

PrairieLand Talk

"Atkinson Friend Retires"

By ROMAIN SAUNDERS, 4110 South 51st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

I learn from a story appearing in the Nebraska Postmaster, a newspaper bearing the date line of Meadow Grove, Nebr., a copy of which some friend sent me, that my good friend Art Miller has retired as postmaster in Atkinson and now goes into business in his home town. Friends wish him well. Art served as postmaster for some years and conducted the office to the satisfaction of all the community. He is of a pioneer Atkinson family. Next time I get to my former post office town I hope to see and take the hand of friend Miller.



Romaine Saunders

Her name is Mrs. Were, has survived the struggles of life for 102 years. Makes her home up there in southwest South Dakota. At the age of 13 then but a slip of a girl, she left her home, her parents, her friends in Ireland and came to America. Later became a wife and mother. Now at a ripe old age she reads, writes and goes about unaided by glasses or other things most aged people need. South Dakota and Nebraska comprise the region in this country of ours where life flows on to attain a great age.

He has the creatures from which came the ham sandwiches, so he doesn't like it that Nebraska is known as the Beef State. I attended an Old Folks Party a week ago, a number there over 90 years of age. Why not designate us the Golden Age State.

The last day of the fading month of April I had a visitor in the person of State Senator Frank Nelson, he that day coming back to Lincoln from a trip to his ranch home north of O'Neill. It is a pleasure to clasp the capable hand of Frank and sit down to visit with him. While up home Mr. Nelson visited Grandma Hull, found her well and facing her 106th birthday still enjoying life. Things at home on the ranch were all OK under the capable management of his son. On the streets of O'Neill Frank ran on to Will H. Spindler who had come down from his home in a county west of Holt to look about a bit. Frank and Will had a brief visit and Senator Nelson learned that the author of "Rim of the Sandhills" that charming story of romance and adventure of north Holt county where Will grew up as a boy, has been touched again by the bells of beautiful literature and is writing another story. Senator Nelson is back again at his desk in the senate chamber to help hasten on the disposal of the several hundred measures before the legislature.

The state legislature boys—and one girl—must dispose of 708 bills before adjourning to go home. That many more laws for we citizens of this prairie land state to comply with, and how shall we survive.

Get your milk today in a bottle or paper carton at the stores. Most of the homes in O'Neill 70 or more years ago had a cow to furnish the family with milk. Each morning here came Ed or Frank Welton, rounded up all the town cows, drove them to the west section line and then south to the river for pasture, bringing them to the homes again in the evening. The family then had not a bottle or carton of milk but a bucket of it morning and evening.

Rake up the fallen leaves, take down storm doors and windows—apple trees are in blossom, cherry trees are white. Summer comes to PrairieLand and we bask again in the sunshine.

Some 62 years ago The Frontier equipment was moved from the Millard building that then stood at Fifth and Douglas street back to the old stand on south Fourth street. Postmaster D. H. Cronin moved the post office from across the street back to where it had originally been, occupied the front section of that building, and with the help of Billy Davis and Mary McGlaucklin PrairieLand Talker ran The Frontier plant in the other half of the building to the east, and the Odd Fellows lodge took over the entire upper floor. . . . That building burned some 30 years ago, a new building erected for the Frontier plant. And now it's moved again a block to the north.

City elections now over again. An American patriot takes off on a trip beyond his earthly home, to show the Reds how to do it. During the first four thousand years of human history four human beings went aloft to a distant celestial region never to return until the Holy City comes down from God out of heaven to rest upon the new clean earth.

O'Neill has two lumber yards today as it always has had. It was the winter of '87-'88 that I as a young fellow worked a little at the Barnett lumber yard on north Fourth street where it stands today. Helped myself to a 2-inch thick bit of plank, took it to where we lived that winter in the house that had been the home of Gen. John O'Neill family, intending to make me a sled, laid the plank by the stable back of the house past which came the angling road from the northeast. Some happy go lucky chap driving by on that road appropriated my plank to his own use—so I didn't get my sled.

Editorial

National Hospital Week

National Hospital Week is being observed this week from May 7 through 13 and attention is drawn to St. Anthony's hospital in O'Neill where 7,949 patients have received medical care since its opening September 24, 1952.

There have been 1,651 babies born at the O'Neill hospital in the past seven years; 1,090 transfusions given; 1,049 major surgical procedures and 2,530 minor surgeries performed, since 1954.

The Hospital offers employment to about 50 persons thus making the establishment of value to the community on a business standard as well as providing the latest scientific methods of health and life-giving services.

Hospitals are dedicated to community service. However the hospital is dependent upon the community for support in patronage, volunteer workers and the encouragement of young people toward health careers.

One very effective way residents may aid their hospital is to join the Walking Blood Bank. There is a critical shortage of blood today and every possible pint is sorely needed. Fresh whole blood is highly perishable, thus your hospital must depend, in many desperate emergency situations, on volunteer donors who will come on occasional call to provide their blood.

To be a member of the Walking Blood Bank, leave your name at the hospital. You will receive a free type-testing and will then be given a membership card, stating your blood type, which should be carried with you at all times. St. Anthony's hospital

is greatly in need of more members in the Blood Bank.

Others wishing to do their share in return for a modern, well-run hospital, may volunteer their services to the Hospital auxiliary to provide extras for the patient care and lighten the load of the busy hospital personnel. The Hospital auxiliary works faithfully with the hospital personnel, offering their services in times of need, assisting with linen work, patient care and most of all, to raise funds for special equipment which is sorely needed by the Hospital. The Hospital auxiliary provides a major link between the hospital and the community by increasing public understanding of the hospital's work and its goal.

Understanding plays a very important factor between the hospital and community. For instance, it became necessary to raise the room rates recently. This was done to cover salary costs which make up 65 percent of the total hospital expenditure. Social security is now offered to hospital personnel which insures the retaining of high-quality workers. The raise in room rates covers this additional expense, also.

It is well to remember that the community and hospital are in partnership—the hospital provides health-saving facilities and the community provides the interest, support and even guidance.

DULUTH, MINN., PUBLICITY: "Twenty-some years ago it cost less to run the entire federal government than our annual cost for interest alone on the national debt today."

Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Sarah Cottenill purchased the A. F. Mussen residence in the western part of this city. . . . John Darr, one of the Pioneer residents of Holt county died at his home in Page April 23. . . . On April 30 the Northwestern railroad will put on passenger trains 5 and 8 which were taken off some three months ago. . . . The Beggar Prince comic opera at the Opera House Monday night comes recommended as a first class opera company. . . . F. M. Pixley has this week installed in his drug store a new soda fountain of the latest improved make.

25 YEARS AGO

Clarence Selah, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Selah of O'Neill, wins State High School Oratory contest. . . . A delegation of Boyd county business men appeared before the county board last week to ask board to cooperate in request to government and state for oil mat on highway 281 from junction north of O'Neill to Niobrara river. . . . Heavy wind Wednesday night wrecks building. . . . O'Neill High wins Niobrara Valley Track Meet here. . . . School closes for summer months at Meek district 27 on April 25.

10 YEARS AGO

Dr. William James Douglas of Atkinson honored with 50-year-award. . . . Harry Smith of Akron, Ia. buys John Deere Agency from Lloyd Collins. . . . Ruth C. Harris, daughter of Mrs. Esther C. Harris, now touring Europe. . . . Eastset and Bartlett join Northcentral Nebraska day-and-night baseball league. . . . Francis Gilg attends Knights of Columbus convention as delegate from here.

5 YEARS AGO

Snow and rain aid range conditions. . . . Country club sets up golf clinic with M. J. Golden and A. P. Jaskowski offering instruction. . . . Mamie Shoemaker succumbs at Norfolk April 29. . . . Mrs. Anna M. Clark, early Holt settler, dies April 29 at her home in Inman. . . . Jerry Schmidt and Thomas Head are presented athlete of the year awards at SMA. . . . Norman Walter, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Walter of Chambers, receives missionary call to Formosa.

The Long Ago At Chambers

50 YEARS AGO

I. Eckly has purchased three lots north of the Charles and Graham Livery Barn of J. C. McGowen, and will move his house in from his farm. . . . Mrs. Will Robertson brought her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Bond, to town yesterday to take the stage for O'Neill on their way to Colorado. . . . Men's silk ties for sale at 35 cents; plain, fancy and embroidered hose, 15 cents per pair. . . . Born to Mr. and Mrs. Jed Hurdle April 24, a daughter.

25 YEARS AGO

Jack Kellar and family have moved into the old Art Noble property. . . . The April showers have arrived in the past week bringing this community two good rains. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Whitaker were surprised Sunday when a number of friends and relatives came in to help them celebrate their 26th wedding anniversary. . . . Mr. and Mrs. George Hodgson moved to Stuart last weekend to assume charge of their new business. . . . Chambers places fourth in Niobrara Valley Conference Track and Field meet.

Servicemen's Notes . . .

James D. Enright, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Enright, will be promoted May 16 to machinist's mate second class petty officer in the U. S. Navy. . . . He is now stationed aboard the U. S. S. Castor, AKS 1, whose home port is in Yokosuka, Japan. Jim expects to be discharged from the Navy some time during the month of May, having served his three year enlistment.

Roger J. Cline, fireman apprentice, USN, son of Harney A. Cline of Naper, was serving aboard the anti-submarine warfare support aircraft carrier USS Bennington when it returned, May 3, to San Diego, Calif., following a cruise in the Western Pacific. . . . During the seven-month cruise, the Bennington conducted training exercises in the Philippine and South China seas with units of the Seventh Fleet, and visited the Philippines; Hong Kong; Formosa; and Japan. . . . The carrier transported and dis-

tributed more than 30,000 pounds of good-will packages to orphanages, missions and needy groups; and conducted tours, open houses and luncheons aboard the ship in several Far Eastern ports. . . . The ship will be in San Diego for one month for crew leave and minor ship repair.

Sergeant First Class Robert J. Reznicek, 24, son of Mrs. Johanna P. Mosher, 39 Sampson st., Deadwood, S. D., is competing in the Fifth U. S. Army rifle and pistol matches at Fort Riley, Kan. The matches are scheduled to end May 6. . . . During these matches, top marksmen from units throughout the 13-state Fifth Army area are competing for trophies and the opportunity to represent the Fifth Army at the All-Army champion-

ships at Fort Benning, Ga., in June. . . . Sergeant Reznicek is regularly assigned in Battery B of the 147th Artillery, an Army National Guard unit in Deadwood, S. D. . . . He attended Deadwood High School. His father, Joseph E. Reznicek, lives in O'Neill.

Donald F. Schoenle, seaman USN, recently has completed a six months course in Electronic Technicians school in San Francisco, Calif., and is spending his leave in O'Neill with his mother, Mrs. Geraldine Schoenle and his

aunt, Mrs. Pauline Benz and other relatives. . . . Donald graduated third in his class and was company honor man. . . . His next duty station will be aboard the USS Providence CLG 6, whose homeport is Long Beach Calif. . . . Donald attended St. Mary's Academy.

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