



Sebastian Pongratz (left) and George . . . reunite on rail station platform.—The Frontier Photo.

Carl T. Friedrich Burial at Spencer

Native of Germany; in Holt 21 Years

SPENCER—Funeral services for Carl Theodore Friedrich, 86, who died Friday, July 23, at Sacred Heart hospital in Lynch, were conducted at 2 p. m., Monday, July 26, from the Methodist church at Spencer. Burial was in Union cemetery.

Rev. Marjorie Johnson, church pastor, officiated.

Music was furnished by a quartette composed of Mrs. Ralph Black, Mrs. Harold Haun, Donald Black and Richard Black. The piano accompanist was Mrs. Keith Fellers of Farmington, N.M.

Pallbearers were Ralph Black, Robert Hamilton, Paul Schmidt, Blair Dickey, Russell Angus and Gayle Couch.

Carl Theodore Friedrich was born at Groschouau, Saxony, Germany, November 17, 1867.

He came to the United States with his parents in 1879 and lived at Columbus. He was confirmed in the Missouri Synod Lutheran church at Columbus and later joined the Presbyterian church at Creston.

He married Tonia A. Brethouwer January 4, 1900, in Holland. To them seven children were born.

In March, 1901, the family settled in Holt county where they lived for 21 years. They then moved to Boyd county where they lived since.

He was preceded in death by a son, Theodore, who died in 1944.

Survivors include: Widow; daughters—Mrs. George Hudson of Pullman, Wash., and Mrs. Carl A. Hagelin of Nalihan, Turkey; sons—Harold Orchard and Ralph, both of Spencer, Allen of Phillipsburg, Mont., and Harry of Sedro Woolley, Wash.; sisters—Mrs. E. M. Johnson of Albion and Mrs. Lena Swartz of Humboldt; brothers—Ernest of San Bruno, Calif., and Otto of Newman Grove; 21 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Murdered Farmer's Widow Born, Reared in Page Locality

PAGE—Wendell Jones, a farmer near Bloomfield, Ia., who on Sunday was shot and killed by robbers, was the husband of the former Laura Van Connet.

She was born and reared in the Page community.

Mrs. Jones is a niece of Rollie and Ray Snell of Page and Mrs. Dave Pollock of the Riverside community near Ewing.

Mr. Jones was murdered in his home in southern Iowa and the two men escaped, presumably into Missouri. Both were later captured.

'Bud' Cole Named Wagener Chairman

EMMET—G. Owen ("Bud") Cole, Emmet hay and livestock dealer, has been named Holt county chairman of the Wagener-governor movement. Mr. Cole is actively working the county in behalf of Frederick H. Wagener of Lincoln, who is seeking the republican nomination for governor in the primary election August 10.

KIN IS KILLED

EMMET—Mrs. Cecil McMillan received word on Friday morning of the death of her nephew, Harold Krueger of Duncan, who was killed in a tractor accident while crossing the Platte river last Thursday.

TEACHER SIGNED

PAGE—Stanley Bross of Gurley has been elected to teach mathematics and science in the Page school. Mr. and Mrs. Bross will reside in the Alton Braddock residence in east Page when they move here.

Return to California—Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ross and sons of Weaverville, Calif., who have been visiting Mr. Ross' mother, Mrs. Martha Ross, and Mrs. Ross' father, M. A. Schellkopf, will return home today (Thursday).

Visitor Surprised Only Few People Understand German

When Sebastian Pongratz arrived from Germany a fortnight ago, he and his older brother, George, who lives northeast of Emmet, were reunited on a rail platform in O'Neill.

Sebastian, now 62, was only 23-years-old when George left the 35-acre family farm in Bavaria in 1892 to come to the United States. George, who was 11 at the time, came with an aunt.

A short time later their mother died and their father, who was a weaver of linen as well as a small-scale farmer, reared the family as best he could.

George and two sisters came to the U.S. Sebastian stayed behind, fought with his countrymen during World War I, and raised two children. Eighteen months ago his wife died.

George, who is a prosperous Holt county farmer, long has yearned for a trip to the old country. With his "kid brother", Sebastian, the only remaining member of the immediate family still living in Germany, George decided to help arrange for Sebastian's visit to America.

Sebastian left the Bavarian town of Geratskirchen, near Munich, in late June. He sailed the 24th from Bremen aboard the Swedish liner Gripsholm, which was a Red Cross ship during World War II, and he arrived in New York City July 10.

The visitor, who speaks no English, was dumbfounded to find relatively few people able to understand German.

At the rail platform the two embraced while other kin looked on.

Sebastian busily helps George with the chores and performs odd jobs. He confidently expects to see his sister, Mrs. Michael Grisholm's sailing date. His visitor's visa would entitle him to stay up to two years if he wished.

Sunday the two brothers will visit their sisters—Mrs. Michael Hausland of Plattsmouth, who has been in the U.S. 15 years, and Sister M. Gerona, who is a nun stationed at St. Francis hospital, Grand Island.

Heat 'Unbearable' for Armsteeds—EWING—Maj. and Mrs. Seth Armstead and family of Anchorage, Alaska, are visiting at the home of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Lydon, near Ewing.

They are enroute to Montgomery, Ala., and will visit friends and relatives in West Point, Fremont and Omaha before going to Florida where another sister lives.

The Armsteeds have been in Alaska the past 2½ years and Nebraska's current heat wave was almost "unbearable" for them.

GRADFR CRUSHES MAN NELIGH—A Neligh man was crushed to death between two heavy vehicles in a parking lot for highway construction equipment 12 miles north of Kearney. Killed instantly was Leonard D. Muckey, 53, who was trying to get the engine of a road grader started by pushing it with a truck.

'Miss O'Neill'

Miss Vavonne Miller (above), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William "Bill" Miller, was the winner of the American Legion-sponsored "Miss O'Neill" beauty contest held Saturday evening at the Legion ballroom. Miss Miller will represent O'Neill in the hay days beauty pageant at Atkinson. Winner of the hay queen laurels will receive an all-expense trip to Hollywood, Calif. Simonson post 93 awarded Miss Miller \$25 for capturing the "Miss O'Neill" honor. Others beauty pageant at Atkinson. Entered were the Misses Joanne Kallhoff, Verle Ralya, Joan Langan and Louanne Fritton. Hay days dates are August 23-24.

STATION CLOSES PAGE—The Burlington railroad, with permission of the state railway commission, has closed the depot at Page and Agent William Howell, who has served there more than 23 years, is being transferred to Plainview.

TRAIN IS TARDY The westbound mainline passenger-mail train on the Chicago & North Western railroad reached O'Neill 90 minutes late Wednesday morning. The train was delayed in leaving Omaha because of several coaches of troops enroute to Sturgis, S. D.

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'Voice of the Frontier'

WJOO

Mon. — Wed. — Sat.
9:45 A.M. — 780 k.c.

THE FRONTIER

North-Central Nebraska's BIG Newspaper

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Twenty-Eight PAGES

SECTION ONE
1 TO 12

Volume 74.—Number 13.

Seven Cents

Work on 20 Delayed by Moisture

Free Water Standing in Grade Is Reason for Quitting Work

Moisture "trapped" in the new U.S. highway 20 grade west of Emmet has caused work to be temporarily suspended and will delay hard-surfacing of the new route, which parallels for four miles the old road.

J. M. Crook of Ainsworth, division engineer for the department of roads and irrigation, offers this explanation for the unusual situation:

"This job originally was planned so that material would be hauled from the pits at each end of the job to provide sandy materials in the grade rather than to make deep excavations along the road and thereby use silty materials."

"The sandy material was excavated and placed in the grade with the moisture content within the limits provided in our specifications. During the time of the grading, there was a considerable amount of rain and it appears that moisture was trapped over and above that naturally contained in the soil. This moisture has not dissipated itself throughout the sand as would normally be expected.

"Examination of the roadway will show that free water stands in holes bored in the grade. This water quite frequently is within two inches of the surface of the existing grade, at the same time, holes bored in natural ground along the side of the fill are dry for depths of approximately three feet.

"The contractor made several attempts to dry out the surface of the grade and was successful. This was done by blowing the top of the dried layer and upon applying the rollers to compact the soil mat a pumping mat resulted which raised the water from below the layer that had been dried out to the area immediately beneath the mat. It became unstable and the mat then broke in small areas three to five inches across. This obviously is not satisfactory construction, the district engineer told The Frontier.

"Upon the discovery of this situation our department authorized the contractor to suspend work until between the first and the middle of August. It is expected that during this time a considerable amount of drying might occur in the grade and also it is desired to have sufficient time to make capillary tests and to do some other laboratory work on the samples extracted from the sub-grade.

"At this date we do not have any solution at hand. We are certain, however, that the water exists in about 4,000 feet of the grade; that will have to be dissipated before a mat can be placed, and we are not at this time certain of the method which will be used to dry the material.

"We expect to complete the work this year, at least on a temporary basis. We have had another location in which such a situation occurred and it was dried out satisfactorily," Crook concluded.

Many persons who frequently travel the route and others residing in the neighborhood were skeptical about the plan from the beginning. The relocated route is intended to straighten the highway but to achieve this the new grade is being built through lowlands and tree clearings.

The new grade starts on a hilltop one-fourth of a mile east of Emmet and rejoins the established route at a point west of the Beckwith place, a distance of four miles.

4 Adopted Children in Pruss Family

When a tiny auburn-haired bundle named Jean Marie, age 4-months, arrived Monday, July 26, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Pruss, she became the fourth addition to the family since 1946 via the orphanage route.

Little Jean Marie was oblivious to all the fuss when The Frontier's cameraman-reporter called—and there was activity aplenty. Doting relatives and solicitous neighbors had converged for the reception.

Not every day is a little orphan girl lucky enough to land a home where she's welcomed and wanted; a home in which two new-found brothers and one newly-acquired sister all are adopted.

The Pruss family formerly resided on East Fremont street, but the growing family forced them out of their original home, which they had built new. About a year ago they moved to the dwelling on East Benton street formerly known as the Seth Noble residence.

As the family grows the housing requirements increase. The upstairs is being finished off now.

"Gotta have room for these kids," explains Papa Pruss.

The first-comer was William Joseph, who is known about town as Billy Joe. He was born December 25, 1945, and acquired the name of Pruss in October, 1946.

A year later—in October, 1947—there came along John Robert, whose affectionate name is Johnny Bob. He was born June 11, 1947.

A pretty little girl, Mary Elizabeth, arrived at Christmas time, 1952. She had been born nine months before—on March 4, 1952.

Jean Marie was born March 26, 1954. The parents, two brothers and one sister went to Omaha to greet her.

All of the children have brown eyes and they're so well matched one could easily believe them to be blood brothers and sisters.

When the Pruss family showed up at the St. James orphanage in Omaha to welcome Jean Marie, it was the first opportunity for the orphanage personnel to reunite with Billy Joe, Johnny Bob and Mary Elizabeth.

The children were so young when they were a part of the St. James family they, naturally, had no recollection of the place. But the nuns remembered the children.

Mrs. Pruss, upon whom falls the big burden of four busy children, views the growing family philosophically.

"Anything that's worthwhile in this world means work. But with the children, we don't think of the work. We are so happy to get them for the pleasure we will get out of raising them."



A growing family . . . Billy Joe, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Pruss, Johnny Bob, Mary Elizabeth (on her father's lap) and Jean Marie (on her mother's lap).—The Frontier Photo.

O'Neill Soldier to Raise Flag at Asbury

Nebraska will be represented Saturday in the seventh annual "Salute to the States" ceremony at Asbury Park, N.J., by Army Pfc. Paul W. Moseman, jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul W. Moseman, sr., of O'Neill.

The Cornhusker representative in the Asbury ceremony is now serving with the army signal corps at nearby Ft. Monmouth, N.J.

Private Moseman was graduated from O'Neill high school in 1948 and then entered the University of Nebraska college of electrical engineering. He was graduated from the university in 1953 and worked for a short time for the Collins Radio Laboratories at Cedar Rapids, Ia., before entering the service. Recently he returned after completing nine months of overseas duty for the signal corps.

Selection of Moseman to raise the flag at Asbury in behalf of the commonwealth of Nebraska was announced Tuesday by Gov. Robert Crosby in Lincoln.

Moseman spent most of June on leave here with his parents.

The young man expects to rejoin the Cedar Rapids firm upon his separation from the service.

New Postmaster's Commission Arrives; McDermott Quits

The formal commission appointing Ira H. Moss as O'Neill's new postmaster arrived Monday, but the installation date has not yet been fixed. There is speculation he will be installed on August 1.

Mrs. Helen Sullivan has been acting postmaster.

Meanwhile, on Monday, August 2, Al Fritton will resume carrying mail on the combination route formerly designated as Meek and Phoenix individual routes. The combined routes have been serviced the past 3½ weeks by Dominick McDermott, who was low bidder on the 105-mile merged circuit. McDermott asked to be relieved. Fritton, a veteran carrier, was awarded the contract when bids were sought a second time.

100 Miles REA Line Contracted

A Des Moines, Ia., construction firm Wednesday was awarded a contract for 10-odd miles of additional rural electrification line building by the Niobrara Valley Electric Membership corporation board of directors. The cost is approximately \$105,000.

The line extensions, known as contract D-5, may be built in five counties served by the cooperative of Holt and Boyd and portions of Garfield, Wheeler and Knox.

All extensions will be relatively short ones, a spokesman said, to provide REA service to applicants.

Old Settlers' Picnic August 3

The 54th annual north Holt county old settlers' picnic will be held at the Elmer DeVall grove, 17 miles north of O'Neill on U.S. highway 281, 3 miles east and 1½ miles south, on Tuesday, August 3.

Entertainment will include baseball, sports, stock car exhibition race and a bowery dance.

Axel Borg is president of the association; Mrs. George Nelson, secretary.

Mrs. Ross Hostess—Mrs. Martha Ross, Mrs. Alfred Ross and Mrs. Delane Jackson attended a party at the Oliver Ross home on Tuesday evening.

Lighting Blamed for Knocking Out Pumping Controls

City Water Supt. Don R. Douglass reported early Wednesday the automatic switches, which control O'Neill's three major water pumping units 1½ miles south of the city, had been knocked out, presumably by lightning.

Douglass said it couldn't be determined whether the mercury controls were kayed by a bolt of lightning or by overload. In any event, the incident raised a hob with municipal water department operations between Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

Mr. Douglass appealed for water conservation to "Voice of the Frontier" listeners Wednesday morning while repairs were being made. The automatic controls were back in operation by 5:30 p. m., Wednesday.

Douglass explained that water pressure was very low in the city while the repairs were being made—a bad situation in the event of fire.

The fourth well in the munny water system is located at the fire station. It is regarded as the "old well" and water pumping equipment there is not automatically controlled.

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16-Page Fair Supplement This Issue

This issue of The Frontier contains a 16-page Holt county fair premium list supplement in tabloid size.

It is a guide for fair exhibitors and also contains numerous features and stories concerning the 1954 Holt county fair, which will be held at Chambers August 16-19.

Important fair information not included in the supplement concerns the announcement of the Chambers Commercial club will provide five trophies for 4-H club winners and Wink's Livestock Supply will award a show halter and stick.

May McGowan, 81, Expires at Elgin

Rites Wednesday at Paddock Union

Miss May McGowan, 81, retired O'Neill farm woman, died at 2:30 a. m., Monday, July 26, at a rest home in Elgin.

The late Miss McGowan had been in failing health for several years.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p. m., Wednesday, July 28, in Paddock Union church, north of O'Neill, and burial was in the McGowan family cemetery under the direction of Bigelow.

Rev. J. LaVeVrne Jay of O'Neill, northeast Nebraska district superintendent of the Methodist church, officiated.

Pallbearers were Clyde Bowen, Frank Nelson, George Hansen, Axel Borg, Elmer DeVall and George Nelson.

Miss McGowan was born February 25, 1873, in Minnesota.

Her parents were the late George and Mahala Goodfellow McGowan.

Survivors include: Half-brother—William Wadsworth of Spencer, Minn.; half-sister—Ethel Bond of Tacoma, Wash.; niece—Florence Schultz of O'Neill and Ethel Wells of Sioux City.

Harrington Speaks at Fremont

Mrs. John Harrington and daughter, Marlene, have returned from Chicago, Ill., where they had been visiting. Mr. Harrington returned with them to spend a few days in O'Neill.

Mr. Harrington returned to Chicago via Fremont where he addressed an open meeting sponsored by the Chicago and North Western Woman's club. He discussed the railroad retirement act and proposed amendments now before the congress of the United States.

Hoffman Rites Held at Spencer

SPENCER—William Hoffman, 77, Spencer resident, died Sunday, July 25, enroute by car to the Lynch hospital. Mr. Hoffman became ill early that morning. He died in the presence of his wife and his neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Zich, in whose car he was being taken to the hospital.

The late Mr. Hoffman farmed for many years near Gross. He had been living in retirement in Spencer.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman had planned to go to Plainview for dinner Sunday.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, July 28, at 2 p. m., at the Methodist church with Rev. Marjorie Johnson officiating. Burial was in the Spencer cemetery.

Survivors include: Widow; two sons and eight daughters.

City Purchases Street - Sweeper

The O'Neill city council last weekend entered into a lease-purchase agreement with the Austin-Western Co., of Nebraska for the purchase of a mechanical street-sweeping machine.

The purchase price was \$8,500 —to be paid in nine payments of \$900 each.

Donkey Rodeo Is Scheduled Aug. 2

A donkey rodeo will be staged under the lights at the O'Neill Saddle club arena at 8:30 p. m., on Monday, August 2. The producer is Cliff Dunham of Crescent, Okla.

O'Neill personalities will attempt to ride the donkeys in a wild fun scramble.

LICENSE SUSPENDED

Hans P. Stollenburg, jr., of Burton has had his airplane pilot's license suspended for six months by the Nebraska department of aeronautics and the civil aeronautics administration. The suspension was an outgrowth of low-flying complaints filed a gainst Stollenburg during grouse season, according to Fred Salak of O'Neill, state game conservator.

POOL TO CLOSE

The O'Neill municipal swimming pool will be closed to the general public Friday evening, July 30. A Methodist group fellowship from Bassett is bringing a crowd here for an evening of entertainment.

Californiaans Here—Last Thursday and Friday guests of the J. B. Grady family were Mr. and Mrs. David Marr of Redding, Calif.