Fullerton, ATC Cliff Weber, mechanic; and AT1 Erwin Fivonka of Lincoln, radio operator.

Sunday's return trip was a routine navigational problem for the Neptune boys—despite snow, rain, sleet and a 50-mph headwind. The weatherman tended to make you forget the soft, sandy beach and plush hotels left behind in that gaudy and miracle kingdom of Miami.



Lt. C. R. ("Russ") Force of O'Neill (left) and Lt. H. J. ("Lucky") Luchtel of Leigh... give navy jet plane a preflight inspection at Miami base.—U.S. Navy Photo.

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THE FRONTIER

TWELVE PAGES

This Issue

North-Central Nebraska's BIGGEST Newspaper

Volume 75.—Number 47.

O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska, Thursday, March 22, 1956.

Seven Cents

Jury Finds Van Buren Not Guilty

Deliberates 3½ Hours in Motor Vehicle Homicide Trial

BUTTE — The courtroom was packed Tuesday and Wednesday for the motor vehicle homicide trial in which the state of Nebraska was prosecuting a 20-year-old Spencer father, Willard Van Buren, in connection with the August 21, 1955, highway death of Danny Kersch, 16, of Spencer.

Four women were on the jury—the first time in Boyd county history that women have served as jurors.

District Judge D. R. Mounts of O'Neill presided and the case was turned over to the jury at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday.

After 3½ hours of deliberation, the jury returned a verdict at 9:05 p.m., finding Van Buren "not guilty."

A large number of witnesses were called and examined.

Witnesses for the state were Sheriff Claude Collins, State Highway Patrolman Ray Shorney, Mary Ann Rasmussen of Butte, Beverly Dix of Butte, Donna Klasna of Spencer, Mrs. Joe Keller of Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Marx of Spencer, Alvin Blair of near Butte, Dr. R. E. Kriz of Lynch, Jack Wells of Butte, Richard Jones of Spencer and Connie Sattler of Omaha (formerly of Spencer).

Witnesses for the defendant were Ralph M. Friedrich, Orlyn Wells, Carl Friedrich and Wayne Blair, all of Spencer, Alvira and Elaine Jons, both of Bonesteel, S.D., and the defendant.

Julius D. Cronin of O'Neill and William P. Wills of Butte were attorneys for the defendants, and County Attorney William L. Bronman was the prosecutor.

Court Clerk C. J. Tomek said the Van Buren trial likely will be the only action in the spring term of court.

D. E. Conner, Wife Soon Wed 60 Years
EWING—Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Conner of Ewing will have been married 60 years on Wednesday, March 22.

They will formally observe the event on Sunday, March 25, with a family dinner at the home of their daughter, Mrs. William Robinson, in Orchard.

Lyle P. Dierks of Ewing, Holt county savings bond chairman, Tuesday was presented a medalion by N. R. Phillips of Omaha, savings bond sales supervisor. The medalion signifies Holt countyans purchased 100 percent of the bond quota during 1955.

Mrs. Hazel Abel Presents Gift

Former Senator Gives \$1,000 to Center

Mrs. Hazel Abel of Lincoln, former U.S. senator (short-short term in 1954), pulled a surprise last Thursday during her participation in the opening of O'Neill's new youth center.

In the presence of a reception committee she tore up a personal check she had made out for \$500 for use at the center and replaced it with a \$1,000 check.

Mrs. Abel was featured on the open-house program. Another guest was Miss Sandra Speicher, "Miss Nebraska of 1955."

Entertainment included a home talent show, which lasted more than two hours.

Speaking at the dedication were L. D. Putnam, who directed the renovation of the center on the main floor of the Knights of Columbus building, and Mayor Alva Marcellus, who was a leader in the movement.

At a meeting of the board on Monday night it was decided to open the new O'Neill youth center on Friday, March 23, from 7:30 p.m. until 11 p.m., and again on Saturday from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. After that date the regular schedule will be as follows:

Tuesday — 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m.
Friday—7:30 p.m. until 11 p.m.
Saturday—8:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.

Sponsors for Friday night are Jerome Gallagher, Herman Renze and Fred Heermann. For Saturday night they are Robert Kurtz, Bill Brewster and Mr. Putnam.

For the present membership will consist of pupils in the seventh and eighth grades and through high school until their 18th birthday anniversary, and the membership fee will be \$2 per year. This year's membership will be good until September, 1957. Beginning with the fall of 1956, the center's year will parallel the school year and it will not be open during June, July and August.

A youth council composed of the president and secretary of the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes of O'Neill high school and St. Mary's academy will play a major part in setting up rules governing the use of the center. They will elect a mayor and assistant mayor from their group to officiate for April and May. In September new officers will be elected in the same manner.

Applications are being received by the officers for a center manager. Present plans do not anticipate the use of one until the fall opening.

GOES TO DORSEY
DORSEY—W. A. Ellis, 84, who suffered a stroke recently and has been hospitalized in O'Neill, returned to his home here Tuesday.



Putnam, Abel, Marcellus... one-thousand-dollar check for O'Neill's youth center.—The Frontier Photo.



John H. McCarville and J. L. McCarville, jr. ... new store.—The Frontier Photo.

Plan Grand Opening

McCarvilles on Saturday will stage a grand opening sale in their impressive new store building at 308 East Douglas street.

The date coincides with the 50th anniversary of the entry of J. L. McCarville, sr., into the retail field. Mr. McCarville, a native of Iowa, went into business in Bonesteel, S.D., in 1906, and operated a store there many years.

In 1946 he came to O'Neill

and purchased the Anton Toy store. He was joined by his sons, John (upper left) and J. L. jr. Their business expanded and they moved from the Odd Fellows building to the Consumers building. This spring their own new building was completed.

Prizes, gifts and refreshments are a part of Saturday's celebration. (Details on page 4.)

—The Frontier Photos.

State-Federal Funds Okayed for Airport

\$12,000 Building to Be Erected

The Nebraska state aeronautics commission, in custody of more than a half-million-dollar "wind-fall" from congressional appropriations, Monday agreed to expend some of that money for an administration building at O'Neill's Municipal airport.

The state will allocate \$3,000 and the city of O'Neill will match that amount. The federal government will grant \$6,000—thus making a \$12,000 building.

Mayor Alva Marcellus and Airport Manager George Nachtmann appeared at Monday's hearing.

Airport improvement has been the subject of considerable discussion at recent city council meetings and city officials have made inspections of 'ports at other cities.

O'Neill High Hunts New Basketball Coach

Elmer Murman, O'Neill high school faculty member and head basketball coach for the past two years, has declined to accept a contract for 1956-'57, was announced Tuesday by Supt. M. J. Baack.

Murman, who has been spending summers working on his master's degree in school administration, indicated he would stay in the teaching field.

2 Unusual Accidents; Results Not Serious

PAGE—Here are two minor accidents, both of which could have been a lot worse:

Leroy Clacey, 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Clacey of Page, removed the burner from a gas stove in order to fill a balloon with gas. An explosion ensued, and the lad suffered second degree burns on his hands.

Mervyn French, jr., suffered painful injuries when he attempted to put a cow and her young calf through a gate. When Mr. French tried to guide the young calf through, Mama Cow tossed Mr. French into the air and trampled him. The family dog arrived on the scene in time to prevent further injury. No bones were broken.

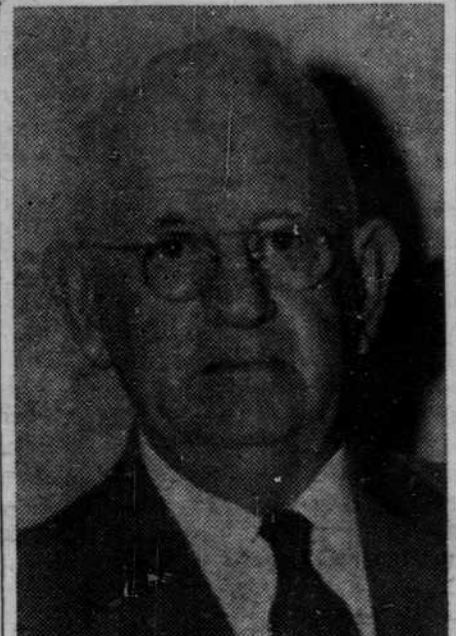
Mrs. Howard Desieve Expires in Hospital

STUART — Funeral services were conducted here Wednesday morning, March 22, from St. Boniface Catholic church for Mrs. Howard (Marie) Desieve, 25, of Stuart.

She died about 3 p.m., Monday, March 20, in Atkinson Memorial hospital. She had been in failing health for several weeks.

Burial was to be made at Crawford.

Contest of Will
Lone Case Remaining—
Lone remaining case definitely on the docket for the spring term of the Holt county district court involves a contest of a will. The controversy concerns the \$6,000 estate of the late Lottie Thompson.



J. L. McCarville sr. ... entered retail business at Bonesteel in 1906.—The Frontier Photo.



'Miss Lurline'
Arriving in Hawaii recently aboard the luxury liner Lurline was Miss Mary Lou Birmingham (above), chosen "Miss Lurline" for the voyage. Traveling with her parents, Miss Birmingham will visit relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Art Letts of Honolulu. The Birmingham's are scheduled to sail homeward April 2 although Mr. Birmingham suffered a "mild" heart attack Sunday and was hospitalized there. Miss Marde Birmingham left Tuesday by air to be near her father and is to arrive in Honolulu today (Thursday).

Mary Uhl Dies at 79; Burial Here

Native of Germany Resident of Holt County Since 1904

Mrs. Mary Uhl, 79, widow of the late Casper Uhl, died at St. Anthony's hospital in O'Neill at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, March 15. She had been in failing health for some time but had been hospitalized only a few days.

Funeral services were conducted at 9 a.m., Monday, March 19, from St. Patrick's Catholic church with Very Rev. Timothy O'Sullivan officiating. Burial was in Calvary cemetery.

Pallbearers were Edward James Donohoe, Donald Donohoe, Raymond Donohoe, John Joe Uhl, all grandchildren also Merle Hickey and Harold Weier. Biglins were in charge of the funeral arrangements. Rosary was recited at the home Sunday afternoon and evening.

Mary Wahle Uhl, daughter of Joe Wahle and Ann Peters Wahle, was born on July 13, 1876, in Furstenburg, Westphalia Germany. She came to America with her parents at the age of 4.

They settled on a homestead near Salem, S.D., where she spent her childhood.

On June 27, 1902, she was married to Casper Uhl at Danbury, Ia. They moved to Holt county in 1904.

The Uhls became the parents of four children—two sons and two daughters.

Survivors include: Sons—Norbert of O'Neill and Leslie R. of Portland, Ore.; daughters—Mrs. Leo (Alaxa) Gokie and Mrs. John E. (Kamilla) Donohoe, both of O'Neill; sister—Mrs. Louisa Toft of Los Angeles, Calif.; 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She was a member of St. Patrick's church, Altar society and Goldenrod extension club.

Mr. Uhl died in 1947.

Out-of-town relatives here to attend the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. John Uhl and son, Leo, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Weite, Kay Francis Scott, all of Mapleton, Ia.; Herman Streik, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Uhl and Shirley, Mrs. Cletus Richtemeir and son, Arney, of Danbury, Ia.; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Rawling, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Wahle and Joe Wahle, all of Salem, S.D.; Mrs. Buddy Cloyd of Waynesville, Mo.; Mr. and Mrs. Merle Keiser and Kay of Valentine.

Baack Promoted to Major by Guards

M. J. Baack, superintendent of the O'Neill city schools, an officer in the Pacific theater during World War II and an active national guard officer during the past 10 years, this week was promoted from captain to major by the guards.

He joined the guards in 1938 following his graduation from high school and has had continuous service either with the guards or with the regular army.

Presently he is planning and training officers for the Second battalion, 134th infantry, Nebraska national guard. Units in the battalion are located at Norfolk, Columbus, Grand Island, Seward and Hastings.

Meanwhile, Capt. J. L. McCarville, jr., of company D, 195th tank battalion, said strength of the O'Neill company continues to soar. There are now 71 enlisted men and two officers in the unit.

Cronk, Batenhorst Seek Reelection

Two Holt county supervisors who are completing their second terms, Friday filed for nomination for reelection. They are: Frank Cronk of Page, Fourth district, republican, and A. M. Batenhorst of Stuart, Sixth district, democrat.

Until now both are unopposed. Meanwhile, Fred Jungman of Atkinson filed Tuesday, March 13, seeking nomination for state senator from the 28th legislative district. Other candidates for the post are Frank Nelson of O'Neill (incumbent), Donald Rohde of Lynch and John Tenborg of Emmet.

Potluck Supper—
American Legion auxiliary, Simonson unit 83, will entertain the Legionnaires at a potluck supper at 6:30 o'clock Sunday evening at the club. Stanley Huffman of Elgin, state Legion commander, and Charles Chace of Atkinson, district commander, will be guests.

New Baby Named—
William Wesley is the name chosen for the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jenkins. They'll call him "Wes."