

Prairieland Talk . . .

Kids at Recess Reassure Faith

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Frontier Editor

LINCOLN—Juvenile feet were on the go this morning, some walking or running, others pedaling bicycles, all on the way to a common destiny—schools; maybe the last week for them until summer unfolds another vacation season.

A boy and a girl taken to be a brother and sister, not yet arrived by some years to the perilous teen age, drew attention merely because they were good to look at. Clean, well-groomed, walking side-by-side, the little girl's blonde hair hanging in waves over shoulders and back, both neatly dressed and heading for one of those church schools of the community. I followed them to the entrance of their school where a matron stood to direct the scores of young Americans to the various departments of this educational institution where children start on the highway of learning that includes also the teaching of moral and spiritual values.



Romaine Saunders

Governor Crosby gave expression to a fundamental truth when he said he felt the country is secure so long as our children and youth are taught to know that there is a divine Hand that will direct their footsteps. Are you losing faith in the genus homo? Go to a school playground and see the kids at their recess games.

I looked today for the last time upon the still features of George W. Davies. George died May 10, the funeral being held Wednesday, May 12, in the chapel of an L street mortuary. Rev. George Randall, a boyhood friend of George when the parental homes of both boys were in the Deloit community of Holt county, read the Deloit and spoke with feeling in memory of the dead and consolation for the living. A group of three Masonic lodge members officiated with funeral rites. Mr. Davies became a member of the Page lodge 51 years ago. He was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1875. His parents were among the pioneers of southeast Holt county where George spent his boyhood and much of his adult life. On Sunday, February 7, 1954, Mr. and Mrs. Davies held open-house at their home at 1315 K street, Lincoln, the occasion being their 50th wedding anniversary. Many friends gathered at that time and today attended the funeral.

From out the exalted ranks of tooth doctors comes the alarming information that because of a scarcity of dentists in Nebraska or lack of dental care, many thousands of prairieland children have tooth trouble. Is it because of a shortage of dentists or overdoses of sweets?

Homer Campbell out at Kirkland, Wash., asks in a letter: "Do you remember the deep-worn wagon trails paralleling the Elkhorn and extending to destinations farther west?" Yes, a few of us are left who do. Now that wagon trail is a concrete highway. And Homer adds: "Such a train was still fresh when we pulled into Atkinson in a covered wagon in 1882. What a plentitude of wild life of many categories! When reviewing those days I think of the meadow lark flying ahead of the travelers and singing at each step until the traveler came near again." Prairieland dwellers still hear the song of the meadow lark if they have ears to hear the throbbing of life all around, but in this fast age rushing along at 50 miles and hour or more you hear nothing but your motor and see only the dun grey highway ahead.

The Lions club boys of one of the city's suburban communities last evening held what they called a white elephant sale, when about everything from radios to refrigerators that householders wanted to dispose of was up for sale, as well as some more attractive things such as popcorn balls and apple pies. The proceeds are to be used for park improvement.

Is there never a Nebraskan qualified to perform the functions of chancellor of our university that such has been imported from Michigan? But maybe it is like shipping in beans from Michigan when we raise better ones in Nebraska. . . I. A. Smoot is a name seen among clergymen coming from other states to minister on special occasions in our capital city. Those who knew O'Neill's Smoot in the long ago will be surprised that one of that name is devoting his energies to the promulgation of the gospel. Our John Smoot may have gotten into a church on the occasion of his own funeral rites, but not before. . . Pupils from rural schools of Lancaster county composed a gathering in the city recently, welcomed in an address by the mayor and other notables getting into the picture. The real hit of the occasion was the response by an 11-year-old lass from one of the county schools. Her maidenly poise and speech delivered with forceful dignity would add luster to an Eleanor Roosevelt. . . The candidate for the democratic nomination for First district for the democratic party says "there are just as many stink-bugs and incompetents in the republican party as there ever were in the democratic party." With this difference—republican administrations hunt them out and fire them.

Just in from London, England, on his first visit to America, I met him yesterday as he talked to some blackface college students from British South Africa possessions, maybe the first colored specimens of the race he had ever run into. The somewhat fearsome name of Warland does not frighten when greeting such a pleasant little Britisher.

W. W. Spear, a Dodge county lawyer with offices in Fremont, caught the thankless job of heading up a state political party committee. The state committee of the GOP gathered in Lincoln last week for a harmonious gathering to select a chairman to take the place of Mr. Martin, who has an eye on the United States senate, and Mr. Spear was the fortunate or unfortunate gentleman. The committee is unanimously backing the Eisenhower administration but condemned the sideshow in Washington, D.C., involving the army and senate committee.

The Frontier news hounds will be pardoned if they become a little swelled in the region of the ego since that journalistic bouquet was tossed into the editorial sanctum. Prairieland Talker recalls a similar effect when New York City papers copied editorial gems from page 4 of our weekly gatherings.

I had a look today at the open country with its green fields of growing grain, the black acres planted to corn, grass lands where grazed four-footed things of animated life, farm homes in gleaming white in a setting of velvet verdure and the quiet peacefulness away from the rush and roar and worry of city streets. Today's picture in the open country holds a promise of a fruitful harvest. But July and August tell the story of how many nubbins there will at corn picking time.

FDR, jr. imbued with the spirit of his illustrious father, now has an eye on the white house via the governor's mansion in Albany, N.Y., while his brother, Jimmy, hopes to represent the 26th California district in the next congress. Of all the jobs to which a check from the state or national treasurer is attached, Mr. Warren, late governor of California, got the choice one when he was called to take over as chief justice of the supreme court.

Ira Moss may get into the postal service just in time to tell us if those new Nebraska territorial centennial stamps leave a seagreen taste in the mouth.

When You and I Were Young . . .

Covered Wagons Roll Through Page

Settlers Enroute to Rosebud

50 Years Ago
Many covered wagons have passed through Page headed for the land opening on the Rosebud reservation. . . John Gallagher has arrived home from medical college in St. Louis, Mo. . . Miss Helen O'Sullivan of Butte visited friends in O'Neill for several days. She will leave soon for employment in Pendleton, Ore. . . Charley Kirkland of Philadelphia, Pa., is visiting his uncle and family near Phoenix.

20 Years Ago
State Engineer Roy Cochran was in the city inspecting the new paving being laid in the city. . . O'Neill high seniors' sneak day went off without a hitch. The class spent the day at Long Pine. . . Mrs. H. W. Tomlinson spent several days visiting her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. James Coventry, in Inman. . . Forty couples enjoyed the opening dance of the O'Neill Country club. . . The town has been seized by arrowhead enthusiasts. One of the finest war arrowheads was exhibited by George Clark.

10 Years Ago
Former Sheriff "Little Hank" McEvoy died in Lewiston, Mont. . . Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shatto of Philadelphia, Pa., are visiting at the home of Mrs. Shatto's mother, Mrs. John Carr. . . The Contract club was entertained by Mrs. J. P. Brown at her home following dinner at the M&M. . . A class in beginners' band will start soon. . . St. Mary's academy won the first baseball game, defeating St. John's, 8-7.

One Year Ago
One hundred ten boy scouts from O'Neill, Chambers, Ewing, Spencer, Stuart, Atkinson, Jamison and Bassett participated in a weekend jamboree at the recreational grounds in Atkinson. . . Dr. E. J. Bild of Page celebrated his 50th year of medical practice at an open-house in his home. . . Smokey, a horseless, ex-rancher, ex-movie actor, and ex-sheriff from Arizona, who took to wholesale hiking six years ago, spent several days in O'Neill this week.

HEARING SET
BARTLETT—The state liquor commission set a June 3 hearing date on the application for package liquor license by Roy Moore of Bartlett.

Frontier for printing!

Becker Getting 2d Round of Training—

Pvt. Donovan J. Becker, formerly of 612 E. Adams st., O'Neill, will remain in the anti-aircraft artillery replacement training center at Ft. Bliss, Tex., for his second eight-week cycle of basic training. . . Having recently completed his first eight weeks of training in fundamental infantry subjects, he will now take up the skills of anti-aircraft artillery. . . Private Becker will graduate at a formal parade and retreat ceremony, and then be eligible for assignment in a permanent anti-aircraft artillery unit. . . He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Becker of O'Neill and attended Creighton university prior to enlisting.

Returns from West Coast by Air—

Mrs. Letta Conrad returned Monday evening, May 10, from a five-months' visit with relatives. She visited her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Gannon of Kent, Wash., her son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sexsmith of Moses Lake, Wash., and her brother, Earl Heaton of Bandon, Ore. She also visited three nephews. . . Mrs. Conrad went by plane to and from Omaha

Letter to Editor

Pomona, Calif.,
532 Chester Place,

Dear Editor:
Some of my friends sent me a copy of The Frontier of May 6. I knew there must be something of special interest to me, so I read it. "When You and I Were Young." It said, "Four Ewing People Sail for Denmark." Well, I was one of them. The others were my husband and brothers. I am the only one of that party left. It surely revived old memories of a wonderful trip. Thanks for printing it.
Respectfully,
MRS. CARRIE JOHNSON

Gleed School Pupils See Chinchilla Farm—

The pupils of the Gleed school with their teacher recently hiked to Holt creek where they had a picnic lunch. On their return they stopped at the Edgar Jungman ranch to see the chinchillas. The Jungmans raise the animals for breeding stock. Mrs. Jungman served refreshments to the group. Pupils attending the school are Ruth and Virginia Smith, Roseanne and Loran Blake, Duffy and Patricia Grubb, Veda, Gerald and Ardell Edwards, Garold and Leslie Forbes and Shirley Green. Mrs. Genevieve Forbes is the teacher.

Kitty Clover 4-H club bake sale Saturday, May 22, Council Oak store, O'Neill, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Approves Purchase by Phone Group

BURWELL—The railway commission approved purchase by the Rodeo Telephone Membership corporation of Burwell, of three exchanges.

The commission also approved the company's borrowing up to \$637,000 from the federal government. . . The exchanges to be purchased are Nebraska Continental Telephone company of Burwell, Garfield Mutual Telephone association of Burwell and Farmers Telephone company of Taylor. . . The loan will come from the telephone loans division of the rural electrification administration. Interest rate is two percent with loan time 35 years. . . A commission spokesman said the loan is the first of its type in Nebraska.

Susan Douglass Is Brownie Hostess—

Brownie Scout troop III met Tuesday afternoon, May 11, with Susan Douglass as hostess. We all went to visit Virginia

Lawrence, our president. Our next meeting will be May 25. Joanne Burda will be hostess. By Sue Gonderinger, scribe.

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Editorial . . .

I Had a Dream

(Reprinted from the American Mercury, June, 1954, by Russell Maquire)

I am not a student of the physiology or the psychology of dreams; but I know that odd shapes and odder perspectives often people the realm of sleep. At times I have entertained a strong suspicion that a melted cheese sandwich at bedtime may be casually related to the topsyturvy world of dreams. I have also heard of the role of suppressed desire in this phenomenon called dreaming.

- At any rate, I dreamed:
 - That the New York Herald-Tribune reviewed an anti-communist book favorably;
 - That Robert Maynard Hutchins relaxed from the hysteria which leads him to see an anti-communist under every bed;
 - That Harry S. Truman apologized to the American people for his promotion of Harry Dexter White;
 - That the Ford Foundation made a substantial grant of funds for the study of communist conspiracy;
 - That one of the major protestant denominations passed a resolution warning its clergymen against their becoming dupes of the communist-front apparatus;
 - That Edward R. Murrow could no longer be heard tomorrow;
 - That the New York Times waxed editorially indignant over communist infiltration into government;
 - That Harvard university decided to fire its pro-communist professors;
 - That Alger Hiss confessed;
 - That the leaders of the communist party took an overdose of sleeping pills;
 - That United Nations headquarters were moved to Little America;
 - That Norman Thomas decided to go abroad for 10 years, to recuperate from 30 years of overworking his voice;
 - That the Americans for Democratic Action dissolved;
 - That Great Britain withdrew its recognition of Red China;
 - That the New York Post folded;
 - That ex-communists were no longer held to be more dangerous than communists;
 - That the Washington Post praised Joe McCarthy;
 - That socialists ceased their ballyhoo about being a bulwark against communism;
 - That Molotov purged Malenkov and vice versa;
 - That I was not dreaming.

Someone has said don't worry about the British getting soft while trading with the communists. He points out that over the years the British have been successful in hanging Buckingham monacles and the king's English on orientals, going in for full dinner dress in the jungles, and have taught the black-skinned to sing "God Save the King."

The "foreigners" who came to Holt county to place "scientific valuations" on real estate are coming in for plenty of criticism, now that the new assessed valuation figures have been distributed. Equalization is the problem—equalization.

Mothers are understanding, patient and kind, but so are some fathers. The real distinction is that only mothers can tie a little girl's sash in a bow that looks like anything.

A school principal says it's not right for parents to do their children's school work for them. What makes him think we could?

Now that the Pentagon-McCarthy hearings have been recessed for a week we can turn our interest to the Detroit Tigers.

Some parties to which cute invitations are issued are fun, anyway.



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