'Under Construction'

U.S. Bureau's Term Misleading

By CLIFF SANDAHL Chairman, Nebraska Editors

Sometimes official reportsunless accompanied by adequate explanatory materialcan leave erroneous impres-

That is exactly what has happened in the case of a reon last June 30.

At first blush, it would seem more than a year. that if Nebraska had that many miles of roads "under construction" in the middle of 1952, there certainly should be no cause for concern in 1953 has been deficient in state about highway financing. But it so happens that

U.S. bureau of public roads classifies road projects as still "under construction" until 95 percent of the monetary value principal items of major conof the work is done.

struction project is not completed, in the eyes of the U.S. bureau, until the contractor has all but 5 percent of his job

ment, in order to get to the bottom of the whole thing,

MOWER MAGIC

made a searching study of these projects and came up with these findings:

major construction work was completed on about 16 percent of the mileage in 1951, or earlier; completed on about 13 percent of the mileage between January and the end of June, 1952; completed on about 44 percent of the mileage between July and the end of September, 1952; and only about 25 percent of that the

mained uncompleted when cold weather set in late last fall. Many of the projects listed ing these rules and regulations gins went to Ft. Riley, Kans., for were not complete as of June 30, as far as the U.S. bureau was concerned, simply because guard | work as scheduled and to lesport of the U.S. bureau of public | rail - a comparatively small | sen the chance that a contractor roads classifying a total of item— had not been erected at will be awarded a job that he 603 miles of Nebraska highways that time. Yet the highways cannot complete within the set as being "under construction" themselves had been in use by time limit. the traveling public, some for

major construction work re-

It is interesting to note that Back from Koreaall of this confusion about roads "under construction" stems from the very fact that Nebraska revenue for highways.

Highway departments of most states-those not critically short of state funds—use federal struction projects. By doing erection with state funds only, batallion's battery C. the states eliminate some of the

Nebraska, however, has to use ing at Ft. Bliss Tex. federal aid to the greatest extent possible because state Ellen Shald of Bassett. funds are critically short. Nebraska's policy in this respect A. H. Rowse, Burwell, not only lengthens the time Buys Summers Landthat projects in this state are

Many states, for example, never use federal funds in obbraska always asks the federal government for 50 percent reimbursement for right of

Fortunately, among the many contractors who have done work for the Nebraska highway department, there are a very few who are consistently slow in

finishing their contracts.

The highway department is authorized by the "contractors' pre-qualification" law to issue rules and regulations to qualify contractors. Executives of the department now are in the process of reviewing and revisin an attempt to increase the penalities for failure to complete

Shald Enroute

ATKINSON-Army Sgt. Charles R. Shald, whose wife, Marjorie, lives in Atkinson, recently left the 45th infantry division in Korea for return to the U.S. after spending 15 months in Korea. The 45th arrived in Korea in December, 1951, and captured matching funds only for the "T-bone" hill in June's seesaw hill battles.

Shald was assigned as a section such minor work as guard rail chief in the 171st field artillery He entered the army in June, 1951, and received his basic train-The sergeant is the son of Mrs.

The H. M. Summers land, sold the "under construction" at auction Wednesday, March 25, category, but also raises the was sold to A. H. Rowse of Burcost per mile for construction, well for \$23.10 an acre. The ranch since Nebraska asks for federal consisted of 1,200 acres and is participation on every eligible located four miles west of Eric-

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Recent Army - Air Enlistments Told traini

The army-air force recruiting office at O'Neill has announced the following recent enlistments from this recruiting area.

For the regular army: Guy U. Norwood of Lynch; John G. Summers of Page; Eddie L. Jackson of Nenzel; William J. Zacek of Niobrara (airborne);
Robert C. Hart of Brocksburg;
Charles L. Wiggins of Seneca;
Gerald H. Ashton of Neligh.

Summers, Jackson and Wigeight weeks of basic training and then will be reassigned to a quartermaster unit at Camp Carson, Colo. These are special assignments arranged before the men enlisted.

The others went to Camp Crowder, Mo., for further processing and reassignment. Hart will be reassigned to the engineers. He is an ex-serviceman and has a choice of branch on reenlistment. Ashton had made application for specialized training in the signal corps. He was fled. accepted for this special training before enlisting. He will take his basic training at Camp Gordon, Ga., and will then be reassigned

Luke A. Scholtes of Ainsworth; Delbert R. Rouse of O'Neill; Merlin Meyers of Bloomfield; John D. Binkerd of Ewing; Ace E. Shermer of Amelia; Robert E. Courtney of Lynch; Donald F.

Scherbring of Petersburg. Woodrow C. Vaughn of Valentine; Allen H. Walters of O'Neill; Kenneth J. Macke of Creighton; Lawrence Murphy of Bloomfield; Richard W. Ring of Spencer; William L. Allison of Burton; George H. Courtney of Lynch; Eward E. McCloud of Verdel.

Angus, Scholtes and Vaughn went to Parks air force base, Pleasanton, Calif., and all the others went to Lackland air force

4.50

base, San Antonio, Tex., for further processing, reassignment and

TIMES ARE BAD

young man, losing a race with a patrolman between York and Aurora, was taken before a justice of the peace. In court, the youth told of his struggles to secure an education and the menial tasks he was forced to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller of North Platte were weekend

NO CAN SHOOT

aren't there for shooting. Hastings man, fined \$50 costs and \$375 in liquidated Miss Lou Birmingham of Omadamages, learned the law en-forces a closed season—but 12 parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. damages, learned the law enmallards and three pintails Birmingham. Mrs. Birmingham

entered a Blair woman's home, arrived Tuesday the housewife wasted no time

O'Neill News

Mr. and Mrs. Ned Porter and family of Columbus spent the weekend in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Porter. Miss Betty Gallagher, who teaches in Omaha, will spend the spring vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gallagher

guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Burgess. Mrs. W. J. Froelich and family spent the first of the week in The ducks now in the skies Chicago, Ill. Mr. Froelich return-A ed with them to spend the Easin ter weekend here.

returned to Omaha with her to bring Miss Mardi Birmingham, a When a strange man broke student at Duchesne college, open a lock on a front door and home for spring vacation. They

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Campbell on heroic actions or thoughts. spent Wednesday, March 25, She ran for the back door and through Friday in Omaha on

THE FRONTIER, O'Neill, Nebr., Thurs., Apr. 2, 1953 .- PAGE 5.

son, Warren Burgess, and fami-Mr. and Mrs. Bill Brewster and Gary called in the George Winkler farm home Sunday evening to see Terry Gallagher who was recently dismissed from St.

Anthony's hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Stevens returned to their home at Oakland Sunday after spending a few days visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Grutsch. Mr. and Mrs. Tony Asimus pent Tuesday in Kansas City, Mo., on business.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Clauson entertained at a dinner Sunday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs George C. Smith and family of

W. F. FINLEY, M.D. O'NEILL

First National Bank Bldg. OFFICE PHONE: 28

Mrs. L. A. Burgess spent the Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. Grover weekend in Lincoln visiting her Shaw, Charles Shaw and Mr. and

Mrs. K. C. Hunt. DEAD ANIMALS

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basic training at Camp Gordon, Ga., and will then be reassigned at that training center to a three-month camera repair school. For air force: Maxie D. Angus of Ewing; Maxie D. Angus of Ewing; IN OUR STORE Thurs., April 9th



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Needs Clarification

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The state highway depart-

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