

Prairieland Talk

Tighten Belts, Take Losses

By ROMANE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Frontier Editor

LINCOLN—Farm price supports — and so long as such are maintained so long will inflated prices of everything continue.

Not so long ago the family that had an 80-acre farm, four horses, a few cows and a flock of chickens was satisfied and happy, managed their affairs without help or hindrance from state and federal boards and bureaus and were as independent as a hog on ice.

Products of the farms, livestock and fruits and grains are too high. Everything is priced crazy. Salaries and wages are too high and much of life's necessities are priced beyond the ability of many to buy.

If the American dollar is ever restored to its true value farmers and wage and salary earning classes along with all lines of industry must take a cut in income which would also mean a cut in go, and \$50-an-acre corn lands and \$5-an-acre grass lands get back to just that with town and city property restored to normal values.

Have a bunch of babies taken over the cattle raising industry? Imagine Holt county ranchers like Charley Blabon, Sam Elwood, Hay McClure or Riley Brothers going to government officials to bellyache about the ups-and-downs of their business! If one year's operations spelled a loss they tightened belts, swung the lariats over the horns of a few more and went at it to make a profit the next year. I had an investment or two that were not so good. Maybe Secretary Benson should make up the losses. But as I and others who have been stung from time-to-time took it on the chin, the 1953 cowpunchers should take the losses and build for the future on a lower level of cattle prices.

I saw in a store window today "Beef roast 49 cents pound." This just after learning cattle in Kansas bring nine cents a pound.

Maybe the fellow at the meat block should be dealt with.

I saw them yesterday, two little shavers rushing out shouting, "Daddy! Daddy!" as daddy came into the yard after being away all day at work, and the wife and mother stood in the doorway and smiled. Just a glimpse of American family life at its best.

Two books over from where Prairieland Talker's typewriter is parked is a flower garden retaining color and fragrance as the season of the fallen leaf marches on. Hoar frost has not yet come to lay its jeweled sheet across the land. Trees are fast becoming bereft of the silken garb of summer and the yellow leaves of autumn are wind-blown along the open way to gather in fence corners or spread a blanket over yard and lawn. Each changing season has charm. Autumn colors and early sunsets that flash to us a goodnight in letters of gold. The south wind blows today, sweeping leaf and fallen twig before it, reminding of the approach of long winter evenings when Godfearing men and women with their children about them see visions of glory in the flickering firelight as they pop corn and eat apples. The past season has not been overly fruitful on prairieland but there is enough and we are grateful.



Romane Saunders

Conservation—the act of preserving from decay, loss or injury; to conserve. Nebraska, with other states, is divided into what are known as conservation districts. Just what is being accomplished by this setup? It has neither brought fruitful seasons nor prevented the results of drought. Most of the state's farm lands have been a failure this year so far as crop yield is concerned. What will next season be? Maybe the conservationists should provide a few stacks of hay to spread over denuded fields in the event of another visitation of hot winds. I read much about conservation but not one word to indicate an additional bushel of corn as a fruitage of all the talk. Certainly patriots are not just beating the air. And water-soaked irrigation links up with conservation. If you would rather raise an ear of corn than a calf and must irrigate, put down a well, but as Sam McKelvie says, palsied be the hand that spoils another acre of Nebraska's God given cow country. We are busy promoting the schemes and plans and programs of men and probably always will be, "But the Lord is in His holy temple: Let all the earth keep silent before Him."

A lordly cottonwood is responsible for a quarrel between neighbors. A householder complains that the tree on his neighbor's lot clogged his drains with falling leaves, the roots of the tree caused cracks in his driveway and walls, and goes to court hoping to collect \$5,000 damages.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur F. Mullen, newlyweds, arrived on Saturday night's train a date in July 50 years ago. Mr. Mullen at that time was serving as county attorney of Holt county, but he got his bride in eastern Iowa. He had bought one of the Kinch properties on what is now North First street just north of Douglas and he and his bride established a home there. A day in July that year Glen Nap, 9-years-old, met up with and killed a wolf single-handed near the parental home about five miles northeast of O'Neill. If a kid did that now he would be given a free trip to Paris and back. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Zimmerman became grandparents that year when a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Sturdevant of Spencer, Mrs. Sturdevant being their daughter, Clara. And J. J. McCafferty came over from Spencer (where he had started a hardware store) to celebrate the Fourth with others in the community that claimed his first love.

Our neighboring state to the south has suffered more than once because of rainless days during the growing season and again they suffer on Kansas soil because of a dry summer. Responding to the question as to what the past season has produced agriculturally in the section of that state where he makes his home, the one addressed replied, "Nothing." Cornfields are nude so far as an ear of corn is involved and the stalks have been cut and gathered for fodder. Farmers are selling their cattle and ranchers are broke, cattle selling at nine cents a pound. Wells have given out in some communities and it has become necessary to haul in water to supply certain towns with a little to keep them going.

Twelve miles out from Washington, D.C., the government carries on its biggest agricultural experiments on a farm of 11,000 acres, 556 buildings and 2,000 husky "farmers."



Company Commander

Capt. Roy L. Dickerson of Atkinson (above) recently was assigned as commander of the 33d field artillery battalion's battery A in Germany. Capt. Dickerson, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. R. Dickerson of Atkinson, formerly served with the first infantry division's artillery headquarters in Erlangen, Germany. He entered the army on his present tour of duty in October, 1950, and wears the bronze star medal and the army of occupation medal for service in Germany. Dickerson, whose wife, Mildred, lives at 1511 Lake ave., Lawton, Okla., arrived overseas last May. He is a 1942 graduate of the University of Nebraska.—U.S. Army Photo.

Visiting Here— Mrs. Echo Hanna of Wood Lake arrived Friday for a visit with her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ralya, and family.

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Western states—projects that I think ought to be approved, I'm going to see them (budget bureau) again in mid-November. I'm going to try to convince them we have some projects the people want, they're willing to pay back the cost of the project, and if it is feasible we ought to go ahead and have them."

The student county government program, sponsored by the American Legion, appears to gain more-and-more enthusiasm and interest each year. There are a good many adults in this world who haven't a clue as to the machinery, problems and principles of government at any level. The Legion and cooperating county officials are to be congratulated for taking youthful minds behind the scenes and exposing them to county government in a very practical—although very brief—way.

The Otto Knoells, who lost their farm home by fire of unknown origin, are up against it. Certainly neighbors and friends will come to their aid in this time of need. Mr. and Mrs. Knoell and their two small children are a worthy young farm family trying to get established and the fire loss places them in a difficult position.

Happiness is the greatest paradox of nature. It can grow in any soil, live under any conditions. It defies environment. It comes from within. Happiness consists not of having, but of being; not of possessing, but of enjoying. It is the warm glow of a heart at peace with itself.—Contributed.

Except for a shortage of cement the paving contractors here say the eight blocks of new paving now under construction, adjoining the main business district, would have been completed about three weeks ago.

Despite so much drought we've heard about there still seems to be an abundance of corn being harvested.

Best news of the year is that the cattle prices have taken an upturn these past few days.

Ever notice the number of television antennas to be counted in O'Neill nowadays?



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Lynch News

Maxine Jehorek of Omaha spent last weekend at the parental Martin Jehorek home. She returned to her work Monday via O'Neill railroad.

Robert Maly left Monday morning, October 19, for the army.

Mrs. Josefa Sedivy of Spencer spent Sunday, October 18, at the Vac Jedicka home.

Mrs. Ethel Mulhair spent last weekend at the Dale Mulhair home in Sioux City.

George Kalkowski was a business visitor in Crofton Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Emil Dryak and

family and Mr. and Mrs. William Veseley and family all of Pishelville were Lynch visitors Sunday, October 18.

Mrs. Tillie Novak and son, Louis, spent Sunday, October 18, visiting Grandmother Cerny at Niobrara.

Mrs. Hattie Mc Callister, a former Lynchite, now of Estes Park, Colo., spent last week visiting old time friends here. She left for Omaha on Friday where she will visit this week.

Mrs. Grady's Spencer and Mrs. Lloyd Spencer spent Thursday in Spencer on business.

The Wayne Christensen family moved into the Hewitson residence which they recently purchased and remodeled.

Mrs. Albert McDonald and family were Sunday dinner guests at the Frank McDonald home in Holt county.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Bernard and son, Lloyd, and wife all of Hartington, spent Tuesday, October 20, at the Wallace Courtney home.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerly Sixta spent Sunday, October 18, at the Allen Koscan home in Butte.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmet Hickey and Miss Hazel McDonald, all of Los Angeles, Calif., visited at the Albert McDonald home here last week.

Gerald Mills and family came Saturday, October 24, from Riverton, Wyo., for a visit at the

Lloyd Mills and Guy Norwood homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Anderson and family of Niobrara were Lynch visitors Sunday, October 18.

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Referee's Sale of Land

1282 ACRES -- HOLT COUNTY

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Monday, Nov. 9, 1953

As ordered by the District Court of Holt County, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, at 10 o'clock A.M., at the Front Door of the Courthouse in O'Neill, Nebraska

WILL BE OFFERED AND SOLD IN ONE TRACT OR AS TWO UNITS IF DESIRED BY PURCHASERS

Unit No. 1

Known As The Old Blair Place

Legally described as NW 1/4 Section 9, Township 26, North Range 13, Holt County, Nebraska; 160 acres more or less according to Government survey.

IMPROVEMENTS

Good 6-room stucco house; 1 milk and wash house; 1 medium size lean-to cattle shed; 1 garage in good condition; good cave.

THE LAND

U.S. Department of Agriculture indicates that 80 acres of this land is particularly adapted to the raising of grain and tame hay crops; also 80 acres particularly adapted to native grasses for the production of native hay and pasture.

Unit No. 2 -- 1122 Acres

Legally described as W 1/2 and SE 1/4 Sec. 5; W 1/2 and W 1/2 Sec. 8; NE 1/4 Sec. 9, all in Township 26, North Range 13, West of the 6th P.M., Holt County, Nebraska.

IMPROVEMENTS

Good 6-room house with porch; large barn in good condition; lean-to cattle shed; good chicken coop; good milk house; cave.

THE LAND

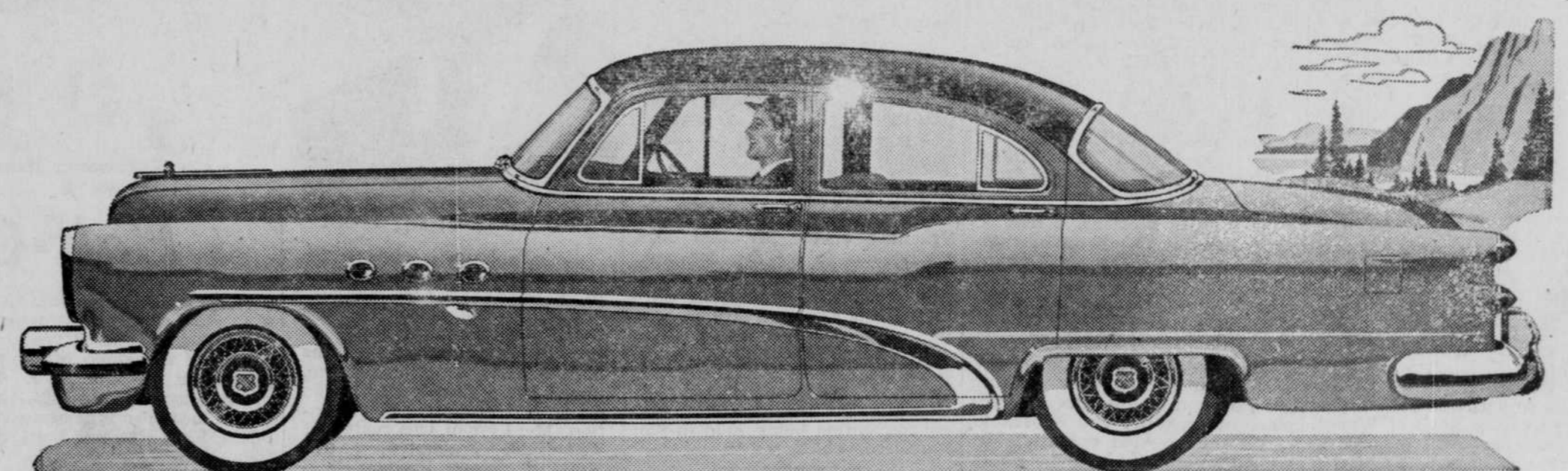
U.S. Department of Agriculture indicates that 600 acres of this land is particularly adapted to grain and tame hay crops consisting of corn, alfalfa, sweet clover and timothy; 522 acres particularly adapted to native grasses for the production of native hay and pasture. Practically all of this land is seeded down at present time.

TERMS OF SALE: 20 percent cash on day of sale; balance payable in cash upon confirmation of sale. Possession given purchaser on March 1, 1954. Abstract of title available for examination at the office of the Clerk of the District Court in O'Neill, Nebraska.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, WRITE

FRANCIS D. LEE, REFEREE, ATKINSON, NEBR.

JULIUS D. CRONIN, Attorney, O'Neill, Nebraska



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Phone us this week, or drop in. We'll be happy to arrange a demonstration.

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