

# Member of Original O'Neill Colony Dies



'Sam' Thompson, 85, died about 3 a.m., Friday, February 26, at his home here. He had been ill about two weeks.

## Ex-ARC Executive Dies in California

### Harry Gribble, 60, Reared in Holt

Harry Gribble, 60, a former resident of the Chambers community, died Friday, February 26, in Fontana, Calif., where he had been an automobile dealer since the end of World War II. Mr. Gribble had been ill about two weeks.

Funeral services were conducted at Fontana and burial was made there. The late Mr. Gribble was born at Dakota City, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Gribble, who resided for many years east of Chambers.

He participated in World War I and at the outbreak of World War II he was temporarily located in North Ireland. Mr. Gribble went to London, England, and proffered his services to the American Red Cross, becoming one of the first troop welfare workers for the ARC in the United Kingdom.

For two years he was managing the Columbia club, the largest ARC canteen operation in the world. The club occupied 32 buildings (six of which were bomb damaged), and accommodated 2,500 American troops in a 24-hour period, providing food and shelter.

Mr. Gribble supervised a civilian staff which included British nobility who were volunteer workers. Before World War II he was an automobile dealer in Omaha and after the war established a Dodge-Plymouth agency at Fontana.

Survivors include widow—Blanche, formerly of Sioux City; brothers—Mark of O'Neill, Bernard B. of Omaha, Warren of Chambers and Ralph of Port Angeles, Wash.; sisters—Mrs. Dewey Schaffer of O'Neill and Mrs. George Recker of Everett, Wash.

When Mr. Gribble's illness became three of his brothers went to Fontana to be near him.

Frontier for printing!

"Voice of the Frontier"



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

# THE FRONTIER

North-Central Nebraska's BIG Newspaper

O'Neill, Nebraska, Thursday, March 4, 1954.

TWELVE PAGES This Issue

Seven Cents

## Famed NBC Announcer Will Speak

### Everett Mitchell Is Featured in All-Day Session Here

To millions of rural Americans the name of Everett Mitchell, NBC's veteran farm commentator, is synonymous with the broadcasting industry's long record of service to agriculture.

Mr. Mitchell will be the chief attraction at the annual combination meeting of the Holt county soil conservation district and the county extension service.

The event will be held on Tuesday, March 9, at the American Legion auditorium in O'Neill, starting at 10 a.m. It was more than a quarter century ago that Mitchell stepped before a microphone in Chicago for his first farm radio broadcast.

Mr. Mitchell went on the air with his Farmer's Exchange, and four years later he joined the NBC Chicago staff and inherited the job of emcee on the then three-year-old National Farm and Home Hour, on which his famed "It's a beautiful day in Chicago!" was first heard.

SOIL GROUP ON AIR The Holt county soil conservation district inaugurated a radio program Wednesday, March 3. C. R. Hill, unit conservationist, said the event would be a monthly feature following the "Voice of the Frontier" program, WJAG, 20 k.c. Wednesday's initial program was a 10-minute tape-recorded presentation.

programs, his own series of local broadcasts on station WMAQ, and telecasts on station WNBQ, Chicago, and has been seen in NBC telecasts from the International Live Stock Exposition since their inception in 1945.

Mr. Mitchell's appearance at O'Neill has been arranged through the Marcellus Implement Co. In 1951 he made his first trip outside the U.S., a six-week flying tour of 16 European and middle eastern countries where he talked with government officials, international farm youth exchange delegates, and peasants working in the fields.

Early in 1952 he toured fourteen Central and South American countries, again observing agriculture, talking with government officials, and recording interviews with International Farm Youth Exchange delegates.

Besides Mr. Mitchell, other features of the all-day program will include entertainment, pictures, and reports of the year's activities.

Board members and guests will be introduced, two extension board members will be selected, there will be a panel discussion of soil conservation activities, luncheon, and music by the Friendly Neighbors club.

FIFTH ANNUAL SOIL CONSERVATION ISSUE This is the Frontier's fifth annual soil conservation issue, timed for the 10th anniversary of the Holt County Soil Conservation District.

Considerable regular news-matter is omitted because of the large volume of conservation feature material. Additional conservation stories and pictures also will appear in the next issue and omitted routine news will be carried over until next week.

Mr. W. H. Bowker entertained at bridge Monday evening in honor of the Misses Mary and Katherine Grady.



## Crosby Convincing in 'Honesty' Talk

Nebraska's Gov. Robert Crosby addressed over 150 persons Tuesday afternoon in an "Operation Honesty" talk at the American Legion auditorium. Governor Crosby reviewed the now-famous Johnson county case, which resulted in a ruling from the supreme court that forced state tax officials to follow the law.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Parker... their home has been center of community activity for many years.



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## 300 Sign Parkers' Guestbook

Nearly three hundred persons, Sunday, February 23, went to the rural home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. ("Jim") Parker, northwest of O'Neill, to congratulate the pair during their golden wedding open house observance.

Two granddaughters, the Misses Iona and June Ernst, were in charge of the guestbook throughout the afternoon and evening affair.

The day's festivities got underway when Mr. and Mrs. Parker, with Mr. Parker's brother, Ben Parker, and his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. R. Middlekauf, Mrs. Parker's sister, Mrs. Lillie Scott, and a brother-in-law, James Shumate, were served dinner at the Town House in O'Neill.

Mrs. John Davidson and Mrs. Frank Searles acted as hostesses. Mrs. William Buxton, Miss Esther Dick and Mrs. Melvin Grosenbach were in charge of the gifts. Mrs. A. L. Fritton was hostess. Mrs. R. C. Middlekauf, Mrs. Clarence Tieszen, a granddaughter, and Miss Alice French poured.

The lace-covered serving table was centered by a four-tier cake, the layers of which were separated by white columns and swans. It was topped by the traditional gold 50-year ornament. The cake had been baked and decorated by a daughter, Mrs. Homer Ernst. Gold and white tapers in gold candlesticks, and yellow roses added to the beauty of the table.

James Crawford Parker, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Parker, was born in Lincoln. Six years of his boyhood were spent in Tennessee, the family then returning to Nebraska.

Mrs. Parker, the former Luella Pirner, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Pirner, was also born in Lincoln.

The Parkers were married in Lincoln on March 2, 1904. After living on several farms in Lancaster county, they moved to Holt county in March, 1919.

They lived on several farms north of O'Neill for several years before moving in 1935 to their present home.

Mr. Parker has spent the

## Alton Places 2d in Speech Contest

Duane Alton placed second in the Future Farmers of America public speaking contest held Saturday at Plainview. Duane's speech centered around the large amount of waste meat as a result of crowding, trampling and bruising of animals enroute to market.

## Supervisors Adopt Redistricting Plan

### O'Neill City Makes One District

The Holt county board of supervisors in session Tuesday officially adopted a redistricting plan which will be submitted as an answer to a mandamus action on file in Holt county district court.

The new districts: District one: O'Neill city. District two: Inman, Iowa, Antelope, Willowdale, Paddock, Scott, Steel Creek.

District three: Saratoga, Coleman, Rock Falls, Belle (formerly one-half of Rock Falls), Pleasant View, Shields, Emmet, Grattan.

District four: Verdigris, Golden, Ewing, Deloit (unchanged from its original composition).

District five: Swan, Josie, Wyoming, Conley, Chambers, Shamrock, McClure, Lake.

District six: Cleveland, Stuart, Green Valley, Holt Creek, Francis.

District seven: Dustin, Sand Creek, Atkinson, Sheridan, Fairview.

Meanwhile, the Holt County Rural Road Improvement association which brought the mandamus action, met last Thursday evening at the American Legion auditorium. One hundred sixty attended the meeting.

L. D. Putnam of O'Neill was elected president to succeed Frank Brady of Atkinson. Harvey Tompkins of Inman was named vice-president; Guy Cole of Emmet, treasurer; Charles Fox of O'Neill, James Allyn of Stuart and Elmer Juracek of Star, directors.

Federal sharing of cost in secondary road building was the chief topic of discussion, also redistricting.

## O'Neill Nurse Aids as Mother, Son Drown

Mrs. Charles Sanne, 72, and her son, George, 48, both of Tilden, lost their lives Monday as the result of a car accident about 4 p.m., 8 1/2 miles west of Norfolk on U.S. highway 275.

Their westbound auto went off the highway into a ditch, struck a bridge abutment and fell on its top in six feet of water.

First persons on the scene were Mrs. J. P. Brown and Mrs. L. A. Burgess, both of O'Neill. Mrs. Brown, a registered nurse, helped revive Sanne and relinquished when Norfolk firemen and ambulances arrived.

Sanne was subject to fainting spells and it is theorized he might have fainted while driving the 1938 model car.

## Ray Kurtz Dies from Injuries

### O'Neill Farmer, 71, Expires in Oklahoma Hospital; Wife Hurt

A 71-year-old O'Neill semi-retired farmer, R. M. ("Ray") Kurtz, died early Saturday, February 27, in a Rieck, Okla., hospital. He was injured in a collision involving the Kurtz' auto-trailer and a truck on Wednesday afternoon, February 24.

Mrs. Kurtz also was hurt and is being treated in the Rieck hospital.

The Kurtzes were returning from spending the winter at Mesa, Ariz., where they had spent the past three winters.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 3, from the Assembly of God church with Rev. Chester Anderson of Butte, officiating.



Ray Kurtz... burial here Wednesday.

Burial was in Prospect Hill cemetery. Rev. Wayne A. Hall, church pastor, officiated at the graveside rites.

The body lay in state throughout Tuesday and early Wednesday at Biglin's.

Ray Melvin Kurtz was born at Iowa Center, Ia., June 8, 1883, the son of Andrew and Clara Kurtz. He was one of three children.

He was married to Rilla Johnson on March 19, 1902, in Story county, Iowa. All of their children were born in Iowa, the family moving to the O'Neill vicinity in 1928.

Mr. Kurtz farmed for one year near the Niobrara river, moved onto another farm for a few years, and resided for many years 20 miles north of O'Neill near Eagle creek.

The Kurtzes became the parents of nine children—two of whom are deceased. Curtis died in infancy and Melvin died February 25, 1951. The late Mr. Kurtz also was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include: Widow—Rilla; sons—Andrew of Pasadena, Calif., and Clifton of Bethel, Kans.; daughters—Mrs. Hal (Marie) Bucher of Pasadena; Mrs. Fred (Doris) Harvey of Mission, Kans.; Mrs. Robert (Charlotte) Larson of O'Neill; Mrs. Don (LaDonna) Snyder of Atkinson, and Mrs. Charles (Bonnie) Cooper of West Covina, Calif.; brother—Ernest of Los Angeles, Calif.; sister—Mrs. Eva Grist of Glendale, Calif.; 15 grandchildren.

Palbearers were Ray Margrit, Francis Curran, Henry Walters, Walter Wells, Dave Moler and Blake Benson. Honorary palbearers were Edward M. Campbell, H. E. Coyne, Leo Mullen, Tony Asimus, R. G. Shelhauser, John Lansworth and Mark Schelkopf.

The late Mr. Kurtz was well-known throughout northern Holt county. He was noted for his friendliness and buoyant laughter. The main floor and church basement could not accommodate the large crowd at the funeral rites.

Mr. and Mrs. Kurtz celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1952.

## Vehicle Homicide Charges Are Filed

STUART—Daniel Flannigan, 18, Stuart serviceman home on emergency leave from Austria, was held this week in a Grand Island hospital in connection with an accident Tuesday, February 23, in which Mrs. A. H. Andersen, 60, of Grand Island, was killed.

The accident occurred at a Grand Island street intersection. Flannigan was the driver of a car which crashed into the Andersen machine. Flannigan is charged with motor vehicle homicide.



Everett Mitchell... "It's a beautiful day in Chicago." (Story at right)

## The Frontier's Trophy Goes to Wood

Henry Wood (left) receives from G. C. DeBacker, O'Neill Chamber of Commerce president, the Frontier's traveling trophy for having exhibited the best pen of three bulls in connection with the annual spring show

and sale sponsored by the Holt County Hereford Breeders' association. Wood also showed the grand champion and reserve champion pictured in last week's issue. The event was held Wednesday, February 25, at O'Neill.