

Street-Widening Foes Issue Public Statement

In the February 10 issue of The Frontier considerable space was devoted, without charge, to the acting mayor of O'Neill and the majority members of the city council to amplify their stand on a street-widening issue. The present council has entered into contract with the state highway department to widen certain sections of Douglas street and South Fourth street in order to retain two federal highways—20 and 281—on present location through the business districts. The street-widening plan, costing an estimated 61-thousand-dollars (\$30,500 to be paid by the city) has some opposition.

The opponents, organized as the O'Neill Taxpayers' league, have issued the following statement (signers are indicated below):

'Mountain Lion' Is Timber Wolf

Wettlaufer Kayoes Big Fellow

The much-talked-about "mountain lion" that has been roaming these parts for many months and has provoked lots of conjecture and speculation turns out to be a timber wolf.

At least Kenneth Wettlaufer, Harold Freemyer and Kenneth Asher figure the wolf they bagged about 4:30 p.m., Monday is the culprit.

Wettlaufer fired from an automobile in the Joe Gallagher pasture, about 7 1/2 miles northwest of Page, and the "fat-as-a-pig" wolf came to the end of his road. Wettlaufer had gone to help Freemyer locate a fox. In the search for tracks of the sly one they came upon Mr. Wolfe. A single shot did it.

The carcass was taken to Page and put on exhibit at a filling station. Wettlaufer estimated the animal weighed between 100 and 110 pounds and appeared to be well-nourished with meat. It was a male wolf and the slayer estimated the animal to be about 3-year-old. The shot was fired with a 270 rifle.

Working with the Wettlaufer party were Lyndley Crumly and Otto Terrill. All are of the Page community.

Peggy Degan Wins Homemaking Honor

The Betty Crocker homemaking of St. Mary's academy is Peggy Degan. She received the highest score in a written examination, which tested homemaking knowledge and attitudes of the senior girls. She will be entered in competition to name the state's candidate for the title of all-American homemaking of tomorrow. She has received a gold pin, cook books for herself and the school.

Mother Agnesine and Sister Claire accompanied Mother's parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Hargarten, and Rev. Joseph Hargarten to Yankton, S.D., Wednesday, February 16.

The Washington dance given by the Friends of St. Mary's at the American Legion auditorium, netted \$200. This will be used for purchases in the rewriting project.

Steel Lodges in Richardson's Eye

John Richardson was injured Tuesday, February 15, at his ranch 2 1/2 miles north of O'Neill. He received an eye injury and was taken to Omaha last Thursday to see an eye specialist. He is at Methodist hospital.

A piece of steel lodged in his left eye. An attempt was made to remove it Friday but was unsuccessful. Another attempt will be made at a later date. His sister, Mrs. G. A. Swanson, is near him.

STOVE EXPLODES

An oil furnace at the C. E. Melena residence exploded Wednesday morning in the basement of the dwelling. Partitions in the basement were damaged by the force. No fire resulted and there was little damage on the main floor of the home.

Auction Calendar

There are five auctions listed on The Frontier's sale calendar to be held within the next few weeks:

Friday, February 25: Mr. and Mrs. John Ke, residing northwest of O'Neill, will offer their 240-acre improved Holt county farm; some livestock; machinery and equipment; household goods; Col. Wallace O'Connell, O'Neill, auctioneer; Col. Verne Reynolds, O'Neill, auctioneer - broker; Carl Lorenz, O'Neill, clerk. (Sale postponed from Friday, February 18, because of storm.)

Saturday, February 26: Brown Motor & Impl. and Chambers Legion post, community auction, in Chambers; Col. Merlin Grossnicklaus, Chambers, auctioneer; Cleo Alderson, Chambers, clerk. (Sale postponed from Saturday, February 19, because of weather.)

Saturday, February 26: North-Central Nebraska Hereford association, 44 bulls, Bassett. (Write Tug Phillips, Bassett, for catalog.)

Monday, February 28: Alfred and Lois Martens personal property sale, southeast of Atkinson; ranch buildings; 56 head of cattle; ranch machinery; hay; some household items; Thorin - Bowker Auction Service, sale managers. (Details on page 5.)

Wednesday, March 2: LeRoy D. Johnson, 12 miles north of O'Neill and 6 miles east; farm closeout including 110 head of cattle; other livestock; ranch and hay; machinery; grain; household goods; Col. Ed Thorin, O'Neill, auctioneer; O'Neill National Bank, clerk. (Details on page 8.)

"Voice of The Frontier"

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



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TWELVE PAGES

Seven Cents

Board Raps Proposed Road Net

Revised Plan Would Cost Holt 45 1/2 Miles of State-Aid Hiway

A public hearing will be held in the state capitol at 2 p.m., on LB 187. As introduced, LB 187 says the state highway network shall be no more than 9,500 miles compared to the present 9,749 miles, but the bill does not specify which roads would be dropped.

The Holt county board of supervisors, in session Wednesday, formulated resolutions protesting the state highway commission's revamped highway plan, charging the idea as "unreasonable and inequitable to Holt county."

The state highway department currently maintains 9,749 miles in Nebraska as a trunk and state-aid highway system.

The revised plan would lop off 419 miles of the present system and the tentative map shows Holt county might lose 45 1/2 miles of highway presently designated as a state highway and maintained by the state.

Stretches of present state highway not included in the revised plan are:

Lynch spur, south into Holt county, 11 miles.
State 108, O'Neill to Page, 16 miles.
State 108, south of Ewing, 6 miles.
Amelia spur, 2 1/2 miles (off highway 11).
Stuart-Naper, 10 miles.

The resolutions were forwarded to State Sen. Frank Nelson for presentation at the hearing.

LEGAL OBLIGATIONS ARE DEFINED

In order that the public may be informed about the contract entered into by the State of Nebraska and City of O'Neill.

Anything said or implied to the contrary, the following are definitions taken verbatim from the contract between the State of Nebraska and the City of O'Neill relative to the required street changes:

Section 11(a)

The city further agrees as follows:

To assume all liability for property damage to real property only, resulting from the construction work undertaken by the State, the City and the Federal Government within the corporate limits of said city, plans for which are hereby approved by the City Council; and to defend the State in any and all suits or claims of whatever nature, or arising out of, direct or consequential property damages brought against the State as a result of the contract work undertaken by the State within the corporate limits of said city, except such suits or claims arising out of faulty construction or arising out of the contract for said work.

(b) Parking on Douglas street and Fourth street, upon the completion of the project, shall be regulated as follows until the conditions set forth in Section 9 shall require a change in the parking regulations.

1. Parking parallel and adjacent to the curbs shall be established by an ordinance and enforced on Douglas street from Jefferson street easterly to Seventh street, unless the City with its own funds widens said street to an ultimate width of seventy-nine (79) feet, and on the curbs with the curbs. If said street is thus widened, then modified diagonal parking between the above limits of Douglas street will be permitted.

2. From Seventh street to the east corporate limits, parking parallel and adjacent to the curbs will be permitted for the time being, with the understanding that the provisions of Section 9 will obtain as traffic volumes require additional parking restrictions.

3. On Fourth street, parking shall be established by ordinance and enforced parallel and adjacent to the curbs from Douglas street south to the C.B.&Q. tracks.

These articles of contract are not conjectures, anticipations, opinions or probabilities. They constitute a legal argument, which the City of O'Neill has bound itself to carry out.

Mr. and Missus Party Attracts 68

EWING—Sixty-four attended a Valentine party at the Methodist church parlors Monday, February 14. The WSCS labeled it a "Mr. and Missus" party. Husbands of members were honored guests.

Festivities began with a 6:30 p.m. covered dish dinner.

During the program, half valentines were distributed. Couples were formed by matching halves. Stunts were performed, contests were held and games played.

Ed Hoag sang, "The Promise Made to Mother" and Mrs. Andrew Olson recited "The Inventor's Wife." Closing number was a musical selection by Dewitt Gunter, violin; Mrs. Andrew Olson, autoharp and French harmonica.

Project Club to Purchase Layette

INMAN—The Inman Workers' project club met Wednesday, February 16, at the home of Mrs. A. N. Butler for their regular meeting. Mrs. Kenneth Coventry and Miss Faye Brunckhorst presented the lesson on broiler cookery and most of the noon day meal was prepared in the broiler.

At the business session, it was decided that the club would furnish a layette for the University hospital in Omaha. The March meeting will be at the home of Mrs. L. F. Kopecky.

Mrs. Vernon Lorenz joined the club as a new member. Mrs. E. L. Watson was a visitor.



Colonel Wanser . . . "All right, boys, let's go!"

'Buv' 40 Years an Auctioneer

By MRS. N. D. ICKES, SR. Frontier Feature Writer

PAGE—In the chill of a late winter's day, a man mounts to a wagon bed, breath rising in frosty formation as smoke curls upward. You hear a voice call: "Right this way, ladies and gentlemen, right this way."

A brief introduction follows and you hear: "All right, boys, let's go!"

And the sale is on.

The voice changes into that half intelligible, mumble-jumble jargon, resolving now and then into clarity. Figures are quoted expressing judgment of the worth of the article up for sale. The voice is interrupted now and again by the sharp, staccato bark of the "yes" men.

The voice is that of Col. W. E. ("Buv") Wanser, who, on Saturday, February 26, will celebrate his 40th anniversary in the auction business. The first sale he ever cried was for Bill Nelson on the William Riege farm.

A few, who in his earliest attempts to sway a crowd with his

silver tongue, regretted that such a young fellow, inexperienced and incompetent, should try to replace Barney Stewart, whose voice failed.

In rain and snow, mud and ice, in winter's cold and summer's heat, crowds arrived in those early days—on foot, by horseback, sled, lumber wagon and top buggy, shifting generally to motor vehicles—lured by the come-back "yakkity-yak" of the auctioneer.

The ability to judge correctly the mask behind which the buyer hides his intention forms the criterion by which the auctioneer gauges his knock-down price. The element of surprise keeps the bidding smart and invites over-bidding.

As an orator understands mass psychology and a politician strives to impregnate his audience with his point of view and sell it a bill of goods more attractively packaged than that of his opponent, so does an auctioneer trade on his knowledge of men in sharp competitive bidding and he pleads, coaxes, cajoles and wise-cracks his crowd into momentary forgetfulness of both need and value and insistently cries for that still "Buv" bid.

Buv was born at Plainview, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wanser, and acquired his education there. He was married to Lulu Dutcher on January 10, 1911, and came to Ewing where they have since made their home. In 1919 the Wansers built the first bungalow - type house in Page.

Buv began his business career at the age of nine when he sold bluing paddles and received a watch as a prize. He traded the watch for a mule, traded the mule for an old horse that he sold for \$10, and bought the first good horse he ever owned.

From that beginning he developed his trading instinct into a fine art, playing the trade for business pleasure, gaining for himself and an enviable reputation for fair play and square dealing in the process.

Stories such as this can be heard any day in the week: A man who became dissatisfied with a horse he had bought from Wanser was invited to return it and get his money back. Buv resold the horse—without benefit of guarantee—for \$5 more than the price paid by the first buyer. In a generous mood, he gave the first buyer the additional \$5. Stories vary only in names and circumstances—the guarantee of satisfaction or your money back remains the same.

Horse trading and auctioneering go well together, as does scouring the country for livestock to keep sales in operation. In the capacity of buyer, Buv became as familiar with the pastures and barn yards of the near and far country as you are with your own premises.

Buv never forgets a horse nor does the farmer forget his earlier meeting with him. He likes and appreciates a horse as few men do and has owned some of the best. At one time when money was not as free as it is now, he owned four thoroughbreds—Prairie King, Colonel E. Arroy Heart and Bud Smith. He leased them out and even then they made both men a little money.

"Old Spike" holds the all-time reputation for a thoroughly dependable, hard-working, intelligent horse.

Archie Stearns, 76, Expires at Lincoln

Retired Mail Carrier Born in Minnesota

Funeral services were conducted at 10 a.m., Tuesday, February 22, from St. Patrick's Catholic church for Archie L. Stearns, 76, retired mail carrier. He died Thursday, February 17, in a Lincoln hospital following an eight-month illness.

Rev. Thomas Hitch officiated at the burial in Calvary cemetery under the direction of Biglin's. Pallbearers were Alvin Smith, Kenneth Shiba, Robert Stearns, Donald Stearns, Bernard Spry and James Sawyer.

The late Archie Leon Stearns was born December 1, 1878, at Freeborn, Minn., a son of Robert and Lydia August Fay Stearns. He came to Nebraska when he was about 11-years-old.

On November 20, at Hurley, S.D., he married Nina Pellmulder and they became the parents of eight children.

Mr. Stearns came to Holt county from Spencer, in Boyd county, in 1912. He was a member of the Woodmen of the World lodge.

Survivors include: Widow—Nina; sons—Richard of Wood River and Dale of Hastings; daughters—Mrs. Forrest (Carmen) Stearns of Grand Island; Mrs. Earl (Keava) Goree of Grant's Pass, Ore.; Mrs. Cecil (Cora) Spry of El Paso, Tex.; Mrs. Larry (Doris) Tenborg of O'Neill; brothers—Ernest Stearns of San Jacinto, Calif., and Louis Stearns of Troutdale, Ore.; sister—Mrs. Mabel Ollum of Lakeview, Ore.; 22 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Two children, Harold and Lema, died in infancy.

Elmer E. Smith, 80, Expires in Omaha

Follows Wife in Death by 2 Weeks

PAGE—Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m., Wednesday, February 23, from the Methodist church here for Elmer Edwin Smith, 80, longtime resident of the Ewing and Page communities. He died Saturday, February 19, in an Omaha hospital, where he had been a patient about a month.

The late Mr. Smith had been critically ill for several months. His wife, Clara, died Sunday, February 6, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schrader in Ewing. Funeral services for Mrs. Smith were conducted exactly two weeks prior to Mr. Smith's rites.

The late Elmer Edwin Smith was born February 27, 1874, at Beatrice, a son of John and Sarah Smith.

On June 11, 1902, at O'Neill he married Clara Potter. They became the parents of three children. The Smiths observed their golden wedding anniversary in 1952.

The family resided many years on farms in those communities. Mr. Smith had been a member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Chambers for 54 years.

Upon retiring from the farm, the Smiths made their home in the northeast section of town.

Survivors include: Daughter—Mrs. Mabel Parker of Springfield, Ore.; sons—William E. of Walton, Ore., and Leo F. of Rainier, Ore.; sisters—Mrs. Nellie McIntosh of Page, Mrs. Minnie Davidson of Seattle, Wash., Mrs. Frank McIntosh of Greeley; brother—John Smith of Albion; 12 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

5 Children Rescued from Blazing Home

SPENCER—Five children in a Spencer family were rescued by their father when fire broke out in their home.

The fire started under the stairs in the Joe Pfeifer home.

The five children were sleeping upstairs One of the younger girls was awakened by the smoke. Her coughing awakened her father who found the stairs in flames.

Pfeifer rescued the children by wrapping them in blankets and rolling them down the stairs. He burned his feet badly and was hospitalized at Lynch.

Wayne Blair, Spencer fireman, was injured while helping put out the fire and was sent to an Omaha hospital.

Spencer Legion Auxiliary Meets

SPENCER—The Spencer American Legion auxiliary unit voted Monday night to sponsor a quartet in the district convention and a girl for Cornhusker girls' state.

A contribution was approved for the national president's 1955 project, restoration of the Flag House at Baltimore, Md. Plans for the annual auxiliary birthday party to be held March 8 were discussed.

Book Studied by Mission Group

EWING—Chapters 1 and 2 of the book, "Under Three Flags," were reviewed at the Presbyterian church's Missionary society meeting last Thursday at the farm home of Mrs. Webb Napier. Thirteen were present.

The world day of prayer was discussed. Mrs. Ralph Schrader will arrange the program.

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Mrs. Vernon Lorenz joined the club as a new member. Mrs. E. L. Watson was a visitor.

Bride Fails to Appear; Storm Is Blamed

DELOIT—The wedding of Alva Schruck and Darrel Robertson, which was to have taken place Sunday afternoon, was postponed because of the storm. The bridegroom, a minister from Lincoln, and some of the guests arrived, but it was impossible for the bride to get to Clearwater from her home southwest of Clearwater.

Mrs. Quig Hostess

The BSS club met Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. John L. Quig. A luncheon was served by the hostess.

Burial at Chambers for Mrs. Mary Sheedy

Holt Home Steader Dies in Lincoln

CHAMBERS—Mrs. Mary Sheedy, 84, widow of the late John Sheedy, died Thursday, February 17, in St. Elizabeth's hospital at Lincoln. She had enjoyed good health, relatives said, until February when she suffered a stroke which paralyzed her left side. She had been unconscious for two days prior to her death.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m., Monday, February 21, from the Methodist church here. Rev. J. M. Hodgkin officiated and burial was in the Chambers cemetery under the direction of Biglin's.

The funeral originally was scheduled for Saturday but because of blizzard conditions was postponed for two days.

Singers were Thomas Lambert, Chloé Adams, Hazel Wintermute and Ray Hoffman, accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Joe Daas. Pallbearers were A. B. Hubbard, Arthur Tangeman, Lawrence Tangeman, Walter Jutte and Gaus Wintermute. In charge of flowers were Mrs. Hattie Tibbets and Mrs. Letha Cooke.

Mrs. Sheedy's maiden name was Mary Elizabeth Summers, daughter of Samuel Allen Summers and Mary McKinzie Summers. She was born November 27, 1870, at Ewing, Ia.

At the age of 15 she came to Holt county with her parents and resided on a homestead several miles northeast of Chambers.

On October 30, 1895, at O'Neill she married Mr. Sheedy of Sioux City. They became the parents of two children.

Mr. and Mrs. Sheedy resided in Sioux City about two years and then moved to the Chambers locality. They resided on a farm, which was occupied by Orville Keller, until 1923, when they retired from farm life and moved into Chambers. Mr. Sheedy died in 1925, following which the widow moved to Lincoln, where she resided until her death.

While living in Chambers she was custodian of the public school. For 15 years in Lincoln she was janitress of the girls' department of the University of Nebraska college of agriculture.

She joined the Methodist church in childhood and was a member throughout her life.

Survivors include: Daughter—Mrs. Gertrude Craft of Yuba City, Calif.; son—James of Lincoln and Mrs. LaVonne Hobbs of Selma, Ala.; three great-grandchildren—Mrs. Grace Kemp of Tisdale, Can., and Myrtle Bell of Chambers; nephews—Carl Jeffers of Chambers, Oliver Summers of Allen, Warren Summers of Denver, Colo.

Among those from a distance here for the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. James Sheedy of Lincoln, Mrs. George Craft of Yuba City, Calif., and Mrs. LaVonne Hobbs of Selma, Ala.

Arctic Wind Lashes Area for 60 Hours

Hiway Traffic Grinds to Halt as Snow Sweeps into Region

O'Neill escaped the brunt of a 2 1/2-day snow-and-blow that created considerable inconvenience to northwestern Nebraskans and South Dakotans.

Only five inches of snow fell here during the ordeal, which began about noon on Friday and continued unabated through Saturday, with the winds diminishing Sunday evening about 7 o'clock.

Winds mounted up to 55 miles per hour here and, except that snowfall was relatively light, the storm might have been a memorable one.

Traffic on U.S. highway 20 west from O'Neill came to a halt late Saturday and traffic was tied up until after a rotary plow had cleared the drifts near the John Dick Shelterbelt on Sunday evening. There was considerable drifting on the east-west roads.

Motorists coming into O'Neill said visibility was bad after reaching Ewing and Plainview. From Bassett west there was more snow and more hardship.

Chicotte bus Western trains operated behind schedule. Bus schedules were snafued and highway traffic was on a restricted basis throughout the weekend. Some farmers are still digging out and are obliged to take circuitous routes to get to the homes.

Lowest temperature during the storm was -4 degrees.

Weather summary:

	Hi	Lo	Prec.
February 17	45	26	
February 18	42	11	
February 19	19	1	.96
February 20	15	13	.23
February 21	29	3	
February 22	27	-2	
February 23	18	-1	
Totals			1.19

Storm Halts All Activity at Ewing

EWING—The snowstorm which hit Ewing about 10 a.m., on Friday halted all activities and stopped traffic as it gained in intensity during the day. The storm continuing throughout Saturday and Sunday. Early Sunday evening the winds abated and the sky cleared.

Temperatures were around zero. Approximately six inches of snow fell. The winds piled snow into high drifts of several feet in depth about town.

Clifford Hahlbeck, beginning work in the wee hours of Monday morning, had the streets and roads cleaned of snow before traffic was begun.

No services were held Sunday morning at the Methodist or the Church of Christ. The congregations of the United Presbyterian and the St. Peter's church were small.

Many social activities and weekend trips were cancelled. School was dismissed early Friday afternoon. Business on Main street was at a standstill.

No School Monday Due to Roads

INMAN—The Inman schools were dismissed Friday noon due to the storm. There were no classes on Saturday. The fact that the roads were blocked and school buses were unable to operate.

Sunday services at the Methodist church were also canceled due to the storm.

Miss Birmingham Praised

Mary Lou Birmingham of O'Neill was commended by E. Roland Harriman, national chairman of the Red Cross, Friday for her work in Korea.

Harriman said just after Marilyn Monroe made an appearance in Korea, he had a letter from a soldier asking that Miss Birmingham be given credit for her work.

"The soldier wrote that Miss Birmingham is here all the time, not just for one appearance," Harriman told an Omaha news conference.

The annual American Red Cross drive starts next week.

Pongratz, Barnes Leaving Germany

EMMETT—Duane Pongratz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pongratz, and Wayne Barnes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Barnes, were scheduled to leave for the United States Tuesday, February 15, from Germany where they had been in service. After returning home they will receive their discharges.

MAIN LEAKS

PAGE—A leaky watermain developed here near the Grace Merryman residence in west Page during the storm. That area has been closed off until repair can be made.