

REINKE SERVICES FRIDAY

Funeral services for Mrs. Samuel Reinke, who died Tuesday in a rest home in Neligh, will be held Friday morning at 9:30 from St. Peter's Catholic church in Ewing.

Mrs. Reinke is a pioneer settler of southeastern Holt county in the Goose Lake community.

Survivors include the widower and daughter, Mollie Reinke of Tilden.

Here From Verdigr

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Wetzler of Verdigr are spending a few days at the C. E. Worth home.

Eat Meat Tomorrow

Catholics may eat meat Friday, the eve of the Feast of the Assumption, Msgr. Daniel E. Sheehan, chancellor of the Archdiocese of Omaha, announced Tuesday. The Vatican has waived the rules of fast and abstinence for that day, he added.

SERVES JAIL SENTENCE

David Nekolite, 25, is serving a 90 day sentence administered in justice of the peace court in the county jail.

He was charged last week with driving under a suspended license, reckless driving and assault.

WEATHER table with columns for date, high, low, and precipitation.

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THE FRONTIER

"The Voice of the Beef Empire"

Twelve Pages

In This Issue

Seven Cents

O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska, Thursday, August 13, 1959



First in a Series

A County Transportation Problem; A Look at County and State Roads

This is the first of a series of articles on one of Holt county's most important problems — the county and state system of roads.

BY JERRY PETSCHKE EDITOR

One drive on a rainy day into the Amelia area, into the Middle Branch area, into the area north of Atkinson, would convince even the most complacent motorist.

The horse and buggy days might be gone, but you would never know it from the looks of the eight-inch deep ruts we are forced to call farm-to-market roads in some areas.

Short of the need for the expansion of Holt county as a location for small industry, and the need to change over to a cattle feeding district where possible, our antiquated transportation facilities effect our growth the most.

Here we are, nearly the largest county in Nebraska, 18th in population in a state with 93 counties, with some roads that haven't changed substantially since your grandfather was a boy.

And because we are such a big country, both in the relative number of miles the farmer and rancher travels just to buy the necessities of life, and because if we are to grow at all it will be necessary for something to be done about it soon, it hurts even more.

There is an old "saw" that strikes out at officials and goes something like this: "If you want to see lousy country roads, go to Nebraska." There are some who would suggest that another "saw" be added: "If you really want to see lousy country roads, go to Holt county." This is said in face of the fact that our county board of supervisors in the past few years have been spending more and more time and money in arranging for the repair of the county roads than ever before and that more county roads are being improved now than in the past years.

The supervisors, shackled with ever-increasing labor and materials costs, are forced to either request more money from the taxpayer or spread the maintenance thinner with the same amount of money asked for previous years.

Add to that the complaints and suggestions they get and their own knowledge of unsatisfied needs in their own districts you get a picture of their burden.

But the picture is not entirely a bleak one. The State Department of Roads has made some efforts — and plan more — to develop the state maintained roads in our immediate area. And we'll get to these efforts and other problems in one of the future stories in this series.

But to put this in perspective, let's take a few examples of what this community is up against in terms of individuals using and benefiting from county maintained as well as state primary and secondary roads.

Two ranchers in the Amelia area, let's call them A and B, have equal distances to travel to a shopping area. Neither have good roads, but A's are better. A uses less gasoline because of the somewhat "better" roads. B, however, gets triple trouble. Because he is forced to buy more gasoline because of the somewhat "poorer" roads, he pays more toward the rejuvination of roads because of the federal tax in addition to bearing the added truck and car expense the "poorer" roads cause. A, on the other hand, has the "better" roads and pays less to maintain them.

A farmer and his wife in the Redbird community would like to get to O'Neill (to patronize businessmen in their own county) to shop. They tell of several others that feel the same way. They go into Boyd county or even to South Dakota, because they have no adequate farm-to-market roads. "Distance means little to us," the farmer's wife said. "But our car can't take the rough roads into O'Neill."

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Divorce Is Up Births Down In Holt County

Two unhealthy signs mar the vital statistics report for Holt county as the 1958 records show divorce has increased and the number of births have decreased.

Daths too, have increased by nine in Holt county in comparison with 1957 although the city of O'Neill shows a decrease of 15.

One of the highest divorce rates in the past 10 years with 16 recorded, is now on the record books of the State Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Grounds of cruelty led the list with nine recorded. Other grounds recorded were desertion, one case, drunkenness, three cases, and non-support, 3 cases.

Compared with 1957's 351 babies born in the county, only 315 were born in 1958, or a drop of nine percent. Here is a record of the past three years for Holt county and O'Neill:

Table with columns for Year, All Holt county, O'Neill, Marriages, Divorces.

Western All Stars Win Elkhorn Classic In Atkinson Sunday

The western all stars of the Elkhorn Little League were the winners of small fry classic in Atkinson Sunday.

Wayne Sindelar, of O'Neill, was the winning pitcher for the west and his team-mates brought in 13 runs to the east's 12 to win the 9 inning contest.

Western O'Neill boys, who played with the west all-stars were Jack Kelly, Jim Booth, Wayne Sindelar, Jim Troshynski, Jim Gokke and Dick Larson. The team was coached by Jerry Schmidt.

Talented Chamberite Writes Child's Prayer

Thousands of children will be reading a prayer written by one of Chamber's most talented women, Mrs. Louis Nelson.

The prayer appears in the September issue of TOGETHER, a midmonth Methodist magazine for families with a circulation of one million.

This is the prayer: "Dear God: Bless all the boys and girls in all the world today; Help them to be kind to everyone At home, at school, at play. Amen."

FIRE WEDNESDAY

O'Neill firemen rushed to a West O'Neill building owned by John Donohoe Wednesday morning to put out an electrical fire.

Atkinson Suffers School Tax Leap; Page's School Levy Drops 12 Mills

O'Neill Citizens Will Experience Lower City Taxes

City taxes in all communities in the county with the exception of Chambers will be lower this year or will at least remain the same.

The biggest drop will be experienced in O'Neill where two mills less will be asked for.

Chambers will suffer the highest increase from seven to 12 mills.

The levies in Emmet, Page and Inman have remained the same as last year. Stuart's levy decreased by .10 of a mill.

Here is a table showing the assessed valuation and the levies for 1958 as well as 1959:

Table with columns for Community, Year, Assessed Mills.

No Action At Ericson Bank

ERICSON—No further action has been taken by State Banking Department officials after they closed the Ericson Co-operative Credit Association last week.

The action last week resulted in closing the last banking facility in Wheeler county. Several weeks ago the Bartlett State Bank was closed.

The department officials closed the bank following a meeting of State Banking Director E. N. Van Horne and Assistant Director Harold Johnson with the association's board of directors.

Officials could give no estimate of shortages until the examination is completed.

The members of the Ericson Co-operative's board of directors include Keith Poland president; C. F. Foster, secretary-treasurer, Pete Dahlsteen.

STINKER DAY



Yes, today, (Thursday) is Stinker Day in O'Neill and there will be bargains galore. Shop the advertisements on the inside pages — it will pay you.

Shop in O'Neill Today

Table showing School Mills for various towns: O'Neill, Atkinson, Stuart, Ewing, Chambers, Inman, Page, Emmet.

This chart will give you a comparison of the number of mills school levy that will be paid by residents of school-towns in the county. The mills represent the number of dollars per \$1,000 of assessed valuation of property that must be paid.

Golf Ball Hail Nails Butte Farms; 8,000-12,000 Acres of Corn is Down

BUTTE—Farmers and insurance men here are still scratching their heads and wondering at the ferocity of a 10-minute hail storm last Sunday—one of the worst ever experienced here.

An estimated 8 to 12 thousand bushels of corn is believed to be destroyed in an area three miles wide extending from north of Butte to the Niobrara river.

Observers believe at least 20 farmers suffered heavy damage—some crops were completely wiped out.

The hail began at 4 p.m. and in 10 minutes, it was all over, but not before it broke and cracked over 100 windows in Butte (see photo of school), tore down large tree branches and covered the streets with large hailstones.

The path of the violent storm began six miles north of Butte at the George Stielor farm then traveled south of Butte and went toward Spencer, struck off to the south where the damage was the heaviest, then toward the Niobrara river through the Don Angel and Pat Langan farms.

Very high winds accompanied the storm and one insurance adjuster said damages will run to over \$300,000.

Two to three inches of hail covered this highway between Butte and Fairfax although the hail fell for only 10 minutes.

POLICEMAN RESIGNS The resignation of Orville "Stub" Miller, an O'Neill policeman, has been turned over to the city council.

Police Chief Chris McGinn said several applications for the job have been turned in and that applications would still be accepted.

TWO CAR CRASH Considerable damage to two cars was reported by O'Neill police when an intersection collision occurred Sunday. No one was injured.

The drivers of the cars were Jerald J. Schaaf, 19, of Emmet and Vernon L. Strong Jr., 18, of

ONE CAR ACCIDENT Lloyd G. Gillespie, 84, was hurt in a one car accident in O'Neill Saturday night. Mr. Gillespie was alone in the car at the time.

This spirited young group of O'Neillites aren't about to play a football game, but they will be fighting television the evening of their first play. (See story.) They are, from left, Jim Johnson of Kansas State University, Sharlene Shoemaker of Mount Scholastica college, Joan Wilson, an O'Neill high school senior, Kathleen Spitzberger of Mount Marty college, Nina Burvial, a teacher, Gary Beckwith of Doane college and Ivan Kaiser of Wayne State Teachers College. Not shown is Bob Sanders, a farmer.

Atkinson School Levy Up Most Of All Towns

Over 50 percent of the taxpayers in Holt county will be paying more school taxes this year—including those in O'Neill, Atkinson, Stuart and Chambers.

Ewing, Inman, Page and Emmet's levy was dropped—nearly 40 percent or 12 mills in Page.

Stuart taxpayers again will pay the most in school taxes with a mill levy of over 65 mills and Emmet the least with 12.50 mills.

O'Neillites will pay .66 mills more than last year for schools but still pay the next lowest per \$1,000 of assessed value of property of all taxpayers in towns in the county at 22.78 mills.

School District 21 (Atkinson) increased the most, from 39.92 mills last year to 43.66 mills this year. The assessed valuation of Atkinson's district increased \$74,000, from \$1,657,816 to \$1,731,880.

Page's decrease, the result of the redistricting of several districts, paralleled an increase in assessed valuation from \$294,462 to \$323,560.

Here, in tabular form, is the mill levy and assessed valuation (based on 35 percent of actual and set by state law) for city schools in 1959 (to be used in computing taxes this year) in contrast with that of 1958:

Table with columns for City School, 1959, 1958, Assessed Valuation, Mill Levy.

All taxpayers in the county will pay .14 mills more in state levies which include institutional and county levies (includes bridges, soldiers and sailors, fair, medical and county membership).

While state levies increased from 7.97 to 8.45 mills, the county levies dropped from 4.35 to 4.29 mills from last year.

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Lutheran Pastors Will Meet Here August 18 to 20

Christ Lutheran church of O'Neill will be the convention host from Tuesday to Thursday next week to over 100 pastors of the Northern Nebraska District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

The conference will begin at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18, and will be called by the chairman, Rev. R. F. Jenkins of Omaha.

On Tuesday evening at 7:30 a special workshop service of Holy Communion will be held. Rev. A. S. Gedwillo, local host pastor, will be the liturgist and administer the sacrament.

Rev. F. Niedner of West Point, president of the Northern Nebraska district, will speak on district and synodical matters. The conference will be highlighted by doctrinal and practical essays.

The meals for the delegates will be served by the women of the congregation.

The conference will adjourn Thursday noon.

Morgans Take First In Flower Show

ATKINSON—Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Morgan have done themselves "quite proud" in their interest and love of flowers.

At the eighth annual Atkinson gladiolus and flower show, Mr. Morgan won 28 first places in competition. Mrs. Morgan wound up winner of the arrangement and composition division.

A full story of first places in classes appears on the inside pages.

At Methodist Confab

Harvey A. Tompkins represented the Inman area at the National Methodist Town and Country Conference in Wichita several days ago.

He along with 11 other delegates from Nebraska listened to speeches pointing out the importance of the rural and town church in America. Over 1200 delegates attended.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

The O'Neill Little League city championship will be decided tomorrow night (Thursday) at the ball park. The Northeastern Cardinals and the Southwestern Braves will play off 9-3 records.

CITY TOURNAMENT

Complete results of the first round matches in the men's city golf tournament will appear in the Frontier next week. Not all matches had been completed yesterday (Wednesday).

Dear Mom, We're Standing In Line Again...

August 13, 1959
Camp Ripley, Minn.

Dear Mom, Well, we're standing in line again and we just got here two days ago. Army life in the Guard hasn't changed much.

I'm sending along a picture. Maybe you can make me out in it. That's us standing in line to get paid here in Camp Ripley, Gee, would you believe it, there are over 4,000 men in this camp and I know only about 45 of them—the ones in the outfit from O'Neill.

The sun is shining here today and we've been busy for the past few hours putting up tents and getting our gear in shape. Our officers, Major Baack and Lieut. Bunkers say we'll be going out on the range in a few days. When we do, I'll send pictures if I can.

Our other officers here are Capt. Joe McCarville and Lieut. Robert Stevens.

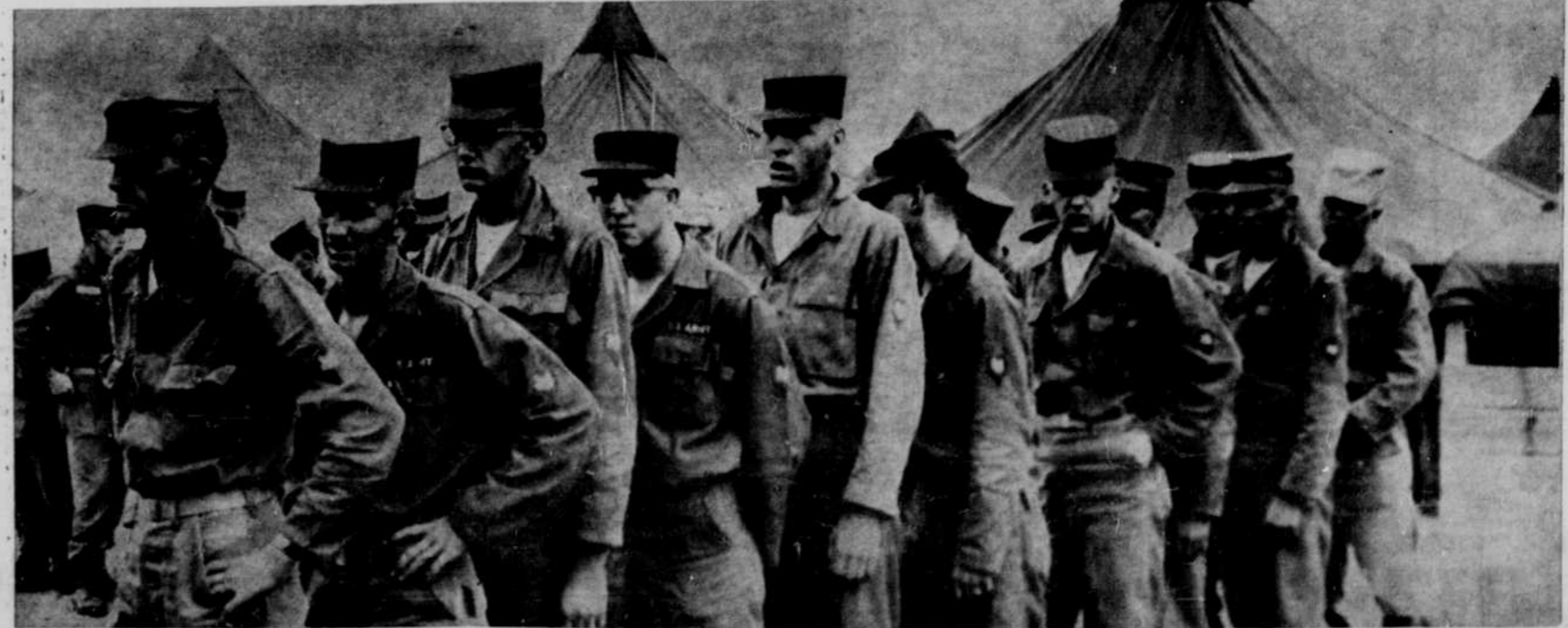
It's just like I say, Army life in the Guard hasn't changed much. The sergeants haven't changed at all—especially mine.

We've got a lot of work to do in the next few days with a full schedule of training exercises. I'll tell you more about them in my next letter.

I hope you and Dad and the kids are alright. I'll be back in just two weeks but, gee, how I miss you all already.

I must close for this time now.

As Always,
YOUR SON



Here we are standing in line for our pay. Lieut. Bunkers took this picture and I hope you can make me out alright. We do this for chow, for mail, and just about everything else you can think of. You can see my buddies Gordon Fox, Marvin Young, and quite a few others. I hope you'll send these pictures around so their folks can see them too.

Set Date For 'Tender Trap'

A group of young people here are about to see a climax to their plans in resurrecting a 40-year old tradition.

"The Tender Trap," a three act comedy, is the first production of the O'Neill Players, a community playhouse presentation.

It was about 40 years ago since the last community play was presented here according to old files of The Frontier. At that time, the community theater was one of O'Neill's most well-known attractions.

The idea for the reformation of the group and much hard work and preparation came when two college students decided their summer could benefit their community as much as themselves. Soon they interested a young teacher, a farmer and a high school student, several other college students and the play was on its way.

Their first and last production for the summer will be 8 p.m., August 15 and 16, at the high school auditorium.

To give you an idea of how tastes and interests have changed, the Max Shulman script the young people are beginning with, is the first play since Shakespeare productions many years ago.