

PrairieLand Talk

Horses -- Not of the Past

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

In company with three O'Neill patriots, Messrs. Carney Clements and Coyne, on a recent visit up there, PrairieLand Talker had the pleasure of riding to Chambers, from Chambers west to my former home community in Swan precinct and a stop at the old Riley brothers ranch now operated by a daughter of the last of the Rileys and her husband, Tom Baker, who were not at home that day. Carney, at the steering wheel and familiar with that grass-robbed region of Holt county, rolled us along some two miles further west, turned to return to the first road going north, and on up that beautiful fraz valley. We have been led to believe that the horse was a thing of the past, but there on Charley Peterson's stretch of grasslands were grazing 200 horses the day we drove by. And George Meals, at whose hospitality we enjoyed a visit, told me they have 10 horses, one of the ten being a fat old mare I had sold him as a four-year-old some twenty years ago. It was a pleasure to find the Meals family well and prosperous. The country we traveled over, as elsewhere in this prairieLand state, looked good, well watered by frequent rains and robed in velvet green. Though he is of pioneer Holt county blood it may have been Mr. Coyne's first visit down that way, but he enjoyed it as we all did. Horses a thing of the past? Not yet!

When the tomatoes turn red I may get up to the O'Neill community. Met a friend there on a recent visit to O'Neill, Mr. Shultz, formerly in the grocery business but now a nurseryman, who told me he had sold 27,000 tomato plants. Maybe housewives around O'Neill are going into the canning business.

The administrative head of the Agricultural College of Peoria, Ill., invited the Agricultural Committee of our state legislature to visit the college. Our group of state senators making up that committee were flown to the Illinois city June 2. State Senator Frank Nelson of Holt county, a member of the committee, planned to go with his committee members.

Bright summer days again come and go, stately trees adorned in velvet leaf, grass and flowers and birds, growing grainfields and gardens of fruits and sprouts and of pleasant things we Yankees love to eat. Sunshine and rain and all across our great prairieLand is the land of plenty, adorned in floral beauty, herds of cattle, pigs and poultry. So we may entertain a heart to gratitude for the bounties and



Romaine Saunders

Editorial

The Federals and Redbird

If you will put yourself in the shoes of the citizens of the little community of Redbird, you might get some idea of how it feels to lose your post office.

It seems strange, the millions of dollars the federal government spends, the increase in postage rates, and a promise of more increases of postage rates, that the little community would have one of its last institutions closed.

Federal authorities said they closed it because it was fourth class which means, simply that the little office did less business than the third, second or first class office.

It means little else but a few figures being totaled in a book in Kansas City to this super and giant of a federal government we have.

But to the folks down Redbird way, the office was more than just a place where you went to get your mail. The people there looked forward to getting their mail more, perhaps, because they could talk to their neighbors in their own community rather than the fact that this is where they received their letters.

Sure, the same people will go to Lynch. Sure, they will meet each other there too. But something will be missing. They will tell you that there is a certain feeling about meeting friends in your own community is now missing.

Support Your Team

From Rock County Leader

Summertime is here with its associated activities. Among them is baseball.

Bassett will have several teams in action this season, and all are worthy of the community's support.

They should be supported with attendance first of all, for playing to empty stands is not the most inspiring situation in the world. Attendance also helps out with the financial end of the game.

It is likely that additional financial support will be needed. We hope the citizens of Bassett and Rock county will be generous in their support.

The town team players, for instance, pay their own expenses. All they ask is enough funds to purchase equipment and pay for lighting the local field.

The Legion Juniors are sponsored by the Bassett American Legion post, and are also worthy of attendance and financial support.

Baseball is a sport that is truly American and is sometimes called the national pastime.

The Rinky-Dink program will continue through the summer. Walt Parr has done a tremendous job with the small fry, and the enthusiasm with which the players participate is something to see.

While we are on the subject of baseball and Walt Parr we would like to say that the recent baseball tryout camp held here was possible largely through Walt's efforts. He made the initial contact with Tom Demark, and set the event up.

Borrowed Reputation

From Pierce County Leader

It may be a church, or perhaps a civic organization or a 4-H club. If someone came along and asked you, "Can we rent your reputation?" what would your answer be?

Many groups have worked hard to serve their community over a long period of years and then a smooth talking promoter will come along and try

beauties of nature bestowed by an omnipotent Hand.

To the north of Nebraska's metropolitan city of Omaha and just out of sight of the muddy Missouri river, in the long, long ago, Lewis and Clark had a confab with the Indians, nestled today in the green robed hills among stately trees the quiet village of Fort Calhoun, known in the beginning as Fort Atkinson where soldiers were stationed to keep an eye on the restless and war-like Indian tribes. Today Washington county in which Fort Calhoun is located, has no soldiers on guard nor is heard from out of the hills the warwhoop of the Pawnees. It is a farming community. Holt county has a citizen who spent his early years on a family farm near Fort Calhoun and became a high school graduate there. Fifty years ago young Frank Nelson started from home in a wagon drawn by a team of young mules and after five and a half days landed in the community of northern Holt he now calls home. Today Senator Nelson travels on rubber tires and each Friday evening upon adjournment of the legislature drives from Lincoln to Fort Calhoun where he spends the weekend with Mrs. Nelson in the inviting home of Frank's sister who has spent her 70 years in that community and owns a farm a renter operates for her. PrairieLand Talker has enjoyed the hospitality of Miss Nelson's pleasant home in company with Senator and Mrs. Nelson.

The Frontier has since corrected it, but for a time they had PrairieLand Talker located on First street, fifty blocks off, my holding up headquarters in on Fifty-first street. My home in O'Neill in years now gone was on south First street; two other families in that block in the 1880's, Everds and Corbets, and two across the street—Zimermans and Harnishes, and Miss Ruth Harnish still sticks to her old home.

During a recent sojourn in O'Neill I met up with and had a visit with Walter O'Malley; now back in Lincoln I have the letter he said he had written me. Walter graciously proposed taking me to points of interest in northern Holt and on over to the site of old Fort Randall. So I had visions, among others, of seeing a little friend out by Eagle creek as she sat on her pony Glass Eyes. However, the day we thought of going we deemed it wise to stick around town. And that may have been best as over in the Randall area a violent storm swept through and we may have been blown into the Missouri river.

A kiss will consecrate the spot where two human hearts are united as one—the spot where love united two hearts to beat as one!

Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

Henry D. Grady, the popular mail carrier on rural route No. 1 from this city, announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for sheriff. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Alex McConnell are rejoicing over the arrival of twins, a boy and girl. . . . Father Flannigan and County Treasurer O'Malley of Greeley, were in the city. . . . Ross Kelley, who held down the third corner for the O'Neill champions was given a try out with the Denver western league. He played a good game, securing two hits in four times at bat. . . . Miss Esther L. Swanson of Lincoln was elected principal and Miss Marie Good-fellow of Jackson, assistant principal by the school board. . . . Married: Miss Clara May Gatz to Adolph Schroeder; Miss Mayme O'Donnell to Edward Lyman. . . . Miss Laura Stannard, who is employed as an operator in the telephone company's office at Kearney, was home visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Stannard. . . . Miss Mayme O'Donnell was tendered a shower and farewell reception by about fifty of her young lady friends.

20 YEARS AGO

For farmers who were interested in planting varieties of grain which were best adapted to local conditions there were thirteen varieties of hard corn planted on the Fred Lindberg farm near O'Neill and 10 varieties were watched on each of the farms of Roy Snyder and C. D. French of Page. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lohaus moved to the Ralph Mellor home on east Douglas street. . . . Philip Yarnall was chosen this year as the American Legion Post's delegate to attend Boys State. . . . Miss Florence Nelson, Spencer, purchased the Barnhart Grocery and Meat Market in this city. . . . Virgil Johnson, freshman at Hastings college, was awarded a \$5 prize for winning a tie for second place in the Curren's Biblical Oratorical contest held at the college. Holt County was represented at the Nebraska Home Demonstration Club council in Fremont by Mrs. Vern Sageser, Mrs. L. O. Johnson, Mrs. John Protivinsky, Mrs. Ora Yarges, Mrs. James Speeser and Mrs. Wes Murphy. . . . Woodrow Melona received his medal from the National Music contest at Colorado Springs, Colo. The medal was awarded him for his rating as a trumpet soloist. . . . Deaths: Ed C. Leicy, 35, last civil war veteran in Cedar county, died at Randolph. He was the grandfather of Leslie W. Caster of Inman; George Fox Kivitt, 79, of Inman.

10 YEARS AGO

The Simonson Post American Legion Auxiliary held its 50th anniversary at the St. Anthony's building fund. . . . Miss Dorothy Moore, won valedictorian honors at Inman high school this year and Miss Barbara Bronkhorst won salutatorian honors. . . . School sponsored a Frigidaire cooking school at the American Legion auditorium. . . . Mrs. Addie Kiltz, 89, Chambers, was honored at a surprise birthday party. . . . Three Holt county residents took the U.S. citizenship oath in the district court. The residents were: Mrs. Jacob Siegler, Atkinson; Mrs. Henry Lang, Ewing and Mrs. Bruce Fleming, Atkinson. . . . Chuck Appar, 25, Lincoln, joined the Frontier staff. . . . The Parent-Teachers association election met with the city council in ground facilities for the city's youth. . . . Birth: Jerry, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Hammond, Omaha. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces. . . . Deaths: Mrs. J. E. Harding, 77, Whiting, Ia., resident of Holt county for 25 years; Everett Brown, 73, Riverton, Ia., long time resident of Holt county; Mrs. Frank Hansen, 82, Lusk, Wyo., formerly Kate Burke of this county.

FIVE YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. John Wells celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an open-house in the Assembly of God church parlors. . . . The Al Kelly and Miller Bros. circus, the second largest in the nation, played a one-day engagement here June 10. . . . The Smith Motor Co. companion firm of the Harry F. Smith Implements was announced as the authorized Studebaker dealer for the O'Neill vicinity. . . . The Holt county soil conservation district was named outstanding for the year 1953-54 and National co-winner in the national soil conservation award program. . . . Miss Lou Ann Fritton represented O'Neill at the State "Miss Nebraska" contest held at Lincoln. . . . Army Pvt. Jack R. Taylor, O'Neill advised his parents he had reached Japan. . . . J. E. Wert, O'Neill police officer, for nearly 8 years, was appointed by acting mayor Emmet Crabb as chief of police. . . . John R. Gallagher, O'Neill attorney, filed for the office of Holt county attorney on the democratic ticket. . . . Deaths: Mrs. Harry Jolley, 74, O'Neill; Ed Evans, 45, O'Neill farmer.

Boyd County Girl Wins Miss Karen Bowers of Bristow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowers represented Boyd County in the district 4-H public speaking contest at Bassett on Wednesday, May 27th. The district includes Boyd, Holt, Brown, Rock, Keya Paha, and Cherry counties. The contest was held in connection with the 4-H Junior Leaders Conference.

Miss Bowers received a purple ribbon on her speech "My faith in 4-H" and was awarded an all expense paid trip to club week at Agriculture College, Lincoln, where she will represent the district by giving her speech at the State public speaking contest on June 9th. Karen was given this trip by KFAB, Omaha radio station. Duane Loenstein of Lincoln was the judge at the district contest.

Legislature Pushing For Early Adjournment

By Melvin Paul, Statehouse Correspondent, The Nebraska Press Association

LINCOLN — The Legislature is pushing hard for an adjournment this month.

There are some doubts whether the lawmakers can make the grade.

The budget bill, appropriating money for operating state government from July 1 of this year until July 1, 1961, must be signed no later than June 30.

Observers say the bog-down may come in trying to get bills out of enrollment and review committee where they are put in proper advancement in the legislative mill.

Records are expected to be hung up all across the board. The number of bills months ago passed a record and next week the lawmakers will set a new record length, surpassing the 115 legislative days of the 1957 meeting.

The strain of the session, which began Jan. 6, is beginning to tell on health of the members. Sens. John Aufenkamp of Julian, David Tews of Norfolk, Earl Bowen of Red Cloud and Terry Carpenter of Scottsbluff are among those who already have felt the weight of the session, in brief bouts with illness.

Tempers are beginning to wear thin, and debate is becoming a little more on the vociferous side.

Long-time observers say without hesitation this session has been one of the most difficult since the Unicameral first began operating in 1937.

Some lawmakers point toward adjournment the last week of June, others feel it may drag into the first week in July.

Fire Marshal

Nebraska will have a new fire marshal July 1—Joseph Davis of Wahoo who has been Saunders county sheriff the past eight years. Divis replaces E. C. Iverson who has headed the fire marshal's office for 17 years.

Gov. Ralph G. Brooks made the appointment of Divis, a Democrat who at one time had said he did not want the post. Iverson assured Divis his "complete cooperation" in transfer of the office.

This, the governor said, "will contribute to the continuity of the fire safety program in Nebraska."

Divis is a past president of the Nebraska Volunteer Firemen's Association, and has been active in volunteer fire protective circles for several years.

Presently, Divis is chief of the Wahoo Volunteer Fire Dept., went, his 14th year in that post and is a member of the executive board of the Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association and President of the State Fire Chiefs.

Married and the father of five children, Divis said he was "pleased to have this opportunity to serve Nebraska in the important field of public safety and fire protection."

Iverson will remain on the job through the month of June, aiding Divis in the transition.

School Association

The Nebraska School Improvement Association told the State Board of Education it wants the State Education Commissioner an elective position.

Also, the group said it wants to limit the power of the State Department of Education, placing accreditation standards in the hands of the Legislature instead of the accreditation committee of the Education Department.

A delegation, headed by S. M. Brauer Jr., of Stuart, met with the board so each group could "better understand" the other.

Brauer said his organization was formed to inform the people of their legal rights in redistricting, and to work for local control of school problems.

Frank Landis of Lincoln, board president, said the board has no authority to change any school district and no member of the board would favor that policy. There is no authority at the state level to veto any reorganization plan by the local districts, he added.

Landis suggested the association launch a study and produce a reorganization plan it could support positively.

Minimum Wage Killed The Legislature killed a bill offered by Sen. Terry Carpenter of Scottsbluff to establish a minimum wage in Nebraska of 75 cents per hour.

The bill would have applied only to 20 or more employees and did not include agricultural workers, students, domestic servants and certain other classifications.

Sen. John Cooper of Humboldt led the fight to kill the measure, which was axed 26-11.

Claims Court

The Legislature killed a proposal to create a "court of claims" to which persons could bring suit against the state.

Now, the state cannot be sued and all claims for damage must be handled through the Board of Eundry Claims and then be approved by the Legislature.

Senators objected to the idea on the grounds the present system has been working well.

Sen. Terry Carpenter had proposed the court be located in the statehouse and have one judge presiding. Sen. John Aufenkamp of Julian, head of the Legislature's salary and claims committee, said they could have relieved the committee of minor damage requests.

Receives Appointment

David deHoll, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. C. deHoll of Sioux City has received an appointment to the US Naval academy at Annapolis, Md. He graduated in May from Heelan High school in Sioux City. His mother is the former Marion Arbuthnot of O'Neill.

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Leafy Spurge Is Considered Noxious

Many of you are familiar with the greenish yellow flowering plants which are now blooming profusely and know by the name of Leafy Spurge. As you drive through the country this time of the year you may spot these bright yellow areas. Some of these patches have grown to considerable size.

This is a noxious weed in Nebraska and therefore any seed or feed containing it is prohibited from sale. Since this plant reproduces by seed and underground rootstock it is very important that it be eradicated while still confined in these small areas. Because these plants grow close together and reproduce so quickly it is next to impossible for other useful plants to thrive in the same area.

If you have a farm or ranch infested with this noxious weed and wish help in its control would you please contact the weed district or the County extension office. The Weed District is now spraying these weeds with a new chemical which is proving quite successful.

"Sorghum grass" which has been publicized widely in a recognized name of a new kind of seed. J. C. Swinbank, Extension Agronomist at the College of Agriculture, noted that references to "Sorghum Grass" in advertising literature correctly would be to Sorghum Alnum.

The attention given to non-existent "Sorghum grass" focuses attention on Sorghum alnum, which has been classified as a common weed in Nebraska by the State Department of Agriculture and Inspection.

The sale of common weed seed, even though labeled as such, is illegal in Nebraska, if it is intended for sowing purposes. This would apply to Sorghum alnum as long as it is classified as a common weed seed.

Texas experiments show that Sorghum alnum definitely has a potential for prussic acid poisoning. Experiments at the University of Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station in Lincoln during 1958 showed that yields from 11 strains of Sorghum alnum averaged only 63 percent of the yield of Wheeler sudangrass.

Plantings of Sorghum alnum in comparison with other grasses and forages are continuing this year to obtain more information. Swinbank said. Three sources of Sorghum alnum are being planted along with Piper and Wheeler sudangrass, Sweet Sudan, two adapted forage sorghums, and one common erial sudangrass hybrid. Experimental plots are located at Fort Robinson, North Platte and Lincoln.

Russell Person, Assistant County Agent

on a business trip. The Bob Timmerman and Owen Parkinson families were guests at the Don Marcellus farm at Emmet Sunday.

Mrs. Edith Young was a visitor at the Carroll Summerer home last week to care for the children while Mrs. Summerer attended Bethany Bible School.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Sindelar and family were in Norfolk and Columbus Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Petersen and Jane were in Lincoln Friday and Saturday for commencement exercises Saturday at the University of Nebraska for their son and brother.

Mr. and Mrs. George Robertson were in Norfolk Friday on business.

Mrs. Roy Lundgren was here from Madison for the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. E. Thomas and Mrs. Cliff Lundgren.

Miss Thelma Young left Monday for Dana College at Blair where she will attend summer school.

an hour or two use lots of soap and water. After that, you must use a Chlorox solution.

If nothing has been done by now, about the only thing is to take several Rabies shots.

I do hope Archie hasn't gotten the idea, that if he acts like Truman, the Federal government will dish out \$75,000.00 a year to him, as they do Harry.

Very Truly Yours, Ralph N. Leidy

P.S. Some of your cuts need backing up. They are too dark, when some prominent Hereford breeder is shown with a bull, you can't tell which one is well bred.

DANCE at the STUART AUDITORIUM Saturday, June 13 Music by— Sandhills Ramblers Sponsored by— AMERICAN LEGION NORTON-CARLISLE POST 115 Admission: \$1.00 "DANCE AT STUART EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT"

Letters to the Editor

Sirs: I note that Archie Bowen shook hands with Harry Truman. The best way to treat contact with a rabid Democrat is just the same as with poison ivy. Within

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