

Half Hour Show!  
"Voice of the Frontier"



Mon. - Wed. - Sat.  
9:30-10 A.M. - 780 k.c.

# THE FRONTIER

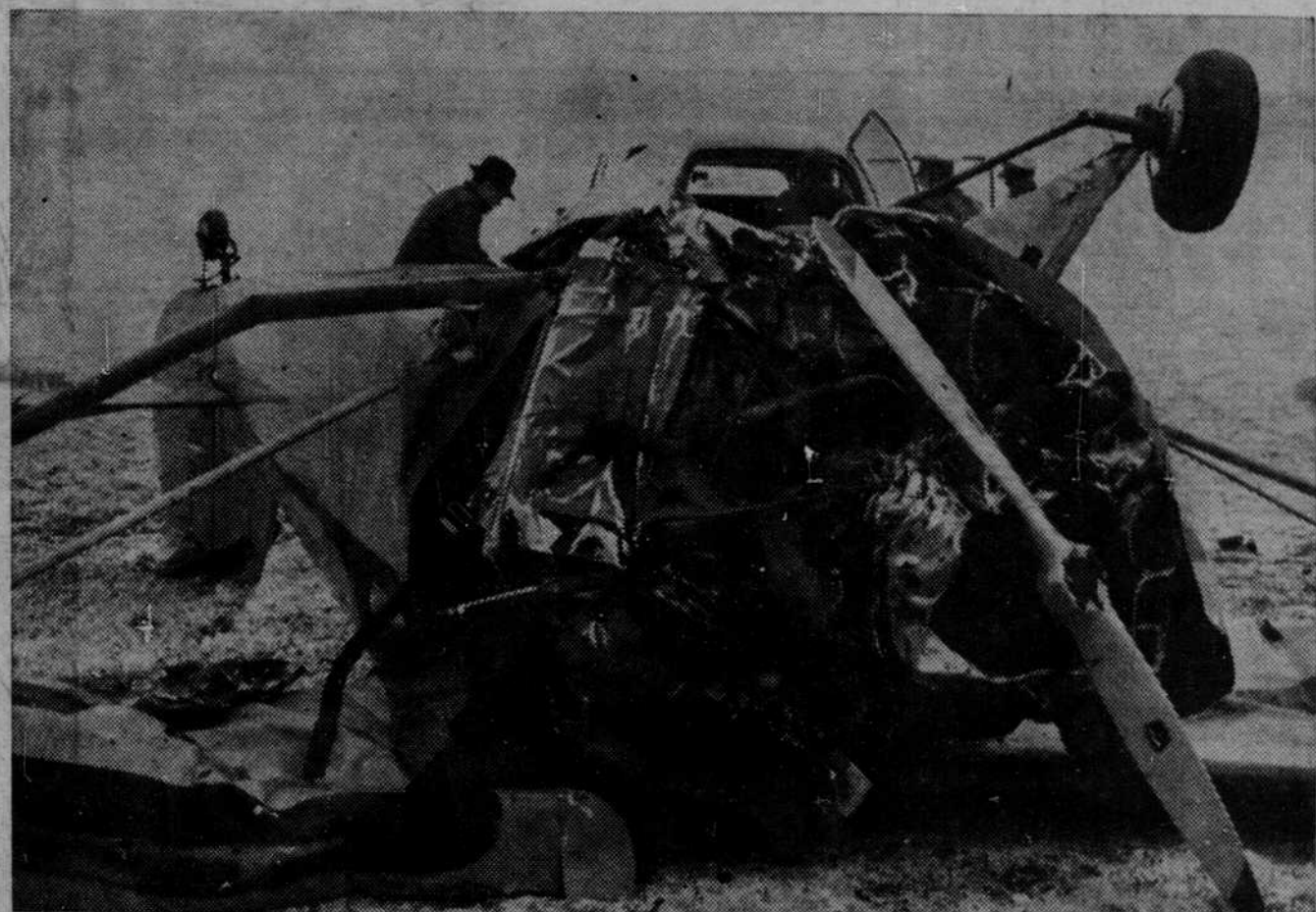
SIXTEEN PAGES  
SECTION 1—Pages 1-8  
This Issue

North-Central Nebraska's BIGGEST Newspaper

Volume 75.—Number 48. O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska, Thursday, March 29, 1956.

Seven Cents

## Two Men Die in Airplane Crash



This is the aircraft wreckage in which Donald E. Rohde and Bryce Whitla were killed early Wednesday. Bodies are being removed.—The Frontier Photo.

### Fuel Lack, Weather Blamed

Both Rohde, Whitla Law Students at State University

By a Staff Writer  
Two young married men, both fathers, were killed Wednesday, March 28, when their two-place 1947 Funk aircraft crashed in a field about 4 1/4 miles southeast of the Stafford school.

Donald E. Rohde, 29, of Lynch, senior law student at the University of Nebraska.

Bryce Whitla, 22, formerly of Butte, a third year law student at the University of Nebraska.

The two had left Lincoln early in the morning, presumably en route to Butte and Lynch.

John Steskal of Ewing, who farms in the Stafford area, discovered the wreckage about 11 o'clock. He advised Holt County Sheriff Leo S. Tomjack.

No road led directly to the wreckage and tractor power was needed to enable rescuers to recover the bodies. Scene of the accident would be about 17 miles southeast of O'Neill or 4 1/4 miles southeast of the Stafford school.

Rohde, who has been flying for a number of years, was at the controls. One of the wrist-watches was smashed and stopped at 9:25. The other man's watch stopped at 10:15.

Sheriff Tomjack said the condition of the bodies indicated the crash had taken place only a few hours before the wreckage was discovered. Tomjack theorized that death for both came instantly.

The plane was registered in the names of Rohde and W. Niswonder, a Lincoln salesman.

Wreckage was headed south. The plane was completely demolished. Intact condition of the propeller suggested the engine was dead at the time of impact. Observers said there was no sign of ice on the wings. A strong theory holds that Rohde encountered bad weather, resorted to instrument flying and ran out of gas.

Ice and near-blizzard conditions prevailed in the O'Neill area. Surface visibility was near zero here because of swirling snow and state highway department officials were urging motorists to proceed carefully from Neligh west because of ice.

Civil aeronautics authorities will arrive today (Thursday) to commence an investigation.

Rohde was a son of Mr. and Edmund Rohde, farmers near Lynch.

He was born and reared at Lynch. He served in the army during World War II, was recalled as a reservist on October 1, 1951, during the Korean emergency.

He was separated from the service as a first lieutenant in 1953.

Mr. Rohde's survivors include his widow, two children, and his parents.

He was a candidate for the state legislature, seeking the nomination for the 28th district unicameral seat. In 1954 he was unsuccessful in a bid for the office. His Lincoln address is 4838 Calvert street.

Whitla was reared at Butte where his father, the late W. K. Whitla, published the Spencer and Butte newspapers.

He moved to Lincoln in about 1944. Whitla's wife is the former Jane Grotluschen of Creston.

They have one daughter, Linda, 2 1/2-years-old. The family's address: 5820 Knox street, Lincoln. Survivors include: Widow — Jane; daughter—Linda; mother — Mrs. Flora Whitla of Lincoln; brothers—Fay Whitla, a pharmacist at McCook, and Dean of Cambridge, Mass., an instructor at Harvard university.

The Whitla body was to be removed from Biglin's at O'Neill to a Lincoln mortuary early today (Thursday). Arrangements for the Rohde burial had not been completed and the body is at Biglin's.

Good Friday Rites Scheduled Here—The O'Neill Ministerial association has changed its plans for Good Friday services.

The rites will be held at the Methodist church instead of the American Legion auditorium, as originally announced. Services will be conducted between 3 and 5 p.m.

Mayor Alva Marcellus has announced that O'Neill stores will close at 3 p.m., and remain closed the balance of the day.

### Navy Pilot from Page Is Killed

Lt. Tegeler and Two Companion Drown in Eastern River

PAGE—Lt. (jg) Harold D. Tegeler of Page was pilot of a twin-engine SF2 reconnaissance type navy plane that crashed Monday, March 26, into the Monongahela river at Masontown, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The plane from the naval air station at Quonset, R.I., carried a crew of three.

The nose settled into mud in 12 feet of water and only the tail of the plane stuck out. It was the



Lieutenant Tegeler . . . made heroic try.

third military plane to crash in the river since December 22, 1954.

Besides Tegeler, other members of the crew were: Lt. (jg) Lawrence P. Ash of Colorado Springs, Colo., and AMM/2c Charles Beauemel of Bartow, Fla.

The control tower at the Pittsburgh airport said the plane's pilot reported ice formations shortly before contact was lost.

Another navy plane, following the same course but on a separate flight, also reported ice trouble.

Tuesday two of the bodies were recovered from the wreckage, including the Tegeler body. The third body had not been located.

Relatives at Page said Lieutenant Tegeler and his crew were enroute from Columbus (O.) naval air station to Quonset, R.I., on a training mission.

The navy airman was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tegeler, who reside on a farm one-half mile north and two miles east of Page. He was born and was reared in the Page community and was graduated from Page high school.

His survivors include: Widow—Frances; parents—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tegeler of Page.

The widow is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Anderson of Randolph.

Lieutenant Tegeler received his flight training in Florida. Both he and his wife are former University of Nebraska students.

In the pre-Christmas crash of 1954, 10 of 25 aboard an airplane died. Last January 31, two air force men drowned when a B-25 bomber was ditched in the river.

Stanley DeBolt, a Masontown garage operator, and his wife heard Tegeler's craft in trouble. Mrs. DeBolt said the plane exploded. DeBolt said the plane sounded as though it was very low and about to land. Then, he said, it circled the community. A few seconds later the motor sounded "poorly" and then came the explosion.

A navy spokesman said Tegeler made a heroic attempt to ditch in the river and set the craft down in shallow water instead of the main channel.

The widow is to arrive in Chicago, Ill., today (Thursday) where she will be met by her parents. Funeral arrangements had not been completed Wednesday night.

Mrs. Smith Is Runnerup—Mrs. Wayne (Lorine) Smith, Chambers housewife, last Thursday was judged runnerup in the "Mrs. Nebraska" elimination contest held at Hastings. Earlier, Mrs. Smith had won the 10-county (Antelope, Holt, Boone, Nance, Howard, Knox, Cedar, Wayne, Dixon, Pierce) district competition at Albion.

Mrs. Smith, mother of two children, was presented an automatic gas clothes dryer and a complete set of kitchenware for her efforts.

### Legion's 37th Birthday Noted

The 37th birthday anniversary of the American Legion was observed Sunday evening at the Simonson post 93 clubrooms. Only two charter members—Julius D. Cronin and Leo Carney—were present. They made brief remarks. The auxiliary entertained the Legionnaires at a potluck supper. Sixteen charter members of Simonson post (some of them now deceased) were Leo Carney, Leo Sousey, Walter L. Brennan, Frank H. Murray, Luther Clark, John Davidson, Ed M. Gallagher, Frank D. Harnish, Julius D. Cronin, Francis Martin, Pat B. Hartly, Oscar Hagensick, Clarence F. Pine, H. G. Radaker, E. H. Whelen, Edwin Whelen.

### Heavy Voting Forecast Tuesday

O'Neillites will go to the polls Tuesday, April 3, in the annual general city election. (Sample ballots appear on page 15.)

D. C. Schaffer opposes Alva Marcellus (incumbent) for mayor. There will be a contest for First ward councilman between J. J. Berigan and Francis ("Fritz") Bazelman.

In the Second ward, Leigh Reynolds and Don Petersen are opponents for the two-year council term, while James Earley, John Turner and Don Enright are seeking the short (one-year) position on the council.

In the Third ward, Norbert Uhl is opposed by Robert ("Bob") Moore for the council.

Ralph Walker is the only candidate for police judge.

On the board of education slate, H. J. Lohaus and Elgin Ray, incumbents, are seeking reelection. A third candidate is Cecil Baker.

All names to appear on the municipal ballot will have gained the mention via the petition method.

Usual voting places will be used: First ward—courthouse basement; Second—A. Marcellus Buick garage; Third ward—city hall. Polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Most of the interest will center on the Schaffer-Marcellus race. A 20-thousand-dollar bond issue proposal will face voters. They will be asked to vote "yes" or "no" regarding a new fire station.

The Frontier will operate an election bureau as customary.

## THREE SCORE YEARS AGO Homesteading Neighbors Wed

By a Staff Writer  
ORCHARD—Mr. and Mrs. Deemer E. Conner of Ewing are weather-wise when it comes to picking celebration days.

Their 50th wedding anniversary day, in 1946, was grand. Their 60th anniversary celebration, held Sunday, March 25, at the home of their daughter, Mrs. William Robinson, coincided with clear skies and the mercury was in the seventies.

Mrs. Conner, 79, whose maiden name was E. Alice Nolze, was born in Jefferson City, Ia. She was two-years-old when she accompanied her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nolze, to Deloit township, Holt county, where they settled on a homestead.

Mr. Conner, also 79, was born in Columbia county, Pennsylvania,

of Irish parentage. He was five-years-old when his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Reason Conner, moved to the same community.

Deloit township was barren and treeless those days, the Conners remember. School was conducted only two months out of the year; hay was used for fuel; there was always lots of work to be done at home.

"I remember the blizzard of 1888," recalls Mr. Conner. "I was in school at Deloit and the hired man came to get me. Good thing," he mused, "because I'd have been in trouble. We lived about a mile from the school."

Little Alice Nolze hadn't gone to school that day, but vividly remembers the blizzard.

Returning to Holt, the Conners resumed farming north of Ewing where they had an Orchard address.

At present they live at Ewing and, until very recently, have enjoyed remarkably good health.

Mrs. Conner tires easily and for that reason no big celebration was planned. A dinner was served to members of the immediate family at the Robinson home in Orchard. Present besides the honored guests were Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Bob Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Conner of Orchard, Mr. and Mrs. Orval E. Conner of Norfolk, Mrs. Duane Lee, Vickie, Steven and Cindy Lee, all of Neligh.

The Conners' three children are Alfred of Orchard, Orval E. of Norfolk and Mrs. William (Luella) Robinson of Orchard. Two grandsons were born to their daughter—Bob C. Lee, who attends Norfolk Junior college, and Duane Lee of Neligh, who was accidentally killed last summer. Great-grandchildren are Vickie, Steven and Cindy Lee of Neligh.

Vickie had charge of the guest-book—the same book used at the golden wedding observance 10 years ago.

A four-tier wedding cake was a gift from Mrs. Donald McKamy of O'Neill and Mrs. Willard Sherer of Orchard.

The Conners received a number of friends and relatives during the informal afternoon spent at the Robinson home and they received numerous gifts and cards.

(Continued on page 8)



Mr. and Mrs. Deemer E. Conner . . . honored at family dinner on their 60th wedding anniversary.—The Frontier Photo.



Mrs. Bessie Burge gets assist from Rev. J. Olen Kennell in turning first shovel of dirt in ground-breaking ceremony for new Presbyterian church here. District Judge D. R. Mounts looks on.—The Frontier Photo.

## Presbyterians Start New \$75,000 Church

Ground-breaking ceremonies were conducted at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, March 25, signifying the start of a new \$75,000-dollar First Presbyterian church here.

Mrs. Bessie Burge, a gold star mother whose four-thousand-dollar gift was the first substantial contribution for the building fund, turned the first spadeful of dirt. Her effort was followed by District Judge D. R. Mounts, who also broke ground.

Rev. Robert Ware, pastor of First Presbyterian church at Norfolk, was the speaker and the church pastor, Rev. J. Olen Kennell, officiated.

First on the construction program will be a two-story fellowship hall and a Sunday-school unit at the rear of the present 75-year-old church. The hall and Sunday-school unit will be connected.

The Sunday-school unit will measure 30 by 66 ft. and will feature four classrooms.

The fellowship hall will have a kitchen, minister's study and office, and a choir room all on the main floor, and a youth room, cry room and storage space on the second floor.

Total cost of the Sunday-school unit and fellowship unit is expected to be 42-thousand-dollars. New sanctuary (to replace the original church building) will be built later at an estimated cost of 30-thousand-dollars.

When finished the overall structure will resemble a T. Top of the T will include a sanctuary wing and a 24 by 30-ft. office wing. Perpendicular portion (or vertical base of T) will include Sunday-school unit (on east end) and fellowship hall (west).

Building will be of brick construction with Ed Pavel of Chambers the supervisor and Ray Hank the bricklayer. Some of the material already has been unloaded.

Alfred Drayton is chairman of the building committee. Other members include Judge Mounts treasurer; Mrs. Dwight Harder, secretary; D. H. Clauson, Mrs. D. C. Schaffer and Henry Patterson.

During World War II she served 1 1/2 years in the women's auxiliary corps (WAC).

She was stationed in Iowa and in Alabama.

She married Mr. Ries, a Bolling field employee, on February 3, 1951, at Seattle.

Survivors include: Widower—George; daughters—Sharon, 10 (adopted), and Martha Jane, 1; sons—George, 4, and Darrell Wayne, 3; parents—Mr. and Mrs. Joe Schollmeyer of O'Neill; sister—Mrs. Francis Frieb of O'Neill; brothers—Pvt. Wayne Schollmeyer of Ft. Lee, Va., and Darrell of O'Neill.

Mrs. Schollmeyer, mother of Mrs. Ries, went to Seattle a month ago to be near her daughter, and was enroute back to O'Neill with the four Ries children when the young mother died. The grandmother and the children reached O'Neill Monday.

An autopsy was performed Monday and funeral services were held Wednesday, March 28, in Seattle.

Death was caused by a bone cancer.

U.S. 281 Route in Boyd Settled—

The Nebraska highway advisory commission Monday at Lincoln voted 6-1 to relocate U.S. highway 281 through Spencer and thence north on the present route of state highway 18 to the Nebraska-South Dakota line.

Monday's decision climaxes several years of dispute. One group held that 281, from the junction with state highway 12 in Boyd county, should veer easterly to join up with a South Dakota highway to cross the Missouri river at the Ft. Randall dam. Another group, led by the Spencer Commercial club and the U.S. Highway 281 association, favored a westerly route to induce traffic.

Mrs. George Ries, 32, of Seattle, Wash., mother of four small children whose ages range up to 10-years-old, died Sunday, March 25, in a Seattle hospital. She entered the hospital about a month ago and submitted to major surgery.

The late Mrs. Ries, whose maiden name was Gertrude Irene Schollmeyer, was born in the Dorsey community November 27, 1923, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Schollmeyer. She attended rural schools near Dorsey.



Mrs. Ries . . . the former Irene Schollmeyer.

### Mother of Four Children Dies

Mrs. George Ries, 32, Former WAC

### Longtime Phoenix Resident Dies

ATKINSON—Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p.m., today (Thursday) for Mrs. Christian C. Henkel, 76, who died at Des Moines, Ia. The rites will be conducted from St. John's Lutheran church with Rev. Adolph Lillich of Creighton and Rev. E. W. Dannitschek, church pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in the rural Phoenix cemetery under the direction of Seger's.

Pallbearers will be John Schwindt, Fritz Naber, Ed Bausch, Max Coburn, Carl Damero and William Obermire.

The late Mrs. Henkel, whose maiden name was Marie Habernicht, was born February 20, 1880, at Blueker - Bozemburg, Germany.

She married Mr. Henkel at Odebolt, Ia., May 10, 1898.

The Henkels resided many years on a farm in the Phoenix community.

Survivors include: Widower—Christian of Des Moines; sons—Franz of Des Moines, Albert of Bridgewater, Chris of Messana, Ia.; daughters—Mrs. Harold (Aunsta) Kirkland of Atkinson, Mrs. Fred (Alvina) Tesch, sr., of Atkinson and Mrs. Eugene (Elsie) Karr of Atkinson; brothers—Henry Habenicht of Wisconsin and Rudolph of Hartington; 16 grandchildren.