

Prairieland Talk

"Bathing Was Fun"

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

Today we step into the bathroom, close the door, turn on the water by touching a little gadget called a faucet, lay aside what we are wearing and get into the tub. Sixty years ago we walked that mile from the southwest limits of O'Neill to the Elkhorn river; shoes, pants and shirt with other bits of wearing apparel deposited on the grass by the river brink, and as nature framed us in the nude walked into the crystal waters flowing by, splashed and swam and dived about for an hour or so, got out clean and fresh to dress again and walk home. We had fun, Homer, Ed, Hank and I, and then were surprised to discover we had been spied upon by two or three of the gentler sex sitting over there by Hagerty's lake. Yes, bathing in the Elkhorn was fun. Bathing in a bath tub is work.



Romaine Saunders

We met by chance recently where the idle ones park in the shade from time to time, she a refugee from Cuba with startling tales of life down there. She was born in North Dakota but at two years of age was taken to Cuba by her parents who sought a warmer land than the Dakotas. Now a grandmother she lived many years away from her American citizenship. She now stays with relatives in Lincoln. Told me that the tourist bosses in Cuba have taken over every thing, took all she had, and that there is today hundreds of hungry starving people down there. She had lived in the country and owned a little farm, now hers no more. Speaks three languages, English fluently, German and the native Cuban talk Spanish. Yes, she thinks America is the best spot on earth and Lincoln the choice place to be.

The gent who tells us all about it via radio said the other day that mankind has Ten Commandments to order their lives by but there has been added the eleventh by a considerable group living today, Thou shalt not admit adultery!

July 30 sees them home again, my good daughter and son-in-law, and they will look after dad as usual. They had been on a three-weeks vacation jaunt that took them to the Florida coast and a swim in the ocean. Vacation time on full pay. Well, they want you to come back and go to work so the corporation bosses give you a little lay off on full pay. When a young teenager I was in luck to get my pay from Jim Riggs if at the job press everyday, nothing when away on "vacation."

My good friend Lew Nissen who also holes up now in our Capital City and I went on a 200 mile auto ride recently, a hundred miles out to the village of Leigh in northern Colfax county, of which community I was a part for three years in the 1890's and published the town's newspaper, the World which is still there but not in the building it was in at my time of my life there, my office building having been burned. The one business street one block north and south still stands but no business buildings but we found no one left there who were there sixty or more years ago. The few we did meet were friendly and extended a hand. We were told that there is one lady in Leigh, the wife of a businessman and that she came from O'Neill, but we regret not having met her. The town of Leigh is in the center of a rich farming district. As Lew and I rolled along the highways we saw again the rich green robed landscape of the Nebraska prairies, Lew remarking that it is good to be here. And now back again in the crowded human haunts of our Capital City.

For some 80 years. From the days of Judge Kin-kaid to the late R. R. Dickson and then Judge Mounts O'Neill was the home of the district judge. Now that dignity is at home in Brown county. And does that native son of Holt county whose home the last I knew was in O'Neill on Everett street between Second and Third street still function as court reporter?

Oklahoma authorities have a problem. Twenty years ago a 17-year-old lad got mad for being re-proved for smoking on the schoolhouse grounds. Sneaked up and set fire to the schoolhouse which was burned down and a number of school children burned to death. Twenty years later that former 17-year-old confesses his crime.

Sunshine following gentle showers of rain make weather conditions the best yet in the Capital City community. While a few spots out in the state have been hit by destructive hail storms. But for the most part Nebraska has had good summer weather and a good crop growing season.

Sunrise and on to high noon; then a busy warm day we see the sunset and evening star. A night of rest for you and me.

For 50 years he walked it from his dwelling place at Fremont and First street to his job, first at the U. S. land office, then a bookkeeper for a private concern, then at the old courthouse and then a little store of his own on Douglas street between 4th and 5th streets. Now he is under the sod beside his life's companion in the abode of the dead.

Editorial

Labeling Consumer Credit

Christian Science Monitor

The attack on that old installment buyers' nemesis—hidden costs and veiled interest rates—is being mounted once more in Washington.

Senator Douglas's consumer credit labeling bill, which failed to pass last year because of complexity and lobbying, is having new hearings.

Once again, the main difficulty lies in extracting a statement of simple annual interest out of the confusion of various monthly payment plans. Editorial Research Reports cites a classic example:

If a consumer borrows \$100 for one year, repaying in monthly installments of \$9, the total repayment is \$108, and he thinks of the finance charge as \$8 or 8 per cent of the principal. However, he's actually paid interest at a rate of closer to 16 per cent, inasmuch as for half the year his indebtedness has been less than \$50. And there is a good deal of argument that the 16 per cent rate isn't accurate either, and that the true rate would be in the neighborhood of 14.4 per cent.

Despite this confusion over what the "true interest" label should read, the Douglas measure ought to be passed. If amendment is needed to solve the interest-calculating dilemma, all right. But certainly the requirement that borrowers be given an itemized total of all costs beyond the base price of an article is a matter of indisputable justice.

American consumers, currently owing some \$54,000,000,000, have a right to see something clearer than undecipherable small print on their loan contracts before they plunge any further.

KING FERRY, N. Y., TRIBUNE: "It has become apparent, after 322 major work stoppages, strikes and boycotts at 22 sites that have cost the U. S. missile program 162,000 man-days of time and extorted uncountable millions of dollars from U. S. taxpayers, that new, clear-cut legislation is needed to put the national defense program back on the track. Only the most forthright and specific legal restraints can put an end to the wholesale sabotage that has even so, for the most part, violated existing law."

CARLSBAD, N. M., CURRENT-ARGUS: "A time-tested truism in the psychology of advertising which says, 'Repeat a statement often enough and it will become a part of the thinking process of the masses.'"

STERLING, ILL., GAZETTE: "... it is when you get into the real, long-range projections of some of these spending programs that potential trouble begins to pile up. And the prize example in this case is the... decision to try to beat the Russians to landing men on the moon and bringing them back alive... The original cost estimate was \$15 billion to \$20 billion... But James E. Webb, new director of National Aeronautics and Space Administration and a former Budget Bureau director under President Truman, says the total cost may run \$40 billion over the 10-year period, which will be cut to seven if possible."

Frontiers Ago

10 YEARS AGO Arlene Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Anderson, Amelia, will receive her registered nurse degree August 19... Sgt 1/c Dorrance C. Crabb receives army discharge after being recalled to duty October, 1950 as a reservist... Mrs. Harry Sullivan entertains Pinochle club at her home; prizes were won by Mesdames Leo Moore, Stanley Holly, F. A. O'Connell and Ralph Beclwith... O'Neill golf team defeats Ainsworth in inter-city tourney; M. J. Golden and Ben Grady turn in lowest cards.

5 YEARS AGO Lorene Ziska reigns as Hay Days Queen at Atkinson... Lorenz Fund closes at \$7,573, for Middlebranch farmer who lost both arms in baler accident... Lifelong Holt man, H. J. Hartie, dies at St. Anthony hospital... 64th Holt Fair soon to open; first day will be August 13... Lynch paper is sold by editor/publisher, Alton Zink, to Leo Thomson... Frank Backhaus, 66, dies in O'Neill hospital; funeral held in Amelia.

25 YEARS AGO Mrs. J. Erb, 80, died at her home about 10 miles northwest of this city July 25... Blistering heat wave is hot enough to fry egg on cement... July 22 was the birthday anniversary of two pioneer residents of this county, William Harvey and Clyde Hull... Forty-six band members present concert Saturday evening under direction of Professor Durham... Arthur Tomlinson, who farms three miles south of Inman, recently threshed a crop of oats and rye that made respectively 20 and 16 bushels to the acre.

10 YEARS AGO Races will be held August 10-12 in O'Neill and entries are now being received... Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Charles are helping Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Gim through baying... Smith Brothers are paying 12 cents per dozen for eggs... R. R. Dickson was chosen temporary chairman of the Republican county convention July 23 at O'Neill.

25 YEARS AGO Victor Harney sustains badly mangled arm from electric saw accident... Three prairie fires of unknown origin started in the Amelia vicinity last week... Newt and Mary Wyatt celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary Sunday... Mr. and Mrs. Walt Richard are building a new restaurant in Chambers which will be ready for occupancy September 15... The Methodist aid will meet with Mrs. A. Mrs. Zana Warren returned home recently from a week's visit in Chicago.

Warranty Deeds WD-Katherine Engler to Paul H. Engler 3-3-60 \$4000. Lots 2 & 3 Blk 10- Hallock's Add- Stuart GUARDIANS DEED - LaVern D Stevens to Raymond Klabenes 7-24-61 \$11,400-NE 1/4 NE 33- SW 34- 27-27-13 WD-Tim Read to Wayne Smith & wf 6-20-61 \$10,240. W 1/2 SE 1/4 & So 80 rods of W 1/2 NE 1/4 & Part W 1/2 E 1/2 NE 1/4 Sec 30-26-12 WD-Marie Nay to James Boyle 6-1-61 \$1-Part of NE 1/4 NW 1/4 31-29-11

The Long Ago At Chambers George Major commenced work for Charles Roberts on Monday... Born to Mr. and Mrs. Henderson of Amelia, an 11 pound son July 27... The WCTU will meet Thursday afternoon at the Bap-

4-H Club Notes Fractors Discussed The Electro-Motive 4-H club met at the Marvin Stauffer home July 18. Roll call was answered by naming the kind of tractor the members are taking in the tractor project and the horsepower rating. All of the members were present. The tractor division members discussed the lesson entitled "What Makes An Engine Run" and Operator's Manual" in their tractor project book. The members of the electricity division discussed their lesson and the subject of making a display board for the Holt County Fair. The next meeting will be at the Art Grass home July 23. Randall Stauffer, Reporter

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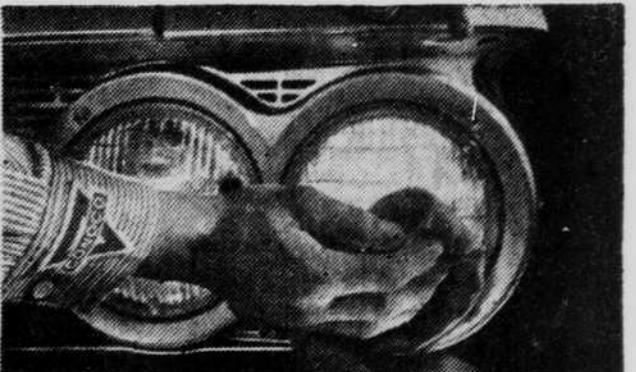
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Advertisement for rubber stamps. Includes text: 'TAGS AND PLATES', 'RECEIVED MAY 20 1949 SHIPPING DEPT.', 'CREIGHTON Blue Joys', 'RUBBER STAMPS', 'THESE ITEMS SOLD AT THE FRONTIER', 'O'Neill, Nebr. 114 N. Fourth St. Phone 788'. Also features a 'HONOR ROLL' graphic.