

Prairieland Talk

Rare Calf Brings Notoriety

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

LINCOLN—It has taken a hairless calf to bring discovery to the American press gentry that there is such a place on the map of Nebraska as Amelia.

There are other novel and unusual features of that charming community in southwest Holt county but these are attracting no attention and the peaceful community of Amelia would have still moved along in quiet enjoyment of same living on prairieland unknown to most of the state had not a cow at Glen White's ranch drawn attention to the community from far and wide by adding a hairless calf to the ranch herds. State papers have taken it up with a two-column picture of the calf in all its pink nakedness.



Romaine Saunders

Of course, Glen's ranch is not a part of Amelia but spreads its verdant loveliness a few miles south of the town. The town of Amelia is unusual in that it has no such thing as a town pump. The village sits in the heart of the flowing-well belt and homes and business places are supplied with 100 percent pure water from the flowing-wells.

A clergyman friend has been retired by his church superiors after 32 years in active church work. He is no weakling or superannuated individual, nor is he too proud to work with his hands, and he has taken on a job that means some hard work and long hours. This is not necessary from a standpoint of securing a livelihood as the church group with which he has ministered through the years provides well for its retired workers by a plan known as "sustentation." He is one of the rare characters of our times, an able speaker, a capable accountant and above all a warm hearted, friendly person, whom to know brings to you an inspiration. When an individual has reached the period of life that he really knows something, has discovered what it is all about, why retire him? This one declines to retire; he goes to work.

Following some sunless days and starless nights which brought a steady dripping of rain this morning the land is flooded with sunbeams. The "cornbelt" is well watered and fields of growing grain hold a promise of abundant harvest. Relatives from near central Kansas with us recently report the wheat outlook poor down that way because of drought conditions that prevail and daily dust clouds stirred up by the winds.

The ancients, too had their problem of youth and age, like some greynbeards and sprightly young fellows today, the one feeling the other has it yet to learn, and youth considering age of no importance in the scheme of human things. An oldtimer of 1520 B.C. got this off his chest: "But now they that are younger than I have me in derision, whose fathers I would have disdain'd to have set with the dogs of my flocks."

The family took off for Omaha this morning, so with no active boys around pestering their little sister the house is so quiet and empty of animated life that I jump at sight of my shadow. "What is home without a mother?" trills still on memory's tablet; and what is a big house when they are all gone unless it is meant for grandpa to relax?

At the time of the revolution our nickname was Brother Jonathan. In the war of 1812 that was changed to Uncle Sam, and as most uncles are pretty popular it still sticks.

The two-dollar-a-day man saved money; the two-dollar-an-hour man has to borrow money.

Highway travel in the United States last year is said to have equalled 486 billion miles. A Hebrew prophet who became prime minister for King Cyrus may have had a vision of the Nebraska highway when he wrote about the time when "many shall run to and fro." . . . If it can dodge the deadly aim of an O'Neill gent out gunning, a wild goose that visits Swan Lake twice a year may live for 70 years. . . . The University of Rhode Island came out with a watermelon that has a castiron rind, guaranteed not to break when tossed into trucks for transportation. . . . Col. Irene Galloway heads of women's army corps. To address a lady as "colonel" sounds a bit ungentlemanly. . . . The great state of Ohio has never been formally admitted to the Union, although being known as a state since 1803. . . . Irrigation projects in Mexico, New Mexico, Texas and Colorado have greatly reduced the volume of water in the Rio Grande. Holt county's historic Niobrara will be reduced to a dry run if the upper reaches of the river are diverted to irrigation projects.

Playing the piano for 245 hours without a pause is one gent's contribution to the world's musical marathon. It was not disclosed if there were any within hearing distance among survivors. . . . Animal life rises superior and conquers over the machine age. In a trial tug-o-war between an elephant and a gasoline-powered machine the whizzing, sputtering tractor was pulled all over the lot by Jumbo. . . . Maybe the burdened taxpayer has chuckled a bit over the dilemma of the county assessors. . . . The heavens wept today, hour after hour the steady drip kept up and at intervals the faucets of the heavens let out a downpour—a swell day to curl up on the bed and let 'er rain. . . . It was in 1902 temperamental bird dogs were brought to O'Neill from other states for the field trials, the lay of the land and stock of prairie chickens offering the best for such events. Now, 31 years later, scientists have found in the O'Neill community what they had been looking for as a testing ground.

Vivian Lemmer of Atkinson is one of the 101 university women making up the coed council board which will do the "big sister" act in behalf of girls coming to the university for the first time next fall.

A day in November in 1931 we received word through the board of governors of the Nebraska society that The Frontier had been made an honorary member of the society in recognition of the society in recognition of public spirited work on the part of the management. Nebraska was an organization that collected and recorded facts about leading citizens of the state as well as keeping a watchful eye upon progressive undertakings in communities of the state. Since 1880 The Frontier has boosted—and more than once started—worthwhile undertakings.

Social security is being considered again this session of congress. A member of the house committee informs me that the inequalities of the social security payments to the beneficiaries is one feature to be dealt with. Some are receiving more than others and members of congress are favoring a flat rate for all. Now is the time for that branch of industry that has an equal share with labor in creating the social security fund to demand that they also have an equal share in the benefits.

Whether it detracts or adds to a fellow's popularity these days it is difficult to say—a member of the state railway commission was jailed for drunkenness while behind the steering wheel on a busy Lincoln street.

Who remembers when we went swimming—we didn't vote?



Down Memory Lane

Miss Florence Lindsay, The Frontier's Amelia correspondent, furnishes these pictures of Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Bliss (above) who put Amelia on the map of Holt county 69 years ago. Romaine Saunders provides the text: "The town originally was located a half-mile west from the present location and was little more than the home of the Bliss family who volunteered to act as custodians of the few letters to be mailed or handed out to the settlers. Mr. Bliss would hoof it into O'Neill to mail letters and pick up such as was there for the folks out his way. Miss Lindsay recalls that when Uncle Sam finally got around to authorizing a mail route and government postoffice it was known as Bliss. This was changed to Amelia in honor of Mrs. Bliss whose name was Amelia. Another postoffice in the Cashe creek country east of Chambers later was known as Bliss. A buckskin clad guy that kids in O'Neill knew only as John, admired his handsome horse almost to the point of worship and looked with juvenile envy at his big saddle with a solid silver horn, came into the county seat on occasion with the mail and thus saved foot-weary Bliss a trip. Amelia county, down in old Virginia, was the home of a notable poet, John Bannister Tabb. Holt's own Amelia community has not produced any notable poets; but what is more important it has from the beginning been a community of industrious, God-fearing and contented people contributing much to the wealth and industry of Holt county."

When You and I were Young. . .

Cinnabar Ore

Found in Gulch

Contains About 200

Ounces Quicksilver

50 Years Ago

After the regular business meeting of the Masonic lodge, its members held an informal smoker in honor of J. J. King, who is moving to Washington state. . . . A party of men from Gross, who were prospecting in Verdes gulch near

the river, discovered a large body of cinnabar ore lying exposed by a recent slide. One member of the party who was familiar with the ore, estimated it would produce 200 ounces of quicksilver to the ton. However, samples were sent to Omaha for an accurate valuation. . . . Miss Nellie M. O'Fallen closed district 17 after a successful 6-month term of school. . . . Thomas H. Cafferty of Ewing was in the hub and filed on a homestead. . . . Dan Finnigan won a few "scheckels" in a foot race at Ainsworth. . . . In order to enjoy life a man must be a little miserable occasionally.

.. DANCE .. AT O'NEILL American Legion Auditorium Saturday, May 16th ACES OF RHYTHM Orchestra Adm.: Adults \$1, Students 50c

20 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Norb Uhl became parents of an 8 1/2-pound son born May 10. . . . The senior class presented a comedy three-act play, "Adam and Eve" . . . County Agent James Rooney gave a talk to the rural sociology class at St. Mary's academy. . . . Thomas Brennan will open a grocery store in his building on Fourth street. . . . Coffee was 25 cents a pound, 10 bars of soap were 25 cents, 100 pounds of potatoes were \$1.20, and canned fruits were 5 cents a can. . . . Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Lindberg became parents of an 8 1/2-pound son on May 10. . . . Ben Harty moved his dry cleaners to the Zimmerman building on East Douglas street.

10 Years Ago

A third call is made to gather scrap metal and impress on the people's minds how urgently it is needed. . . . Joe Martin and Frank Clements took an involuntary bath in Wolfe lake when their boat sank in about 10 feet of water. They lost all of their fishing equipment. . . . Mrs. John M. Grutsch received a radiogram for mother's day from her son, Pvt. John E. Grutsch, stationed

in Hawaii. . . . Lt. John R. Gallagher and Romaine Stein, both of O'Neill, met in Guardalcanal. . . . State Sen. Tony Asmus's bill to allocate more money to the rural sections for farm-to-market roads probably will rate as one of the most important bills considered by the unicameral this session. . . . Cpl. Leonard Young was honored at a party while home on furlough.

1 Year Ago

P. B. Harty, 62, died May 12 while seated at his desk in his place of business. . . . Miss Eliza-

beth Gallagher and Alfred Hamik were married May 10 in St. Patrick's Catholic church. . . . Mrs. Ray Lawrence entertained seven girls in honor of the birthday anniversary of her daughter, Bonnie. . . . Chet Calkin's reward fund is officially closed at \$1,550. . . . A doe visited the Inez school 20 miles south of Atkinson. . . . Rev. and Mrs. Robert Olson returned from a 3 week vacation in Wisconsin. . . . 125 rural eighth graduated on May 12.

Frontier for printing!

ELKHORN FLOWER SHOP 405 E. DOUGLAS ST. O'NEILL, NEBR. Night Phone 530W Day Phone 579 We Telegraph Flowers Flowers For All Occasions

A Special Offer fit for a Queen! YOUR NEW ELECTRIC RANGE INSTALLED FREE! Now is the time to buy that new, electric range you've been thinking about! Take advantage of this big, May and June free installation offer! * See Your Favorite Electric Dealer or Consumers Public Power District Today! Get Full Details of This Money-Saving Offer!

Editorial

Mr. Decker Scores at Denver

State Supt. of Public Instruction Freeman B. Decker, who was appointed by Gov Val Peterson to succeed Wayne Reed and who subsequently was elected to the same post, got into print during the weekend on the basis of what he told an educators' group assembled in Denver, Colo.

Mr. Decker, a veteran northeast Nebraska schoolman and for a time a successful private businessman, sounded off with something that appeals to The Frontier.

He charged the Veterans administration with interfering in the conduct and administration of schools attended by former GI's who are furthering their education through VA benefits. It was during this post-World War II that a good many irregularities in education occurred. He charged the move was an encroachment on the historic rights of states.

Mr. Decker came out forthright for the home rule of schools and speculated that schools might get more money under a federal program, but they would stand in danger of losing their independence.

This is refreshing, indeed, to hear this alert talk from our state capitol school chief. It has been downright fashionable during the past 20 years or so for officials to advocate getting aboard the federal spending wagon and relinquish local control at every turn. This tendency in education, as well as in highways, medicine, and anything else, alarms some of the conservative element of our country.

Mr. Decker is a solid, substantial citizen and a practical educator along with ample academic background.

We like his old-fashioned idea that schools are one of the really important phases of a working democracy and control should be kept at the local level.

Rabies Call for Alertness

(Guest editorial from Pierce County Leader) First a few cases of rabies in skunks 20 or 30 miles northeast of Pierce, then reports not too many miles north of Pierce—then this was followed by two cases right in this community. Now at O'Neill a case of rabies in a domestic cat and a rabid cow.

These cases are becoming numerous enough for people to be on the lookout in both domestic and wild animals for rabies. It is time that parents heed these warnings and try to instill into the minds of their children ordinary precautions of safety.

In the latest case reported at O'Neill the family cat attacked and bit a mother and her grown daughter. At noon the daughter fed the cats in the farm yard and as she turned to walk away the cat ran after her and jumped on her legs and scratched and bit her. Then about 5 o'clock in the afternoon the mother went into the barn to gather eggs. The cat jumped on her and although she fought off the cat and ran for the house she was badly scratched and bitten.

The veterinarian's report showed the cat brain had "positive proof of rabies" and both

women are receiving medical attention.

The milk cow on another farm near O'Neill began to act queerly and a veterinarian was called and he ordered the animal destroyed. No person was exposed to the rabid cow.

It is the duty of every adult to be constantly alert for strange behavior in both domestic and wild animals.

Dame Rumor

(Guest editorial from the Neligh News)

An example of what proportions rumors can reach was portrayed recently when early in the week it was heard that O'Neill was going to get an air force jet base.

"Just like O'Neill to get something like that," a few Nelighites commented.

The spreader of that particular rumor also supplied the information that the old air base at Ainsworth was not big enough, would have to be completely re-built, so O'Neill was going to be the spot.

Next day, the jet base had been changed to a weather station for O'Neill. It was to be the biggest weather station in the U.S., a tremendous outlay.

When the rumors finally became fact later in the week through the courtesy of Cal Stewart's O'Neill Frontier, we read what was actually going to happen at O'Neill: A team of some 125 scientists will make a six-week weather study starting about August 1.

That was a good illustration of what service a newspaper can be in separating fact from fiction.

Incidentally, we can think of no better place to study the weather than O'Neill, which seems to have all of it if the "Voice of The Frontier" is a reliable spokesman for the area.

This is a good time of the year to plan the summer's vacation. That is, if you're in the group that can qualify for a vacation.

We can consider ourselves fortunate in escaping a clobbering like Hebron got in a Saturday night tornado.



Editorial & Business Offices: 122 South Fourth St. CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher Established in 1880—Published Each Thursday

Entered at the postoffice in O'Neill, Holt county, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. This newspaper is a member of the Nebraska Press Association, National Editorial Association and the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Terms of Subscription: In Nebraska \$2.50 per year; elsewhere in the United States, \$3 per year; abroad, rates provided on request. All subscriptions are strictly paid-in-advance.

PRICE! PERFORMANCE! BEAUTY! LONG LIFE! 4-Way Proof that Dollar for Dollar you can't beat a Pontiac. Here's how to prove Pontiac value: First, get behind the wheel and drive it—see how Pontiac puts you out in front in traffic, skims you along the open road with surprising economy; how its big, husky high-compression engine provides power to spare. Next, take a good long look at its distinctive styling and its luxurious color-matched interiors. Consider, also, Pontiac's reputation for unsurpassed dependability, long-range economy and high resale value. Finally, compare its low price—so low, in fact, that if you can afford any new car you can afford a Pontiac. Why not come in and see for yourself? WM. KROTTER CO. O'NEILL, NEBR. PHONE 531