

Prairieland Talk

Man's Control Ends at Seashore

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Frontier Editor

LOS ANGELES — The day has been warm, something like 80 degrees, and that in midwinter. Along the maris of trade, down shaded streets lined with the abodes of men, between lovely mountains and perilously-near deep canyons, we rolled today amid an endless stream of traffic to the ocean shore. We stood for a time on the sands beside the sea, and watched the breakers roll at our feet and bathers venturing out into the deep.



Romaine Saunders

The sea, like man, is restless. At intervals of 10 seconds or less foaming, roaring breakers sweep in and moisten the sand at your feet and silently retreat for another rush shoreward. It was a pleasant day for the nearly nude bathers and children wading in shallow waters.

From rugged mountain top to sea level there is charm to be found in the cathedral of nature. Many have found sanctuary among the scenes of nature and have anchored homes on mountain sides or mountain tops. The waters of the proud and indifferent Pacific roll in from the other side of the world and whisper at your feet.

Man's control ends here! A young Hollywood matron secured a divorce and \$300 a month by alleging that her husband made fun of her for attending a Bible study class, boasted of his lustful conquests, and said there was no place in the community in which they lived for virtuous girls. Sort of an up-to-date Sodom.

After the heat of the day yesterday, last evening Ed and the girls and I drove up a mountain trail to a lookout parking spot where others had come and looked down upon the valley below now in the full glow of city lights overshadowed by low, dark mountain ranges on either side, east and west I guess it to be. If you keep a sense of directions in this land you must carry a compass—nothing is laid out square with the world as prairieland dwellers have it. It is at these mountain lookouts that you have a view of city life below. On previous visits to this interesting part of our country, I have been to Mt. Wilson and also the Griffith observatory. Much of the territory referred to as "the valley" until recent years was agricultural, now mostly city.

Apparently the time has arrived for a meat packing plant in O'Neill. Sixty years ago it was premature and the packing house down by the railroad was last used as drill headquarters for company F that didn't get to the Pine Ridge to quell the uprising of Sitting Bull's warriors. With Fred Gatz and Frank Toohill each having a slaughter house down by the river and the cowboys doing their own butchering, the packing house people gave up the undertaking. O'Neill has a flourishing poultry packing plant and may now well sustain a meat packing business.

In the death of Dennis Murphy, another pioneer rests up on the hill. Dennis and his brother, Henry, came here at an early day. Henry became prominent in political circles and served as county attorney. He died a few years ago at Atkinson where he located after returning to Holt county after some years in Chicago, Ill.

Editorial

How Many Remember?

Herley Jones, a fixture in O'Neill for 10 many years, handed us a slip of paper the other day on which were penned a few questions that are bound to stir the memories of oldtimers.

This is what he wrote: "How many remember: ... when the Oregon Short Line railroad was built into O'Neill? ... the burning of the Bazelman flour mill? ... seeing army troop trains going through O'Neill bound for the Battle of Wounded Knee? ... the burning of the Potter hotel? ... when Joe Miller got his leg shot off? ... Harrison was president? ... the digging of the irrigation ditch south of O'Neill? ... when the Adams & Smith livery barn burned down? ... when the skating rink was on the corner across from the city hall (north)? ... when the Birmingham lumber yard was where Fred Bazelman's residence now stands? ... seeing ox teams on the streets of O'Neill? ... when the fair grounds were located where Lloyd Gibson now lives? ... when the Mitchell coal yard was on the alley on the rear of the lot now occupied by Coyne's hardware? ... when Jim Davidson's plumbing shop was facing east on a spot immediately north of the present depot? ... Little Hank and his spike-tailed horse? ... when Elmer Merriman's pop factory was where the Dr. O. W. French residence now stands? ... when John Smoot, the barber, lived where James W. Rooney now resides? ... seeing Elmer Merriman and his wife being married at the fair grounds while a big crowd looked on? ... the ringing of the fire bell, which brought crowds rushing onto the street to hear the word that Barrett Scott had been lynched?"

New Red Graduate

What makes soviet citizens defect to the West? There are numerous reasons, some of them noble and ideological, others no more exalted than a desire to save one's skin. But each defection—however mixed the motives—casts light on the workings of the police state.

The latest in a long series is that of Yuri A. Rastvorov, top communist spy in Japan. It is not known whether the inherent attractions of the West played a part in his decision, but apparently the fact that he was a Beria protege and had been ominously summoned back to Russia precipitated it.

Does this portend the appearance of a new "graduating class" from the soviet police state? We already have had several, notably those who fled in the wake of Trotsky and of the 1937 purges. Among the non-soviet communists there were also those who graduated from their delusions with honor after the ruthless liquidation of the kulaks, and later graduates following the soviet attack on Finland, the Hitler-Stalin pact, and the red coup in Czechoslovakia.

The West has had its occasional defectors to the other side—one or two of them (e.g., Burgess

Charles A. Lindbergh, the lone eagle, attended a recent gathering of notables in the realm of aviation and others concerned over world conditions. Addressing the group of some two thousand scientists and inventors, Colonel Lindbergh said there may be short-time survival though depending on the things that we have made but that "long-time survival depends alone on the character of man. We have measured success by our products rather than by ourselves. We must remember that it was not the outer grandeur of the Roman, but the inner simplicity of the Christian that lived on through the ages."

Word from home tells of bitter cold days with high winds sweeping prairieland. The day here is calm. The sun rides high across the heavens, bathing the earth in comfort and mel low light. It is such a day as October brings to Nebraska and I look upon the blue and gold floral bloom, silken green and bright foliage with every day assurance that bunding up in overcoat and mittens has been left behind for the present.

The second wife of Jimmy Roosevelt, eldest son of Eleanor and the late FDR, has gone into court with some sensational charges against her husband in an action for separate maintenance. Mr. Roosevelt had an eye on the democratic nomination for congressman in the 26th California district but may withdraw from the contest in view of his wife's action. A woman in Honolulu among 11 others is involved and she cabled from the islands some threats herself.

Twelve hundred Burbank housewives formed an army that visited homes last evening to solicit funds for the care of polio victims, a nationwide concern of fathers and mothers. There is a parent-teacher gathering this evening at the school up the street a few doors and apple pie is in the process of formation in the kitchens this morning. These gatherings furnish opportunity for the exercise of the great Yankee capacity to stow away the grub, if not to solve the school worries.

Now we are being frightened by an imaginary "earth satellite" that could reduce the world to ashes. By satellite is meant a revolving mirror 600 miles out in space that will focus the sun heat on any section of the earth, consuming all thereon. I read in Holy Writ that those who would destroy the earth are to be wiped out of existence by decree of the Almighty.

Yesterday we visited the zoo, saw the lions and heard their mighty roar, moved along with throngs of humanity for a more or less perfunctory look at beasts and birds and creeping things. The day was warm and young women were out in legless attire. You see a million and know nobody. And that is when you can be lonely.

An editor came up with this in a Sunday paper: "One of our barrister friends tells us about one lawyer who wrote to another, 'Sir: I regret to inform you that there is danger of an agreement between our respective clients.'"

Notables in various lines, from politics and religion to brewers of fire water, gather in the metropolis of Southern California to expound their wisdom and the cargoes of words of words unloaded that say nothing is amazing.

When You and I Were Young ...

Japan, Russia Now Engaged in War

65 Guests at Party in Golden

50 Years Ago A farewell reception in honor of E. S. Eves was held at the Golden hall. Mr. Eves was departing for Arizona. A 17th wedding anniversary surprise party was held for Mrs. M. F. Harrington by a group of friends in her home. Japan and Russia are at war in Korea.

25 Years Ago Mr. and Mrs. James Lannigan of Greeley were visiting in O'Neill. Mrs. M. F. Harrington, Mrs. J. J. Harrington and Mrs. F. J. Dishner entertained 65 guests at the Golden hotel with dinner and cards. Mrs. Frank Froelich won high score for the evening. Mr. and Mrs. Romaine Saunders visited in the city. Pete Duffy, Holt county sheriff, was in Lincoln on official business. Mrs. Mary Cole died in Sioux City.

10 Years Ago Mr. and Mrs. John Schmidt celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary. Mrs. Glen Tomlinson left Saturday for Norfolk. Mrs. Gene Kilpatrick of Norfolk accompanied her to California where they visited relatives and friends.

One Year Ago D. C. Schaffer left for an extended tour of the Eastern seaboard as a guest of Swift & Co. Friday was the anniversary of the February 12, 1915, blizzard. Miss Bernice Elkins has purchased an interest in the Apparel shop. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Jansen were honored at a dinner on their 49th wedding anniversary. Miss Patty Ann Sullivan was honored at two gatherings for her birthday anniversary.

Pinkerman Burial in Scottville Cemetery DORSEY — Funeral services were conducted at the Dorsey Presbyterian church on Friday, January 29, at 2 p.m., for John F. Pinkerman, 66, who died Tuesday, January 26. The late John Pinkerman, son of James and Sarah Roy Pinkerman, was born February 10, 1893, at O'Neill, and died at his home in Lynch.

His entire life, prior to his moving with his wife to their present home at Lynch in 1943, was spent in Holt county in the Scottville community. On June 12, 1916, he was united in marriage to Nora Doty and to this union were born three children. Survivors include: Widow, daughters—Mrs. Claude (Zelada) Pickering of Redbird and Mrs. Edwin (Doris) Tuch of Niobrara; son—Virgil of Redbird; sisters—Mrs. Clara Kemmerer of Lynchwood, Calif.; Mrs. Bertha Yost of Santa Cruz, Calif.; Mrs. Maude Spencer of Rapid City, S.D.; and Mrs. Nell Wunch, brothers—James of Hanford, Calif., William of O'Neill and Walter of Big Springs.

He was preceded in death by his parents, four brothers and two sisters. Services were conducted by Rev. Joseph Walstad with Coultas' in charge of arrangements. Music was furnished by a trio composed of Ernest Darnell, Mrs. William Alford and Mrs. Fredrick King with Mrs. Lee Brady, sr., pianist. Mrs. Walstad also sang a solo. Pallbearers were Ray Wilson, Leon Mellor, Thomas Hiscocks, Albert Carson, Emmet Slaughter and George Calkins.

Group Drives to Norfolk A 64th birthday anniversary dinner was held for Frank Urban at his home Sunday. Those attending were Mrs. and Mrs. Everett Gorgen and Dottie, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Urban and Rosemary, Leon Urban of Chambers, and Pauline Masterson and children of Chambers. After dinner Mr. and Mrs. Frank Urban and those present at the party drove to Norfolk to visit Harlan Urban, who had been in the Lutheran hospital there since Wednesday, February 3. He returned to O'Neill with them.

Visits Omaha—Miss Bernice Murphy is spending this week in Omaha on business.

North-Central Nebr. Hereford Ass'n's 23rd Annual Spring Bull Sale Bassett, Nebraska Saturday, Feb. 27th 48 Hereford Bulls Watch Next Week's Issue for List of Consignors Audited (ABC) Circulation—2,253 (Sept. 30, 1953)

Altar Society Makes Plans for Sale

LYNCH—The Altar society of the Assumption BVM church held its February meeting at the home of Mrs. Don Allen last Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Frank Weeder and Mrs. Tommy Courtney, jr., were cohostesses. Mrs. Carl Schenzel of O'Neill was a visitor.

The Catholic church donated \$10.10 to the altar fund. This was solicited by the Altar society. A food and apron sale has been planned for Saturday, February 27, at the Lynch locker plant. A new coffee urn will be purchased.

During the social hour games were played with Mrs. Martin Jehorek, Mrs. Anton Wasatko and Mrs. Carl Schenzel winning prizes. The March meeting will be with Mrs. Earl Rosicky, Mrs. Edward Heiser and Mrs. Frank Crawford.

Other Lynch News Mrs. Edward Heiser returned home Sunday, January 31, from Neligh where she had been for several days at the bedside of her father, who is critically ill. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Schenzel of O'Neill spent last Thursday evening at the Frank Weeder home. Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Havranek and children of Spencer visited at the Joe Halva home Wednesday, February 3. Mrs. Mary Heiser of Spencer was a Lynch visitor last Thursday.

Frankie Matejcek and Norman DeKay are touring the Eastern and Southern states. They have been gone several weeks. Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Clyde of Verdel were recent visitors at the Art Avery home south of town. William Kersch, jr., is assisting in the Mulhair garage.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Mulhair and family visited at the Jonas Johnson home in Spencer Saturday. Louis Novak accompanied the Richard Kraemer family to Dodge Center, Minn., to assist the Kraemers in getting settled in their new home.

Mr. and Mrs. Lemon Huber entertained relatives at dinner Sunday. The 4-H club held a successful food sale at the Lynch locker plant Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Francis Shrunck and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Magnuson and children of Huron, S.D., are visiting in Arizona and California. They will also visit in Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lock and children of Spencer recently visited at the Pat Cassidy home. Mrs. Lois Harris left Sunday for an extended stay at Sacramento, Calif. Francis Stenger and Harold Micanek were ice fishing in western Nebraska last week. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Barta and Evelyn of Dorsey visited at the George Barta home Saturday. Maxine Jehorek left Monday, February 1, for her work in Omaha, having spent the weekend with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schoedemaier and family of Bonesteel, S.D., and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Barta and daughter of Verdigré and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Davy of Sunshine Bottom were Sunday, January 31, visitors at the Albert Kalkowski home. Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Hammon and children were Sunday 6 o'clock supper guests at the Ed Johns home. Mr. and Mrs. Rollin Hiat and Larry spent Sunday, January 31, at the L. E. Hiatt home in Butte. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Crawford and children of Spencer recently visited at the Frank Crawford home. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kraemer sold their farm to Dave Land-

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R. G. ROCKEY Phone 82 — Ewing, Nebr.

RETURNERS FROM KOREA

A/2c Thomas E. Murray returned from Korea Sunday. He is the son of F. H. Murray. Mrs. Kenneth Ellston, Robert Hanley and Mr. Murray met Erwin in Yankton, S.D., Sunday afternoon. He docked with other troops at Seattle Wash., having made the voyage from the Far East by way of Alaska. Airman Murray had been in Korea about 18 months.

Dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Anderson

Mr. and Mrs. Orville McKim

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