

# Board Reorganizes, Ponders Mandamus

## Anthony Tomjack, Wife Wed 60 Years

## Ewing Pair Quietly Counts Blessings

EWING—Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Tomjack observed their 60th (diamond) wedding anniversary on Sunday, January 10. A few friends dropped in to offer congratulations, and members of the family gathered. Mr. Tomjack was born in 1870. He was a native of the state of Illinois, and emigrated to Nebraska with his parents, brothers and sisters when he was a boy of 12.

The journey of these pioneer settlers was made in a covered wagon drawn by oxen over the prairies and plains, fording streams and experiencing all the hardships common to frontier travelers in the year 1882.

Mrs. Tomjack, the former Josephine Forsman, a native of Nebraska, was born on a farm near Duncan in 1878, where she resided with her parents until her marriage in 1894. At that time she came with Mr. Tomjack to establish their home in Holt county in the Ewing vicinity.

They became the parents of eight children. Two daughters died in infancy and Mrs. Mamie Burk died in 1948. Their daughters are Miss Claire Tomjack, a teacher in the O'Neill public school; Mrs. Genevieve Reichert and Mrs. Cecelia Berg, who live in Long Prairie, Minn.; and Mrs. Grace Jarman, who lives on a ranch near Chambers. Their son, Leo, became sheriff of Holt county three years ago.

All five daughters were public school teachers. The accomplishments of their children have been a source of pride to the hard-working, honest and God-fearing couple of modest origin. With little formal education of their own, the Tomjacks were determined to secure for their children an education that would fit them to better serve their country.

Mr. and Mrs. Tomjack have never been rich in material things. They have braved storms, endured droughts, blizzards, plagues, panics, depressions and wars.

Due to the infirmities of age, they are no longer physically able to attend their church in person.

As the days go by this pioneer couple anticipates with enjoyment the neighbors and friends, who stop in regularly for little visits.

## Ewing Woman, 90, Expires at Genoa

## Mrs. Sturbaum Helps Rear 3 Families

EWING—Funeral services for Mrs. Albina Sturbaum, 90, were held on Tuesday, January 5, at St. Peter's Catholic church in Ewing with Rev. P. F. Burke officiating at the past 10 months she was confined to her bed much of the time after breaking her hip.

Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Sturbaum reared her own family. Then, following the death of one of her daughters, she reared grandchildren. For 15 years she made her home with a granddaughter, Mrs. Frank Bollwit, assisting in the care of the Bollwit family.

Mrs. Sturbaum's hobby was weaving willow baskets, which included the large clothes basket to the smallest of sewing baskets. As long as she was able, she gathered and prepared the materials used.

Albina Sturbaum was born in Czechoslovakia on December 26, 1863, and died Saturday, January 2. She came to America with her parents in 1869. Mrs. Sturbaum and her husband were united in marriage to Frank Sturbaum. To this union four children were born, one dying in infancy. Her husband died in 1907, at the age of 37. Also preceding her in death were two daughters, Mrs. Ida Emsic and Mrs. Celia Minarik. After the death of her daughter, Ida, she made her home with her son-in-law, Henry Emsic.

Survivors include: Son—Joseph Sturbaum of Ewing; brother—Joseph Kouonovsky of Newark, Calif.; sister—Mrs. Anna Roesch of West Point. 11 grandchildren, and 28 great-grandchildren.

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
The O'Neill city council will convene in special session tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 o'clock to conduct a hearing on paving and curbing assessments in street improvement districts number seven and eight.

**JOINTS MUTAL**  
Ann Connot recently joined Mutual of Omaha with the record type department. A 1953 graduate of St. Mary's academy in O'Neill Ann is the daughter of John Connot, a farmer in this vicinity.

At a meeting of the Holt county board of supervisors held here Tuesday, the board pondered a reorganization mandamus action recently filed in district court by a citizens' group.

The plaintiffs, including Frank J. Brady of Atkinson, Charles Fox of O'Neill, Robert H. Clifford of Atkinson, Harvey Tompkins of Inman and J. F. Earley of O'Neill, seek to require the Holt county board to reorganize the seven supervisor districts.

The action is based on an ancient (1878) law standing on the Nebraska statutes. The law provides that seven supervisor districts in a given county shall have equal population and redistricting shall be accomplished after each federal census, based on the number of ballots cast at the last general election.

The law has been wrapped in mothballs for many years and occasionally revived. In recent years it has been put to use in a number of counties.

The supervisors were advised that Elven Butterfield of Neligh, attorney for the citizens' group, would appear at Tuesday's session. But the representative failed to appear and the supervisors proceeded to windup their annual first-of-the-year business, which included election of a chairman, appointment of committees, naming an official newspaper, and fixing certain wages.

Frank Cronk of Page, Fourth district supervisor, was reelected chairman and will start his second consecutive term as head of the board.

Other board members are: Albert Sterns of O'Neill, First district; Kenneth Waring of Page, second; Andy Clark of O'Neill, third; H. W. Hubbard of Chambers, fifth; A. M. Batenhorst of Stuart, sixth, and Alex Frickel of Atkinson, seventh.

The following committees were appointed:

- Courthouse: Clark, Sterns, Frickel.
- Finance: Hubbard, Batenhorst, Waring.
- Printing: Frickel, Clark, Hubbard.
- Tax: Clark, Waring, Sterns.
- Bonds: Hubbard, Batenhorst, Waring.
- Bridge: Sterns, Clark, Frickel.
- Road: Waring, Batenhorst, Sterns.
- Settlement of county officers: Clark and the entire board.
- Claims: Batenhorst and the entire board.
- Insurance: Frickel, Sterns, Clark.

The Frontier was named the official paper for 1954. The Holt County Independent and the Stuart Advocate were named to jointly publish the supervisor proceedings.

The county board is required to answer the mandamus action by February 1, according to Holt County Attorney William W. Griffin, who sat with the board during Tuesday's meeting. The board is in the position of having to show cause why it should not reorganize the districts.

Sparsely populated communities in the county will lose representation on the board if the redistricting issue is forced. On the other hand, O'Neill with its 3,050 population (1950 federal census) will be entitled to at least one supervisor and the area adjacent to O'Neill one or two more.

The thinly populated northern portion of the county will resolve into one enormous district, which will pose geography problems for any surveyor sensitive to the county road requirements in his district.

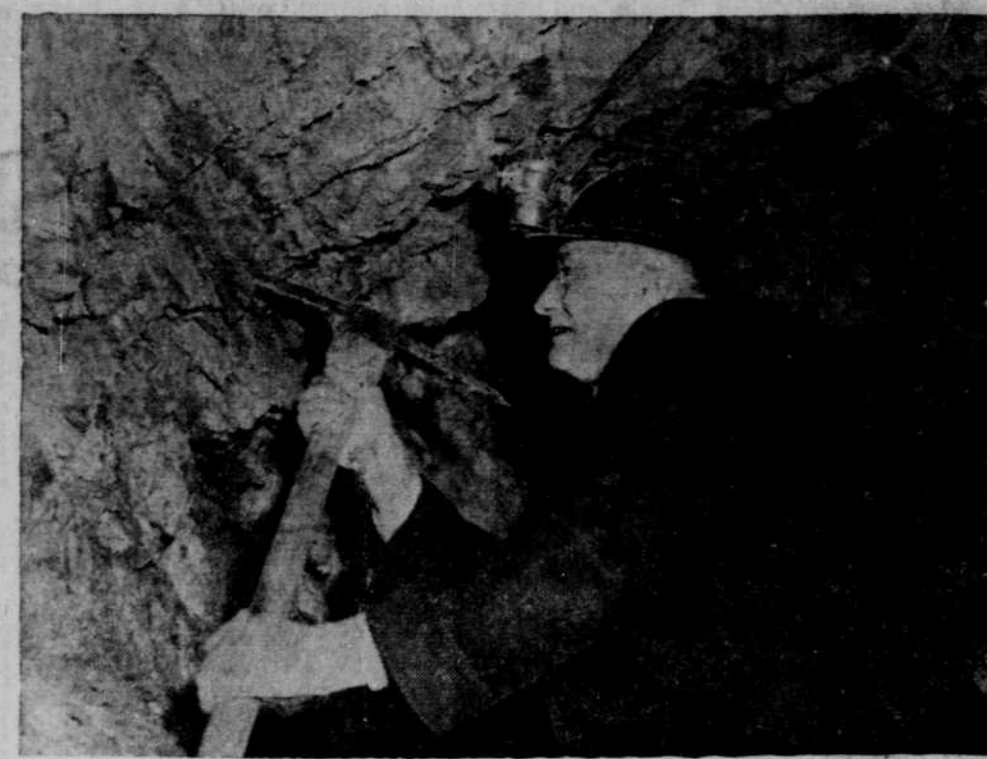
If the seven districts are equally divided by population, each district will embrace approximately 2,125 people. The county's 1950 federal census showed 14,867 people.

Brady sparkplugged a move about a year ago to dispose of the supervisor system and adopt the commissioner system of county government. This effort, with Butterfield as the attorney, accompanied criticism of the supervisors' handling of road funds provided by the Schroeder road law.

At Tuesday's meeting the board adopted the machinery workers' wage and machinery rental scale used in 1953:

The scale:	
Single Man	75c per hour
Common Bridge Labor	85c per hour
Foreman Bridge Worker	1.10 per hour
Truck Drivers, Tractor and Grader Operators	85c to 1.00 per hour
Experienced Operator or Mechanic	1.05 or minimum wage of 150.00 per mo. during winter mos.
Tractor and Operator	1.50 per hour
Tractor Loader	2.50 per hour
Exp. Drag Line Operator	1.10 per hour
Truck and Driver	3.00 per hour
MACHINERY RENTAL	
Drag Line	12.50 per hour
100 H.P. Patrol	10.00 per hour
75 H.P. Patrol	9.00 per hour
Cat and Scoop or Blade	12.00 per hour
Small Cat. and Scoop	9.00 per hour
Crawler Tractor Loader with Bucket	10.00 per hour

**TO PUBLISH BROCHURE**  
The O'Neill Chamber of Commerce, in a session Monday evening, decided to publish a fine brochure to illustrate and point up advantages and assets of O'Neill—the queen city of north Nebraska. The brochure will be used to induce new business and new industries to locate here.



O'Neill's Vic Halva Spends Day in Gold Mine

O'Neill's electric motor and generator wizard, Vic Halva (above) decided to have a first-hand view of a rich new gold mine recently opened in Ward, Colo. once the gaudy gold capital of the state. Halva's son-in-law, Paul S. Elam, Denver realtor, induced the 62-year-old O'Neill man to come and descend into the shaft, which already is yielding some of the best gold ore in Colorado history.

The town of Ward, once counting two thousand souls, had dwindled to eight persons when Harold Easterday, a veteran prospector, who is Elam's partner, struck a rich new vein. Now the town has a population of 28, the school has been reopened, business is booming, and more and more persons are moving in.



Elam and Easterday have formed Gold Range, Inc., with Elam as president. The corporation has taken up or leased 55 old claims, a mill is on order, and, thanks to Easterday's probing, Ward may be on the verge of being a real boom town again. An old stamp mill is being rehabilitated with modern new milling machinery.

The old field being reopened is capable of being a two-billion-dollar proposition, according to a December 17 picture-story in The Denver Post, written by the Post's mining editor after that newspaper had assigned a geologist to the project.

Mrs. Elam is the former Margaret Halva. The Elams spent the holidays visiting here.



In the left panel, the venerable Vic chips away at the rich vein down at the bottom of a 100-ft. newly-made shaft. In the center photo he inspects his sample (still 100 feet below the surface), and at right the hunk of rich ore is studied in the daylight by Easterday (left), Elam and Halva.

The rich new mine, over 10-thousand-feet above sea level, is named Comstock number 2. Its older companion, Comstock number one, stands about 50 feet to the west. The new "drifting" may come within about 10 feet of the old abandoned shaft, which merely illustrates how the element of luck factors in mining.

Vic flew to Denver, accompanied by The Frontier's editor, Cal Stewart, who made these on the scene pictures.

"Voice of The Frontier"



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

# THE FRONTIER

TWELVE PAGES This Issue

North-Central Nebraska's BIG Newspaper

O'Neill, Nebr., Thursday, January 14, 1954.

Seven Cents

Volume 73.—Number 37.

## New Church Cost About \$200,000

## Bids Are Opened on New 40-by-160-Ft. Atkinson Edifice

(See sketch at right) ATKINSON—The St. Joseph's Catholic church parish drew nearer its hopes for a new building with the opening of bids for contracts last Thursday afternoon. Bids were opened and read by James E. Loftus of Omaha, architect, in the presence of the contractors, Rev. Richard Farr, church pastor, and members of the building committee.

However, the lowest bid was \$156,452, some 25 thousand dollars above the original estimate, and the building committee is holding up action pending further study by the parish and architects.

It is expected that the total cost of the new building will be approximately 200 thousand dollars. Plans had called for work to start around the middle of April. Work is to be completed within a year.

The low bid covered the general building contract, heating, plumbing and electrical contracts.

The parish has been working toward its goal of a new church for more than 10 years, ever since the late Rev. Alphonse A. Lehman initiated a building program.

The new church will be 160 feet long—twice the present building—and 40 feet wide, with a seating capacity of around six hundred.

It will be constructed on the present church site. The Knights of Columbus hall will serve as a temporary place of worship.

Furnishings in the present church will be moved to the K C hall sometime in March, and the present church will be torn down.

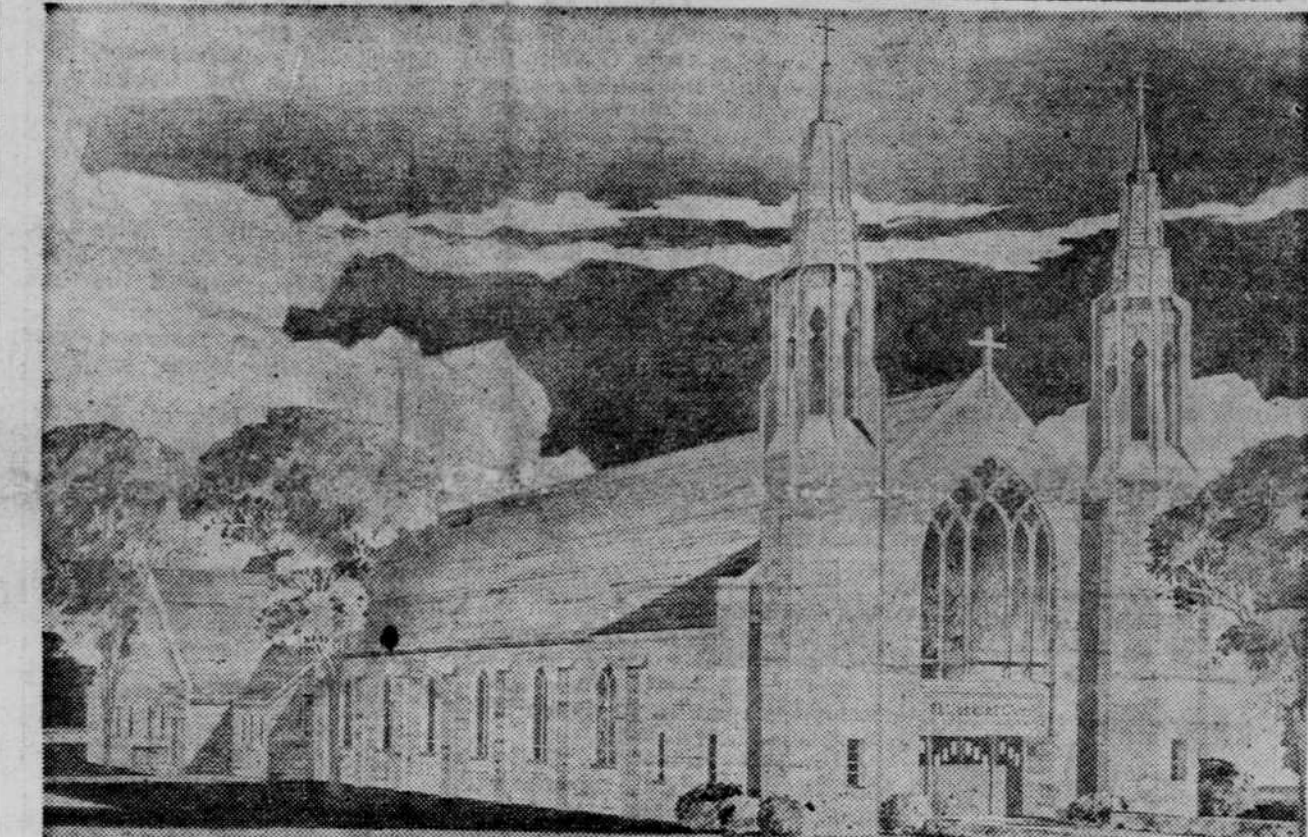
The exterior of the new edifice will be finished in Kasota stone. The interior plans, though not formally settled, include a five-foot mahogany panel. The three altars and communion railing will be marble.

A spokesman for the parish said "everyone has worked untiringly toward the goal of a new church since the late Father Lehman initiated the plans."

The Gothic architecture is said to closely resemble plans laid by the late Father Lehman.

Father Parr, present pastor, formerly was assistant pastor at St. Patrick's church, O'Neill. The present church was built in 1886.

**Return from Coast**  
Mr. and Mrs. John Clausen returned Friday after spending two weeks with their children and families at Los Angeles, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Willard Clausen and daughters and Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Yarnall and son, Johnny, Mary Lewis, Eddie Ethington and Rudy Clausen also accompanied them and also visited relatives there.



Artist's concept of new St. Joseph's Catholic church, Atkinson.

## Holt Bank Deposits Are Down Slightly

A year-end survey of financial statements issued by the six Holt county banks reveals 116-thousand-dollars fewer deposits compared to the December 31 statements issued a year ago. But loans are up 180-thousand-dollars.

Total deposits on December 31, 1953, were \$13,522,616.44 compared to \$13,668,831.79 on that same date in 1952. The latter figure was an all-time high. The fact still remains the banks are bulging with green stuff.

Like it did a year ago, the O'Neill National Bank leads the pack with deposits totaling \$3,722,064.72. The O'Neill National also boasts the most resources—\$3,977,731.06.

Resources, deposits and loans for the county's six banks, based on comptroller calls issued December 31, 1953, follow with the banks listed according to their size:

Resources	Deposits	Loans
O'Neill National	3,977,731.06	469,398.70
First National (O.N.)	3,722,064.72	414,437.09
First National (Atk.)	3,457,803.09	378,877.36
Tri-County (Stuart)	3,013,765.21	370,815.33
Farmers State (Ewing)	1,366,702.50	318,678.40
Chambers State	1,055,563.95	295,250.70
Totals	14,596,461.34	2,246,457.58

For comparisons the December 31, 1952, figures on deposits and loans are noted below:

Resources	Deposits	Loans
O'Neill National	3,585,521.64	382,497.32
First National (O.N.)	3,441,424.00	367,573.13
First National (Atk.)	3,266,685.97	426,620.40
Tri-County (Stuart)	1,322,519.30	349,971.52
Farmers State (Ewing)	1,046,053.67	253,991.93
Chambers State	1,006,677.21	286,149.57
Totals	13,668,831.79	2,066,803.87

## Holt Pair Notes Golden Wedding

RIVERSIDE—Mr. and Mrs. Albert Larson quietly observed their golden wedding anniversary Wednesday, January 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reimer and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Christon and Tommy brought well-filled baskets and served dinner in their honor. The Don Larsons called in the evening.

They received a telegram of congratulations from their son, Leonard, who was in Chicago, Ill., on business, and remembrances from their other daughters, Mrs. Elmer Pahl and Mrs. Donald Starr.

## Aged Woman Hit by Car Near Church

ATKINSON—Mrs. Joseph Ziska, 82-year-old Atkinson woman, was accidentally struck by a car about 7 o'clock Sunday morning while enroute to St. Joseph's Catholic church to attend mass. She was hit by a pickup truck driven by Elvin Whitehead of Atkinson.

Mrs. Ziska's condition Wednesday was described as "fair." She is suffering from a right hip and leg fracture, also brain concussion.

## GETS PROMOTION

EWING—Cpl. Wayne C. Kruntorad, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kruntorad of Ewing, was promoted on Christmas day to the rank of sergeant. Sergeant Kruntorad has been in the service for over two years, the past 12 months in Japan and Korea where he is now stationed.

Miss Phyllis Seger, who is taking training at the University of Nebraska school of nursing spent from Thursday until Sunday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Seger.



## At 91st Milestone

Mrs. L. F. Holloway (above) recently celebrated her 91st birthday anniversary at her home in Chambers. She resides with her daughter, Mrs. Louis Nielson. Mrs. Holloway was born December 23, 1860, in Frankfort Village, N.Y., and resided more than 50 years at Fremont.

## Garfield Lodge Holds Installation

Garfield lodge, AF&AM, held an installation of officers last Thursday: Dewight Harder, worshipful master; Edwin M. Trempeopl, senior warden; Roy D. Johnson, junior warden; William W. McIntosh, senior deacon; Robert C. Miller, junior deacon; Harold L. Lindberg, treasurer; Lloyl G. Gillespie, secretary; Gale W. Dierburger, tyler; Norman E. Medcalf, senior steward; E. L. Van Evely, junior steward; D. E. Nelson, chaplain.

## Former Atkinson Man Is Missing

The Holt county sheriff's office is trying to locate a missing man, Hugh Coday, a 37-year-old filling station operator at Ainsworth, formerly of Atkinson, boarded an eastbound passenger train at Ainsworth last Thursday night, bound for Omaha to attend a Friday meeting. He planned to return to Ainsworth early Saturday morning.

Coday failed to attend that Friday meeting and has not been heard from since he boarded the train.

Coday, a World War II veteran, is 5 feet 6 inches tall, weighs 175 pounds. He was last seen wearing a grey suit, brown topcoat, light brown hat, a brown wool shirt, and he was carrying an electric razor in his pocket.

The missing man is married and is the father of two children. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Coday, reside at Atkinson. Relatives are anxious to locate Mr. Coday.

Anyone having any information concerning this missing man is asked to contact the office of the Holt county sheriff at O'Neill or the office of the Brown county sheriff at Ainsworth.

## Lynch Couple in Golden Wedding

LYNCH—Mr. and Mrs. Pete Nelson, who reside north of Lynch, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday, January 3, at their home.

Dinner was served at noon to members of the family and to relatives, who brought and served the surprise dinner. There was a two-tier anniversary cake entering the table.

Close friends of the family called in the afternoon and at 3:30 o'clock, lunch, consisting of ice cream, coffee and a piece of the anniversary cake, was served.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have five children: Mrs. Frank (Margaret) Wittmus of Bonesteel, S.D.; Mrs. R. D. (Ruby) Huffman of Fairfax, S.D.; Mrs. Lloyd (Norma) Ohlson of Petersburg; Raymond, at home, and Mrs. William (Merla) Holsclaw of Lincoln. They have five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The couple received many gifts.

## HALVA BECOMES ENGINEER

Fred Halva, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vic Halva of O'Neill, has passed the state board of examiners for professional engineers. Earlier he had passed the architectural board. Mr. Halva is a graduate of the University of Nebraska and has been employed by an Omaha architectural firm.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn Benson left last week for Los Angeles, Calif., to visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Thornton.

## Polio Bonds, Auction Are Featured

## Dimes Drive Getting Underway in Holt; Events Scheduled

A host of polio benefit activities are in the mill as the 1954 march of dimes campaign gets nicely underway in Holt county. The Methodist young adults have scheduled a food sale at Raly's IGA store on Saturday, January 16.

A polio benefit auction will be held on Saturday, January 23, near the corner of Fourth and Douglas streets (on lots near the Tom-Tom cafe). The auction is under the sponsorship of the Parent-Teachers' association. Bill Brewster, phone 204 R, and Ralph Simpson, phone 359-W, will be in charge of the pick-up of goods to be donated by the public and sold. Proceeds will go to the Holt county chapter, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Meanwhile, the county drive chairman, C. R. ("Bob") Hill, has devised a bond plan. The Holt chapter has printed polio bonds in \$10, \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations and many schools, extension clubs, service clubs and firms are grabbing up these colorful polio bonds, which, of course, are non-negotiable but they become the property of the purchaser.

A benefit basketball game on Sunday, between the O'Neill Legion and the Tilden Towers, netted \$33.75. Dwayne Landis was in charge of arrangements. Marvin Miller and Ralph Brown officiated. Janet Hul spoke.

A benefit cage attraction will be staged in Atkinson Sunday afternoon at 2:15 when the Richie Ashburn All-Stars of Tilden face the Bud Larson All-Stars.

Larson is a former Chadron State Teachers college basketball great.

The Martha community's 1954 march of dimes drive got off to a good start with sizable donations from both the Bethany church Women's association and the Bethany Sunday-school. The Martha 4-H clubbers plan to do their bit by collecting scrap iron on Saturday, January 16.

Anyone in the community wishing to donate scrap iron to the drive should call one of the following club members by Saturday morning: Dale Wood, Robert Klaben, Ronald Chippis, Jerry Harkins or Tommy LaRue. The community drive will be climaxed by a benefit supper and program on Friday evening, January 22, sponsored by the Martha Community club.

(Continued on page 12.)

## GETS PROMOTION

Mr. and Mrs. William J. ("Bill") Grady have moved from Denver, Colo., to Los Angeles, Calif. Mr. Grady has just received a promotion from the J. C. Penney company in the purchasing department. He has been with Penney's about four years.

## GOING TO AUSTRIA

EWING—Pvt. Anton Kaczor, who spent a holiday furlough at the home of his mother, Mrs. Eva Kaczor, left by train from Omaha Sunday evening to return to Camp Pickett, Va. He will be sent to Austria in the near future for service.