

THE FRONTIER

Twelve Pages
In This Issue
Dedicated
to
Community
Service

"The Voice of the Beef Empire"

O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska, Thursday, August 6, 1959

Seven Cents

THE WEATHER

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Sat., Aug. 1	81 61	.11
Sun., Aug. 2	96 67	.65
Mon., Aug. 3	90 65	
Tues., Aug. 4	93 64	T
Wed., Aug. 5	88 72	.01

Volume 79—Number 15

Defense Attorney Says He Will Ask For Venue Change

BUTTE—William Brennan, court appointed defense attorney for Mrs. Sadie Dickerson and her 17-year old son, Nyal Franch, both accused of first degree murder, told a Frontier reporter he would ask for a change of venue in the case of Mrs. Dickerson.

The pair were charged after the death of Frank Vanderlinde, 21, the half brother of accused Franch and the son of Mrs. Dickerson.

At this same time Tuesday, two U. S. District Judges, D. R. Mounts and Lyle Jackson set a trial date for Sept. 14 in Butte.

A change of venue is a defense plea, the decision upon which is made by the judge hearing the case, which charges that the person accused cannot get a fair trial in the community where the trial is to take place.

Brennan told a Frontier reporter that he felt that adverse and unfavorable publicity was given in the case of Mrs. Dickerson during preliminary proceedings but did not mention the name of the news agency or agencies.

If a change of venue plea is made by Brennan and if it is successful, it will be up to the trial judge to determine the new location. The defense is allowed to make suggestions.

Boyd county judge J. P. Clasen said the first drawing of jurors for September has been made but that a final drawing will not be made for several days.

Judge Clasen, who no longer has jurisdiction in the case, said either Judge Mounts or Judge Jackson could hear the case.

The information of murder was filed by Boyd county attorney William Willis following an autopsy and inquest.

The prosecution maintains that Vanderlinde died as a result of a brace and hit wound in the head on June 21 administered by Mrs. Dickerson and Nyal Franch, her other son.

Boyd county authorities have reported that Mrs. Dickerson has been sent to Lincoln and that Franch is still being held in the county jail at Butte.

O'Neill Lucky on Paving Contract; Below Estimate

The O'Neill city council, after a four-hour long meeting Tuesday voted to accept the paving bid of the Missouri Valley Construction Co. of Grand Island.

And according to disinterested speculators—men who did not bid but were there to see what other bidders were doing in this area—O'Neill came out much better than was expected.

One speculator told a Frontier reporter that "O'Neill has had a very fortunate night tonight." He said the bids were far below what the council normally had a right to expect.

Six companies turned in sealed bids and at least two of the bids, including the winner and Booth and Olsen, were substantially below the engineer's estimate.

The Missouri Valley company received the contract after they turned in their bid of \$164,007. This is \$39,414 below the \$203,422 estimate of the engineers.

The council was assured by company representatives that they "wish to get to work on the 11 districts just as soon as possible," and that it would be a matter of hours before their first crews begin work.

Booth and Olsen representatives, although not receiving the bid, turned in an amount of \$171,394, also well below the engineer's estimates. Several observers at the scene believed Booth and Olsen would be the winners and were surprised at the winning bid.

The winning company's representative said the work should be completed before the first frost. He bid a councilman that it would be too expensive for the company to begin work this fall, to interrupt it and then begin again next spring.

A bond of \$300 was posted to release David Nekolite, 25, of O'Neill from county jail after he was charged with two traffic counts and assault and battery during the week.

Holt county sheriff Leo Tornjack said Nekolite will face Justice of the Peace Ralph Walker at 10 a.m. Friday in police court.

The two traffic charges are driving under a suspended driver's license and reckless driving. County Attorney William Griffin said.

The sheriff said arresting officer Orville Miller "fired two shots in Nekolite's general direction" upon apprehension.

New Secretary for Chamber of Commerce

Howard Manson, clerk of the district court, has been appointed by the Chamber of Commerce to take over the secretary position effective August 15.

He replaces Morgan Ward, an O'Neill tax consultant.



Deborah Theresa McGinn, 8 days old, has quite a heritage. Her great-great grandfather, James Ryan, and his wife were among the dozen pioneers who attended the first Catholic divine services in Holt county. The church is O'Neill's third since James and his wife first came here with General O'Neill. Catholic services were first held at periods of once every two or three months in homes of pioneers.

It Was New 50 Years Ago

St. Patrick's Cornerstone And Deborah's Pioneer Heritage

When little 8-day old Deborah Theresa McGinn, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry McGinn of O'Neill goes to church for the first time Sunday, part of the church will have already been 50 years old.

For just 50 years ago the cornerstone at St. Patrick's Catholic church was laid. And although Deborah, who is to be baptized Sunday, doesn't know it, her great-great grandfather, James Ryan attended the first divine services held in Holt county.

Since that time, three Catholic churches have been constructed—the latest in 1909. While settlers attended their first services in dugouts and sods, it only took them three years to build their first real church.

In 1877 the parishioners constructed an 18 by 36 foot frame structure at a cost of \$1,200—and according to early editors and pastors, this was expensive. The nearest railroad was 125 miles distant and material was brought here by oxen.

For seven years the band of Irish settlers went to a church with no pews and no bell. In 1884 the second church was constructed—see picture on the inside pages. This time the church was heated and pews were added and a few years later a bell-tower was constructed. Cost of the then new 50 by 100 foot structure was \$5,000.

The present structure was built in 1909, is 50 by 136 feet and was built in line with a traditional

Roman architectural design at a cost of approximately \$45,000.

These, then, were the churches that Deborah's father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather attended in O'Neill. And just who were they?

James arrived here with the first Irish settlers, the great-great-grandfather May 12, 1874. His son, Jim, who died just a few years ago, was the great-grandfather. Most of us know Neil, Deborah's grandfather, and her father, Jerry McGinn.

Editor's note—Historical records made by an early pastor but several years after the parish was founded tell of a mass held at the home of John O'Connell in the summer of 1875. It was described as being the first mass held in the parish. Earliest Frontier editors reported a mass held a year earlier in 1874 in Holt county at the home of Thomas Cain, several miles from O'Neill. Both were reported to have been celebrated by a Father Bedard (first name not recorded). Deborah's great-great-grandfather and grandmother (Mr. and Mrs. James Ryan) were reported by the early editors to have attended the 1874 mass, the same year the first of the Irish settlers arrived in O'Neill. If anyone has more specific information on either of these two dates, The Frontier editor would appreciate hearing from you and seeing documents, letters, or whatever early historical material you have on the very first residents of O'Neill.



All three sister-nuns graduated from St. Mary's Academy before entering the Order of Saint Francis. From left, they are Sister M. Spes of Alliance, Sister M. Caritas, who died in 1937 and Sister M. Fides, whose funeral was held Wednesday morning.

'Not Rabid' Reported By Lincoln Veterinarians

LINCOLN—State health department officials here are nearly certain today (Thursday) that the cat which bit Mrs. Paul Bourne and little 3-year-old Kim Binkerd did not have rabies.

Dr. Carl Olsen, a public health veterinarian said the mice injected with serum prepared from the brain of the cat were still alive and quite healthy.

Dr. Olsen said they would keep the mice penned for one more night (a total of 21 days and nights) and if they showed no signs of sickness, a report would be made to the local physicians.

In the meantime, both Mrs. Bourne and the Binkerd girl had received most of their rabies shots.

Sister M. Fides Dies in Omaha On Wednesday

The funeral of Sister M. Fides, 65, a well known nun and teacher at St. Mary's Academy was held at 9 a.m. Wednesday at St. Patrick's church.

She died Saturday at Omaha while attending refresher courses in mathematics and philosophy at Creighton University.

She was one of three sisters in a family who became nuns. One sister preceded her in death, Sister M. Caritas in 1937. Another, Sister M. Spes is assigned by her mother house to St. Agnes Academy in Alliance.

Sister M. Fides came to O'Neill to teach for the first time in 1938, remained to 1951 when she was assigned to Alliance, then was re-assigned to St. Mary's Academy in 1956 where she taught until her death.

Sister Fides was a mathematics and science teacher and was the sophomore home room teacher and sponsor in O'Neill and Alliance. She professed the order of Saint Francis in 1914.

A solemn high, requiem mass was said Wednesday morning and was celebrated by Sister Fides' brother, the Rev. Joseph Paull of San Antonio, Tex.

In addition to Sister Spes and the Rev. Paull, Sister Fides is survived by brothers, Vincent and Leo Paull, both of Knox, Ind.

3,600 Holt Students To Enliven Schools

Space Problems, Enrollment Up In Holt Schools

Well over 3,600 students in Holt county are expected to be enrolled in rural, city and parochial schools during the next three weeks.

Most superintendents expect small increases and some have reported seating problems.

High on that list is Stuart's St. Boniface, a grade school with an expected maximum attendance of 107. Father Pachang, pastor, said the problem was critical and that 135 students last year registered.

Both O'Neill high schools have reported less serious seating problems although an extra high school room has been added in the O'Neill public school and the seventh and eighth grades have now been split up at St. Mary's Academy.

Mother Agnesine, superintendent of St. Mary's and Miss Alice French, Holt county superintendent, said enrollment for the coming year would be about the same as last year.

St. Joseph's of Atkinson reports an expected substantial increase in both the grade and the high school. The school had a total attendance of 183 students during the 1958-59 school year. They reported no seating problems.

Miss French said it was too soon to tell whether there would be an overall enrollment increase in public schools but that it was quite possible.

Here are the enrollment figures for last year. With the exceptions already mentioned, approximately the same number will begin school this fall:

School	Enrollment
Holt county high schools	697
Holt county secondary	1,023
Holt county rural schools	1,159
SMA high school	150
SMA grade school	300
St. Joseph's high school	61
St. Josephs grade school	122
St. Boniface grade school	107
Total	3,619

Nelson Says 'No' Promoting Area For Outsiders

Senator Frank Nelson nailed up his own no hunting sign on a suggestion that the Chamber of Commerce take part in a promotion of Holt county as a resort area for outside hunters and fishermen.

The senator spoke to the Chamber Monday when a form letter from State Game Director Melvin Steen suggested that Chambers of Commerce in Nebraska review their own area's possibilities to provide the outside hunter and fisherman with information.

"I don't think the idea is a wise one," he said after the Chamber reviewed the letter which suggested that they provide the Game Commission with a report on game in the area.

"After all, we have to look to our own hunters and fishermen first and my experience based on a look at my own home country around Amelia shows me that there isn't enough for outsiders," he said. "I believe this is true throughout the area."

The senator said he believed the outside hunter would be disappointed with the lack of game in the area. "We wouldn't be promoting ourselves at all under those circumstances" he added.

The Chamber then voted to write Director Steen a letter turning down the suggestion by the State Game Department.

In other Chamber action, committees were formed for the coming year and a decision was made to publish the financial statement of the organization.

Chairmen and their committees are: highway, Carl Goldapp; television, Joe Contois; civic improvement, Joe McCarville; airport, Dewey Schaffer; stockfeeder, Harry Bessel; good relations, Ben Gray; retail trade, Melvin Ruzicka; membership, Dale Wilson; new industry, Ray Eby; irrigation, James Rooney; auditing, John Watson; Christmas decorations, Tom Cronin and advertising, Harry Peterson.

Dates Are Set For Registration Next 3 Weeks

While many Holt county students will begin school Sept. 1, registration for some will begin as early as August 25 and as late as September 2 for others.

Registration for both high and grade school students at the O'Neill public schools will be Sept. 2 at 9 a.m. Classes will begin the following day at 9 a.m.

Registration for St. Mary's Academy has been spread over four days. Seniors and freshmen students will register August 26; junior day students, August 27 and borders, August 31. The times from 9 to 11 a.m., 2:30 to 3 p.m. and from 5 to 6 p.m. will be open for registration during all four days.

Registration for all SMA grade students will be August 27 at 9 a.m. Classes will begin for both high school and grade school Sept. 1.

Registration for both St. Joseph's and Atkinson high and grade schools will be from 8 a.m. to noon August 31.

Classes will begin Sept. 1 for all schools both grade and high in Atkinson.

Registration for students expecting to attend Chambers high school will be August 25 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Grade school students will register August 31. Classes for both the high and the grade school will begin August 31.

Registration for Stuart high and grade school students will be August 21. Seniors will begin at 5 p.m., sophomores, 9:45 a.m., juniors at 10:30 a.m. and freshmen at 11:15 a.m.

Classes will begin for both the grade and high school the following day, Sept. 1.

Watch your coming editions of The Frontier for the times of registration and school opening dates for Inman, Pate, Emmet and Ewing. Definite arrangements have not been made as yet in these schools.

DEATHS

For complete obituaries turn to the inside pages.

SISTER M. FIDES (PAULL), 65, of O'Neill, at Creighton University Omaha, August 1. Funeral held Wednesday at St. Patrick's in O'Neill.

SAMUEL IRL TODD, 73, of Neligh, at his home, August 1. Funeral held Wednesday, 2 p.m. at the Methodist church in Neligh.

GEORGE CONNIE FUNK, 82, Atkinson, at Atkinson Memorial hospital, July 30. Funeral services were held August 1 at the Methodist church in Atkinson.

CHARLES F. PRIOR, 82, of Atkinson, at Atkinson Memorial hospital, August 1. Funeral held Monday at St. John's Lutheran church in Atkinson.

Sale Dates Claimed

SATURDAY, Aug. 8: Real estate, 1:00 p.m.; Dora Rosno, just north of Ewing Creamery.

FRIDAY, Aug. 14: real estate and personal property; 2 p.m. located 1/2 mile south of Page Park; Mr. and Mrs. Harvey and Mabel Cullen.

August 19—Mr. and Mrs. Don Fritz, 20 miles northeast of O'Neill Farm, personal property and livestock. Watch for ad and sale bills. Col. Ed Thorin, auctioneer and real estate broker.



These top selling blacks bought Tuesday by Morgan Rasmussen, veteran cattle feeder, averaged 551 pounds and sold for \$38.

If Atkinson Auction Is Forecast, Cattle Prices Look Good for Fall

The first large run of fall calves at the Atkinson Livestock Market appears to give an indication of a good area-wide market this fall.

Over 1,600 head of cattle were sold in a few minutes at the first special fall sale Tuesday.

The top selling calves, averaging 551 pounds (see picture) sold for \$38 per cwt., to Morgan Rasmussen, a veteran cattle feeder. They were consigned by Circle E Ranch of Atkinson, William Froelich of O'Neill, owner. The heifer mates brought \$33 per cwt.

Observers who lined the fenced yards in Atkinson said there was a very active interest among buyers and that they felt this was a good sign for the suppliers of all markets in the area.

The O'Neill Livestock Market is also reporting increased activity. For the first time in several weeks, well over 300 cattle were being prepared for sale Wednesday.

Cattle buyers in the area in general report excellent prospects for the seller this year.



MRS. BERNARD PRUSS
... St. Catherine's



MARY JOAN DONLIN
... St. Elizabeth's



MARGE McELVAIN
... St. Elizabeth's

3 O'Neill Girls Get Diplomas On Thursday

Three former O'Neill girls and graduates of St. Mary's Academy were graduated from nursing schools today (Thursday).

Diplomas from St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing in Lincoln were presented to Mary Joan Donlin, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Donlin of O'Neill and Marge McElvain, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph McElvain.

Mrs. Bernard Pruss, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George McCarthy of O'Neill, received her diploma from St. Catherine's School of Nursing in Omaha.

Mrs. Pruss is the former Barbara Jeanne McCarthy. At St. Catherine's she was treasurer of the senior class and queen of the annual spring prom.

All three girls expect to remain at their respective schools and hospitals after graduation.

Marge McElvain and Mary Joan Donlin received their diplomas from the Most Rev. James Casey, Bishop of the Lincoln diocese.

Mrs. Pruss received her diploma from the Most Rev. Gerald T. Bergan, Archbishop of Omaha.

METHODIST CONFERENCE

The Annual Wesleyan Methodist Conference will begin Tuesday with services each evening through Saturday. Site of the annual meeting is near Atkinson.

Chamber's Artistic Coach



Wayne Gesrieck, industrial arts teacher at Chambers high school, displays a coffee table he made in a woodworking class this summer at Wayne State. An unusual feature of the table is an inlaid ceramic tile top with dozens of tiles laid in by hand and mortared. Gesrieck, who is studying for a master's degree, worked about 40 hours on the table, which Dr. Jay Logue, instructor, rated as an excellent example of craftsmanship. Gesrieck is a native of Bassett. His brother, Harley, will be a senior at Wayne State this fall.