

Prairieland Talk

Jack Pines Prove Worth

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Frontier Editor

LINCOLN—What is referred to as the "famous Holt county plantation" is given over a page and a half in the September number of the Nebraska History magazine. By "plantation" is meant the experiment with jack pine trees that was carried on in an official way in southwest Holt, notably in Swan and Josie precincts.

In 1891, two groves were planted under the direction of state and federal forestry setups but were forgotten for some 10 years until in 1901 when the bureau of forestry in Washington sent out a party of officials to ascertain what had been the result of tree planting in the Nebraska sandhills. They found what you will see today down there by Swan lake, a thrifty growth of pines 18 to 20 feet high. This was reported to the state forestry department heads at the university.



Romaine Saunders

A number of settlers in that section of the county found the pine trees desirable as windbreaks about their buildings and you will see small groves that were planted to protect premises and stock enclosures from the winter winds.

It is reliably or otherwise reported that a woman in Russia has attained the age of 180 years. Now the Muscovites have something more to boast about, but if this is like all the rest it will be received as an interesting piece of fiction.

Redbird, Scottville, Dorsey—communities of northeast Holt county that come from out of the past. And what has become of Paddock, once wearing the robe of dignity as the county seat? But it is interesting to one who knew them in the long ago to see in print such names as Schollmeyer, Pinkerman, Hull, Pickering and a few others that are connected with early memories. And Minneola is no more, only a graveyard in memory of that once prosperous and populous village on the prairie. Blubaugh, Doctor Love, Lamont, Andrew Watson, John Addison, the Henry family—all gone, disappeared as has the shadow of Minneola, not so much as a memory to any of this generation who may traverse that magnificent open country in their automobile, in a region where "Grandma" Addison loped across the prairie on the back of "Injun," her saddle pony. I wonder if Hank Tomlinson ever gets out there to recall the days of his youth, or is he too busy soaking the lawless?

The next big event—Thanksgiving dinner. Be careful that you are not defeated in your plans as Rev. Dr. Goman once was. It was in 1931 the minister, then district superintendent of the Methodist church for the northeast Nebraska district with his home at Norfolk, being at Inman attending to ministerial duties, he bought a 17-pound turkey, placed it in a cardboard carton and fastened this to the front bumper of his car. Arriving home the turkey was gone, a hole in the box explaining it. That year 400 of the animals at the silver fox ranch at Stuart lost their pelts after being killed and the pelts sold. And up at Atkinson, Bob Ford lost a toe when his shotgun was accidentally discharged as he sat at the steering wheel. Probably Sheriff Pete Duffy's most distasteful official duty confronted him when County Treasurer Conklin handed him 800 distress warrants for collecting delinquent taxes.

The month of October, beautiful for bright days and star-crowned nights, recorded the largest traffic toll for one month since Con Reka introduced the first horseless carriage to the streets of O'Neill more than half a century ago. Forty deaths on Nebraska highways last month.

See there are some rugged ranchers who are with Prairieland Talker in speaking out against federal government price supports for the cattle industry. Don Hanna of Cherry county, a leading stockman, opposes price supports because he sees in it government dictations that leads to a bureaucrat telling the ranchers how many cattle they could raise from year to year. This probably would lead to further dictation that would tie the cattle men's hands. One of our state men tried something like that at one time on old John Bower down in Swan precinct and John gave the gent a punch in the face. The old cow men have been a pretty independent lot and they don't propose to stand for being bossed now. And with hands off on the part of the government the beef eater maybe can buy a steak once in a while.

And now the weather is blamed for the airplane crash that caused the death of four Nebraskans. Should the blame be placed on irresponsible elements of nature or upon man that takes the risk regardless of what may befall? And this is the tragedy of it all—taking unnecessary chances with fate.

It went to his head, but maybe he should be charitable. After a notable reception for Nebraska's first returned prisoner of war the guy went on a drunk, became involved in fights and has been haled into court for disturbing the peace and disorderly conduct. He is out of the clutches of the reds but he has to learn that the peace and dignity of law in Nebraska must be respected. Not often one who is received as a hero turns out to be a crummy bum.

The Custer County Chief, published down at Broken Bow pretty nearly as long as The Frontier has been dishing out wisdom and news, saw its chance when cyclones hit down around there last summer and made a hit with the Associated Press setup that hands out "citations" from time to time. Of course this makes eye editor feel good, but the thing he is most concerned about is what the subscription book and advertising accounts show at the end of the year's work.

The Eisenhower glamor is worn thin. To save the republican party from the wreckage heap the Deweys and some lesser lights out this way need to be retired and the men and women who know the score take over.

In a crowded bus today a lady got up and gave her seat to a gentleman who stood beside her hanging by a handrail. Men having lost the fine spirit of chivalry the matrons take over. Or was it romance? Not what I saw today. The vigor of youth had long since left that decrepit old pilgrim.

Maybe the drop in the cow market has turned the attention of some to raising chickens. In 1931, O'Neill's poultry packing plant down by the railroad had 60 people at work preparing 2,000 chickens a day for shipment at this season of the year. There were swarms of grasshoppers that year and chickens were pretty near clear profit.

Maybe to get a place to sleep and eat a 63-year-old homeless guy wrote and cashed a no-fund check. Now he is over there in the pen for safe keeping. Should it be the one who writes the check or the one who cashes it?

Close the door, Oh, weeping lady, weep alone to the sighing of the night bird and the north wind's sullen moan; for your old man went out to paint the city and Big Joe run him in.

66 Men Pick, Shell Corn for Neighbor

Shrader on Mend at His Home

EWING—Four thousand bushels of corn were picked Tuesday, November 3, when neighbors, relatives and friends gathered at the Willie Shrader farm for a husking bee. Twenty pickers, tractors, wagons, shovels, elevators and 66 men covered the 145 acres and also shelled and delivered 2,000 bushels of the corn in the daylight hours.

Forty women prepared the dinner and 25 were present to help serve it. Lunch was also served in the late afternoon.

Mr. Shrader, who recently underwent a major spinal operation, is convalescing at his home and will be unable to work for several months.

Following are the names of men who assisted: Ora Switzer, Wendell Switzer, Bus Napier, Don Larson, Robert McDaniels, Reynold Wehenkel, Henry Leidig, George Montgomery and son, Lorraine, Bennett Sterling, Alfred and Webb Napier, Marvin Howard, James and Ted Meyer, Leo Fink, Leo Miller, Carl Christon, Archie Tuttle, Ernest Kohls, Lon Sawyer, Rev. W. J. Bomer, Wilbur Bennett, George Ruroede and son, Gerald, Harry and Archie Johnston, Don Cleveland, Alfred Cleveland, Leo Cleveland, Wilmer Mosel, Irwin Mosel, Gilbert Mosel, James Cooper, Bernard Schacht, Marvin and Melvin Scheer, Don Lautenschlager, William Lofquest, Roland Horde, Dewitt Hoke, Joe Zimmerman, Ralph Shrader, Lewis Shrader, Wayne Shrader, Z. H. Fry and son, Wayne, Lynn Fry, W. E. Shrader and son, Eddie, Grant Mott, John and Richard Napier, Mike Williamson, S. Shottman, Martin Lampert, Lionel Gunter, Robert Walhofer, Darrel Heese, Milo Snyder, Wilmer Young, Verl Gunter, Melvin and Dale Napier.

Other Ewing News

Mrs. Delbert Stonebraker and family and Mrs. Verl Gunter and children were Monday afternoon guests of Mrs. Mike Philben of Neligh. Mr. and Mrs. George Davies of Lincoln were guests at the home of Mrs. Maud Brion this week. They attended the annual chicken dinner at the Methodist church where they met many old friends. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd West and daughter, Sharon, and Myra Rothman spent Sunday at Bonesteel, S. D., as guests at the home of her parents. Her father, Gus Perleisen was the honored guest at a family dinner, celebrating his birthday anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd West, sr., of Creighton were 6 o'clock dinner guests at the home of their son and daughter-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd West and family on Saturday evening. Miss Francis Rotherham was a weekend guest at the home of her father and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle McNabb, and family. Dean, Roger and LeRoy Pofhal were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Rockey and family.

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DR. H. L. BENNETT VETERINARIAN Phones 316 and 304

Page News

Robert Allen, who has been in the marines and recently received his discharge and had returned from Memphis, Tenn., has spent the past week visiting his brother, Jerome Allen, and family.

Jerry Terrill, who attends college at Miltonvale, Kans., spent the weekend at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Terrill.

Mr. and Mrs. Neven Ickes and Dennis and Mr. and Mrs. Merwyn French, sr., and Bette were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Heiss.

Mrs. Earl Armstrong of Kinnich, Wash., spent from Monday until Saturday morning, November 2 to 7, visiting her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eickhoff.

A family dinner was held at the Ivan Heiss home Sunday. Others present were Mr. and Mrs. Lester Brady of Lincoln, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Robinson and Mrs. Dee Grass of Page.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Fusselman of Bristow were dinner guests Sunday at the home of the former's brother, Lloyd Fusselman, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Brady of Lincoln spent last week visiting Mrs. Brady's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Robinson, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Weyer of Lincoln came Friday evening and visited until Saturday with Mrs. Weyer's mother, Mrs. Evelyn Gray, and her sister, Mrs. C. E. Walker, and family. They went to Ainsworth to visit Mr. Weyer's relatives.

Mrs. Melvin Roach, Mrs. Warren Cronk and Mrs. Dan Troshynski, accompanied by Miss Catherine Grosse Rhode, were at Norfolk Wednesday, November 3.

Members of the Get-Together club entertained their families at a chili supper at the Lawrence Johnson home Friday evening. The evening was spent playing cards. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Robert Harvey. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beelaert entertained at a dinner at their home Sunday in observance of the birthday anniversary of Mrs. Beelaert's mother, Mrs. Harry Harper. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Harper and Jeanette of O'Neill, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harper and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Stauffer and son.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Porter of Orchard, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Heiss, Mr. and Mrs. Merwyn French, sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Steinberg were Sunday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Neven Ickes, sr.

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Stevens and Wanda drove to Grand Island Wednesday night, November 4, where they visited with their daughter, Lorna, while awaiting arrival of their son-in-law and daughter, Pvt. and Mrs. Keith E. Cable, who had spent a few days visiting relatives at Leadville, Colo. Private Cable is stationed with the armed forces at Ft. Sill, Okla., and his wife, the former Carol Stevens, is employed as secretary and stenographer in the post exchange at Ft. Sill.

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JOHNSON & HEMPSTEAD Livestock Commission Co. CATTLE — HOGS — SHEEP Stock Yards — Sioux City

PUZZLE: Who got the hundred million dollars?

He walked into our office seven years ago, sat down. We knew the customer. And a wonderful credit rating he had, too.

Said he wanted airplane engines. By that time blueprints were scattered all over the place.

He was taking no chances. Not one engine would he accept without testing first, stripping apart, building up again, and testing once more. Hmml!

And more. Every engine he bought would be overhauled after 15 running hours.

He didn't say so, but he must have known we would have ideas, too. (Lights burn all night when engineers at our place see ways to improve things we make.)

The climax was last August. The customer announced that he would allow 1,200 hours flying time from these G-E engines before an overhaul.

In other words, 80 times as many hours without overhaul as seven years ago. And today only every tenth engine is tested twice before delivery because of what has been referred to as the "perfection rate" of G-E jet engines.

Oh, yes. The hundred million dollars. With General Electric engines now giving extended service, not so many are needed. Improvements have saved the customer that much in five years.

P. S. Who's the customer? The U. S. Air Force. And what was the engine? The J-47 jet engine.

And who got the hundred million dollar saving? Who profits from more Air Force per dollar? The taxpayer, everybody. This story is one more example of what happens where research men and engineers are at work. Products gain in efficiency, do more. New products emerge, and the public is always the gainer.

You can put your confidence in GENERAL ELECTRIC

Editorial

Teen-Age Trouble Ahead

Attorney General Herbert Brownell predicts that more than a million juvenile delinquents will fall into the hands of the police this year, adding that "the prospect is frightening."

Not only does he consider the present number frightening in terms of national character and safety, but he goes on to say that rate of population growth will mean 42 percent more teen-age boys and girls by 1960. If the rate of growth of population mates with a growing percent of delinquency, the serious consequences can easily be imagined.

Brownell would strive to abate this sorry factor in American life by higher salaries to teachers whom he describes as bulwarks against delinquency. He suggests greater effort on the part of the community to deal with the problem and would end neglect of delinquent children in training schools.

Surprisingly he leaves the parents out of the picture—the persons who bring children into the world and who are their greatest well-wishers and protectors. Is it that parents no longer count? We think not. Rather it is that too much emphasis is being placed on extra home life to cure delinquency. There is not now nor ever will be a better deterrent than parents who themselves and in the presence of their children live up to the high precepts of moral behavior. If that doesn't work, nothing will.

Even with the glaring oversight of the parents' role, Mr. Brownell, a Nebraskan by the way, has given us some food for thought.

Minister Accidentally Kills Girl

A recent news story told of the tragic death of a 6-year-old girl, who was fatally injured by a minister's car. The little girl, after being struck, died on her way to the hospital.

The most tragic part of this fatality is the fact that the little girl, was playing in the road when she was hit. Police did not even charge the minister, who was naturally shattered by the tragedy.

The misery and suffering which has been caused to the minister, at the death of the child, can be attributed to the fact that the child was playing in the road when struck. Such accidents continue to occur in the United States and we are continually shocked by stories of unnecessary deaths in such accidents. We might mention in this connection that children are sometimes observed playing in the streets of this community. Parents who assume that all drivers will be able to see these tots and avoid hurting them, are adopting an attitude which is not justified in the light of the repeated events like the one described above.

O'Neill is extremely fortunate in not having had several fatal accidents of this type, especially when some motorists persist in exceeding residential and business district speed limits.

We've observed, too, that parents can be

speed offenders in their city driving—hardly understandable.

Needed: Minimum Speed Limit

(Guest editorial from Omaha World-Herald) Kansas, which has no speed limit (except "safe and proper"), is considering adopting one—and a minimum as well as a maximum speed limit.

The need for minimum speed limits becomes more obvious every day.

As highway congestion increases, the Sunday afternoon driver who takes the family out for a 25-mile-an-hour spin on a busy through road has ceased to be merely a pest and has achieved the stature of a menace.

The minimum limit, too, should be applied to trucks. Many of them are so greatly underpowered, for the loads they carry, that they can only creep uphill, holding up long lines of cars and inviting reckless passing. Moreover, because their machines are so underpowered, many truck drivers gather dangerous speed on downhill stretches, in an attempt to make the next hill.

How Fat Are You?

Want to know an easy way to find out if you're fat—without looking into a mirror, that is?

Dr. Olaf Mickelsen of the national health institute told public health workers in Florida of the following test for anyone who wants to know if he's overweight:

"Slightly pinch the skin fold thickness just beneath the lower ribs. If the fold measures a half inch, or even one inch, you are normal. If it is over an inch, you need to do something."

Hey, doc, what about a six-inch flap-over?

THE FRONTIER

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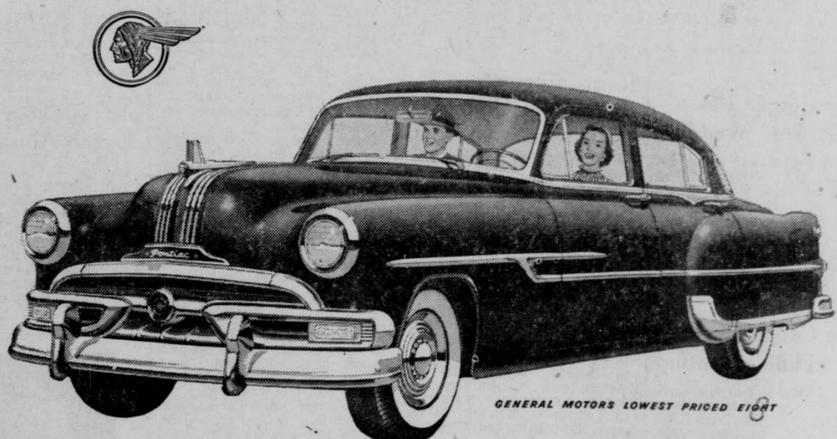
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