

Prairieland Talk . . .

Who Became 'Navy' Admiral?

By ROMAIN SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Frontier Editor

BURBANK, CALIF.—A cordial letter comes from Ernest Beaver of Deaver, Wyo., who is a friend of Prairieland Talker. He informs me the policeman I mentioned in a former letter from here was once his neighbor in Wyoming and about the swiftest guy in the Big Horn country. Ernest wants to know why I have not ever mentioned the O'Neill patriot who was once honored by being appointed an admiral of the Nebraska navy.



Romain Saunders

All I can recall is that it was something of a joke at the time, but for the moment who it was so honored has gone from me. Gov. Lorenzo Crouse honored Neil Brennan by bestowing upon him the title of colonel as one of the governor's staff. No man ever felt as proud over such an honor or adorned it with better grace than the late Colonel Brennan.

And this bit of "horse sense" I quote from Ernest's letter will be of interest to many Frontier friends.

"My father-in-law, Hiram Hodgkins of the then Leonie neighborhood, sold Ben Deyarran, who ran the livery barn, a well broken team of creams which were used exclusively to pull the bus from the Evans hotel to the trains. Well, they became so accustomed to this job that the hostler would hitch them to the bus, click to them, and they would walk down to the hotel, back up, and wait for Evans or his clerk to drive them to the depot and back, then the lines would be tied up to the standard, and he would start them off and back they would go to their accustomed place in the yard and back into position. To this generation which does not know the horse and buggy days, this would seem improbable."

Among four million people it is something of a miracle to be able to greet anyone you had known among your friends of other days. But this pleasure was mine a few days ago when Mrs. Walt Stein and Mrs. Mike Kirwin, of the pioneer Ziemi family in O'Neill, accompanied by their sister-in-law, Mrs. Joe Ziemi, came to see me. The two former live in Burbank where I find myself at the moment. Mrs. Ziemi, who was a Denver, Colo., girl, when she married Joe, the youngest of the Ziemi family, but recently buried her husband and she was down from San Francisco where her home is, spending a few days with friends in Burbank. Mrs. Kirwin and the Steins are well known in O'Neill, where Walt was in business until some years ago and he and Mrs. Stein still read The Frontier. Mrs. Stein is one of those popular twin girls when the family operated a hotel on the north side of Douglas street a few doors east of the KC hall. Her father, the late John Ziemi, in the early days of O'Neill history conducted the Arcade hotel that stood where the KC hall now stands and a quarrel over a redheaded beauty who served as a waitress in the hotel led to the killing of Sheriff Barney Kearns by Billy Reed, a cowboy.

Richard Nixon is vice-president and a Californian. More than that, he is a normal human being. Moreover, he is a dutiful son. And being such, plans to spend some time with his parents here when called to Pacific coast states on the nation's business.

An oldtimer was enjoying the sunshine while out in front of his home when a car pulled up to the curb and a neatly dressed gent got out and walked over to greet the old man and talk to him about the advantage of medical checkups, saying he was a doctor and as he talked he rubbed the old man's back. When "Doc" left the old gent discovered his billfold was missing from his pocket—but he said there was no money in it.

Why does a guy who is normal in life's outlook go nuts over a dog?

Editorial . . .

Manion Firing Might Misfire

Recently "Assistant U.S. President" Sherman Adams suggested to Dr. Clarence E. Manion, former dean of the Notre Dame university law school, that he resign his government post. Manion has been serving as chairman of the president's commission on intergovernmental relationships.

Some newspaper commentators passed the word earlier that Manion was about to be fired. It is now being charged that Manion's dismissal constitutes "muzzling" of free opinion.

One version of why Doctor Manion got in trouble is suggested by the story of a South Dakota judge, who told a visiting cousin of a case coming up before him. A local telephone operator had extended credit to a touring ball team on a number of long distance calls until after the day's gate receipts were in. The team then skipped town. The company docked the operator's pay for the loss and she was suing to recover.

"Have you made up your mind on the case?" asked the cousin. "Oh, no," said the judge. "I must listen to the evidence and the arguments. But I'll tell you one thing—that little girl is going to get her money!"

This presidential commission had been set up certainly to make a thorough, objective, and nonpartisan study of a question that has become monumental: The proper scope of federal functions in a large and important area in relation to those of the states and of private enterprise.

Hardly had his appointment been announced when Doctor Manion in a public address advocated sale of the Tennessee valley authority to private business. He has since been delivering a series of lectures militantly upholding the Bricker amendment on the thesis stated in his letter of resignation: That states' rights are paramount over federal.

Doctor Manion is a distinguished lawyer. He is completely entitled to his opinions, and a strong and honest case can be made for them. He was within the terms of his appointment in fulfilling his lecture dates. But when he voiced so frequently and so vehemently his commitment to one side (it doesn't matter which) of the very question the group under his leadership had been created to weigh and to judge he was, in effect, saying to the country that so far as he was concerned "that little girl is going to get her money."

On the other hand, Manion's TVA ideas are just a sidelight. The crux, in our opinion, is his enthusiasm for the Bricker amendment, which is gathering public sentiment by leaps and bounds over the opposition of President Eisenhower, who is pushing hard for a speedy vote in the new congress.

We see nothing wrong in the good doctor's sounding off—he has a perfect right to do so. The

Braceros, which the papers tell us is Spanish for field workers, to the number of many thousands come from below the border wanting jobs harvesting the crops of farmers on the United States side of the national boundary line. These Mexican people need work in order to survive. Wages paid in America are a lure. But government has stepped into the picture to prevent the wholesale migration of husky workmen and fair young women from getting out of Mexico. The gate is closed. And there is a limit to the number the cotton and vegetable growers can use, but these they want badly because the Yankees either will not or can not do the job. Some of the braver ones south of the border get across by swimming the Rio Grande. These are known as "wetbacks." This seems to be an annual affair and agricultural interests, either large or small farmers, have for years depended on Mexicans, and formerly Japs, to do the heavy work.

Mrs. Marilyn Eaton, daughter of California's governor, the honorable Mr. Knight, was the chief actor in the christening of a new United States minesweeper, Pluck, the fifth of such minesweepers recently completed at the Los Angeles harbor.

Among a group of people from the ancient realm of Turkey before coming to Los Angeles, while up at Berkeley a few days ago, including President Celal Bayar, who was caressing the nine-months-old son of his cousin, Abdul Malik, I saw the name Henry Grady and at first glance wondered how my Irish friend from O'Neill got mixed up with Turkish royalty—not but what the Irish can travel with the best of them. But reading on I discovered that the Henry Grady was not our Henry but a one-time ambassador in the Near East. The president of Turkey has been making an extended visit in America and is about the first from other lands to express gratitude for what has been done to help his people by the operation of the Marshall plan.

"Cell 2466, Death Row." Such will be the title of a book to be published sometime during the coming year. The author, whose talents and ability if directed out of a background of moral perception might have been an ornament to the community, awaits execution in death row at San Quentin prison to pay the penalty for his crimes. He is described by the papers as Los Angeles' "Redlight Bandit." The publishers estimate that the book royalties will reach \$100,000 and the work is regarded as a classic in the field of literature dealing with criminology. Be that as it may, from extracts quoted from his book he faces the roll call of eternity not as the hero or the saint faces it but in the gripping fear of what may lie ahead.

A check for \$1,285,000 was handed over to the treasurer of Los Angeles county for a tract of 4,865 acres to be converted into an airport for use by aviation companies.

To one whose lot has been cast at the mid-winter hour in a framework of snow and ice, his life weather tradition is pleasantly upset amid flowers and velvet lawns of the tropical corner of our allotment of earth. But as the smiles of sunshine and summer bloom in midwinter are on every hand his prairieland sense of nature's balance reminds him that it is the snow and ice and frosts and rains which make America's great breadbasket land that keeps the country fed blessed with soil renewed from season to season in fertility by the winter's storms.

Among other things this big town has the biggest of is the county's superior court system, reputedly the "biggest court in the world," with its 80 separate divisions. The cost of maintaining this vast judicial setup is said to be \$24,000 a day. Divorce actions, criminal prosecutions, domestic rows, general human disputes and the universal cry for justice keeps the mills of the gods grinding steadily.

"firing" probably will focus enough additional importance to the Bricker amendment to get the amendment tacked on.

The Frontier hopes so. If you would like to see the president's treaty making powers with foreign nations restricted in the spirit of the constitution, then it's high time you were writing your congressman. Because that's what the Bricker amendment represents.

The Manion versus the administration affair is just a phase of the overall struggle, but it points up how far the internationalist crowd will go to gain its objectives. If Manion's worst sins were to support the Bricker amendment in something of the fashion of the South Dakota judge and to recommend the sale of a white elephant to private ownership, then he's not so bad.

The highways claim the lives of two youths—H. Dean Gilman, 20, of Amelia and William B. Crook, 19, of Ainsworth. Both youths were known in Holt county. Their horrible deaths occurred Saturday within the span of a few hours yet several hundred miles apart.

Basketball tournament time is here. When those differences are duly settled we can all look forward to the opening of the new swimming pool on memorial day.

Senator McCarthy's indictments of communists in government, present and past, may well prevent a democratic comeback in next fall's election.

Norfolk finally got a snowstorm.



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When You and I Were Young . . .

Chapman's Umbrella Sure Sign of Spring

Witnesses to Iowa for Jackson Trial

50 Years Ago
P. J. McManus is away on his annual Chicago, Ill., trip to buy goods for spring and summer

display. . . Mrs. Fitzsimmons and Mrs. Nichols are at the millinery market in Chicago, Ill. . . Spring seems to be around the corner—Lew Chapman appeared with his umbrella this week. . . Miss Grace Gordon entertained the LLC's in the parlors of the Hotel Evans. Guests played bridge, Miss Sadie Scirving won high prize for the evening. . . Judge Harrington, E. R. Adams, Peter Donohoe, M. H. McCarthy, A. E. Gwin and Frank Campbell went to Newton, Ia., as witnesses in the indictment trial of H. O. Jackson.

20 Years Ago

Judge and Mrs. J. A. Donohoe are here from Omaha to supervise the packing of their household goods. Dr. L. A. Burgess purchased their home. . . Jonas C. Ecker, former O'Neill newspaper editor, expired in the state of Washington. . . Petitions are in circulation for the renomination of C. E. Stout for the office of mayor. . . Jacob Beaver, Holt county pioneer, died at the home of his son, Ernest, in Deaver, Wyo. Burial will be at Blackbird.

The St. Mary's Cardinals' basketball team rang up its 12th victory of the season. . . Ceiling prices for restaurants will become effective March 6. . . Miss Mary Helen Martin spent the weekend in Omaha visiting friends. Mr. and Mrs. Jess Scofield were surprised by a group of friends honoring their 32d wedding anniversary.

One Year Ago

A 48-hour snow storm lashed O'Neill, very reminiscent of the blizzard days of 1948 and '49. George Hammond, "Voice of The

Frontier" announcer, took the special events unit on a three stop tour when the storm subsided. The Frontier published a blizzard edition. . . Nine drafted Holt county boys will report for duty in March.

Phone us your news — 51.

W. F. FINLEY, M.D.
O'NEILL
First National Bank Bldg.
OFFICE PHONE: 28

520-Acre Knox County Stock and Grain Farm and Personal Property

PUBLIC AUCTION

BECAUSE OF ILL HEALTH, I am forced to sell the following described real estate and personal property at public auction on the premises, located 1/2-mile north, 1 mile east and 2 1/2 miles north of Venus store; OR 1 1/2 miles north of Orchard; OR 20 miles east and 2 1/2 miles north of O'Neill; OR 1 mile east and 1 1/2 miles south of Oak View Park, on —

Wednesday, March 3rd, 1954

Starting at 12 O'clock Noon

Lunch Will Be Served

Real Estate and Improvements

Legal Description: E 1/2, SE 1/4 SW 1/4, Section 9, NW 1/4 Section 10, Township 29 North, Range 8, Knox County, Nebraska

130 ACRES — Very good producing hayland — 200 ACRES — Pasture — 180 ACRES — Farmland (including some excellent alfalfa). Balance in Building Site, Shelterbelt and Fine Springfed Pond.

GENERAL COMMENT: Here is an extremely well-located, high-producing unit which is ideally suited to a farming-feeding operation. The soil type and general contour lines assure above average production through dry years, and at the same time there is adequate drainage for wet seasons. Buildings are far above average and include: An excellent two-story, six-room house; large barn with loft; medium-sized calf and hog barn; 1,000-bu. double crib; chicken house; excellent garage, and several smaller outbuildings. REA service to and in all the buildings; water piped into the house; on daily mail route; rural grade school 1 1/2 miles; Creighton school bus stops one-half mile from front door.

If you are looking for an all-around good stock and grain farm be sure to give this place your personal inspection

TERMS ON REAL ESTATE: 25 percent on day of sale; balance upon delivery of deed and merchantable abstract of title. POSSESSION IMMEDIATELY.

39 - Head of CATTLE - 39

3—Milk COWS 17—Stock COWS 3—LONG YEARLINGS 15—CALVES, 3-mos. and older

Registered Hereford BULL, 4-yrs.-old

6 Doz. Austra-White Hens, producing now 14—Ducks

MACHINERY ETC.

44 Massey Harris Tractor and Cultivator, 1949
Oliver Corn Picker, 1951, very good
John Deere One-Way, '51
J-D 8-Ft. Power Binder, '48
Used Lumber, 30—8-ft. planks, some 2x4's, some good flooring boards
Kelly Ryan 15-Ft. Disc, '48, good
M-H Weed Sprayer, new
7-Ft. J-D Mower, No. 5, '51, power
J-D 4-Hole Corn Sheller
Fairbanks Morse Hammer Mill, '50, good

K-R 40-Ft. Elevator, '51, with 6-hp. motor
2—Corn Planters, Case and McCormick-Deering
McC.-Dr. Rake, new, 14-ft.
G.I. Manure Spreader, '51, on rubber
McC.-Dr. Loose & Hard Ground Lister, 2-row on rubber
McC.-Dr. Endgate Seeder
Duncan Manure Loader, new last spring
Char Lynn Hydraulic Pump, '53
Tractor Sweep — Hay Stacker
75-Ft. 6-In. Hammer Mill Belt

300-Gal. Fuel Tank and Stand
Hay Rack on rubber tires
Steel Wheel Wagon and Box
Large Box Wagon on rubber tires
Harrow, 4-section
Standard Wagon Box
Tank Heater and 7 1/2-Ft. Tank
Pride of the Farm Hog and Cattle Waterer
100 Posts — 3 Tons Iron
4—Stacks Prairie Hay
Model A Ford
Brooder House, 10x12
Hog Feeder — Shop Tools
Many Other Articles

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

7—Storm Windows, 62 1/2-in. by 26-in.
Coleman Oil Heater

Round Dining Table
Baby Bed
Kitchen Cabinet

Buffet
Warm Morning Heater

TERMS: CASH. No property to be removed unless settled for

FOR INSPECTION OF PREMISES CONTACT:

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or the

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