

Prairie Land Talk

# "Appeal of the Farm"

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

He is an accountant, has a wife and daughter and a fine modern home facing a street in our Capital City, is officially connected with a church organization and his duties as that organization's expert with figures calls him here and there in five states. Now farm life has an appeal. That city home must be sold and they move to a five acre patch of land they speak of as a farm. A few acres, a house and barn and you are a farmer. A quarter of a mile south of my last country home with considerable more than a "few acres" of southwest Holt county grass land lived in comfort and plenty a couple on their 40 acre "farm," a two-room comfortable house with attic sleeping quarters, stable and other buildings. Horses, cows, poultry. To the west of Jay Roblyer's was the sizable H. L. James ranch, to the east the Fred Watson and his tribal group, to the south the Brey Bros. Short Horn ranch and herds. Jay and Rose on their 40 acres of Swan precinct lived as good as any of their neighbors and better than some. How did they do it? Rose visited homes in Atkinson and O'Neill, got a dollar for a fifty-cent article. And Jay traded her into buying a horse or cow. They traded their 40 for a quarter section near Atkinson ended life's activities on a town lot near Neligh.



Romain Saunders

The sun shines forever day by day; clouds gather, then float away. Life has its sorrows and pleasures; and memory's rich treasurers.

Friendly people compose the Page community, as in other communities in Holt county. The Frontier's representative at Page, Mrs. Asher, reports the social activities of the citizens of Page and to one anchored in the Capitol City with neighbors in arm reach all around that you never see it is cheering to read of the friendly, neighborly life in communities such as Page.

American hunters are said to have reduced the deer population of the country by one million last year. What did Holt county nimrods contribute to this vast slaughter of the magnificent creatures of the wild? . . . Down at York at the state reformatory ward dames are being "reformed" by use of doses of lipstick . . . A young man down at Norfolk flashing a threatening knife resisting arrest fell in the leg when the officer pulled the trigger. . . A young couple next door have just experienced their first real joy. Its a boy!

Secretary of Agriculture Moore would have less wheat grown and wheat prices reduced. Our Governor Brooks does not like Mr. Secretary's proposal and maybe Joe Clodhopper out on the farm pays no attention to either of the honorable officials.

Designating herself my "Scotch-Irish friend" Mrs. Lawson of Columbus writes an interesting letter to Prairie Land Talker. Mrs. Lawson was an O'Neill girl, Mary Hagerty of the Billy Hagerty household and a niece of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Brennan. Of the ten children in the Hagerty family five are now living, Mrs. Lawson being one of them. Of the others she tells us as follows:

"In our family, five of us are left: Sister Sadie Englebart at Norfolk, Nebraska, Brother William Patrick Haggerty at Stanton, Nebraska then myself, Mary Lawson at Columbus, Nebr. A sister, Helen, whereabouts is unknown as she disappeared in 1929 and we never did hear anything about her."

An attorney over at Butte, Mr. Brennan, steps into the arena seeking the nomination as a candidate for district judge. For many years a Holt county citizen has served as district court judge. Now if the gentleman at Butte is elected a near neighbor will preside at court in the five counties composing his judicial realm. These are Holt, Boyd, Keya Paha, Rock and Brown. The court room of the old courthouse in O'Neill was the scene of many legal battles, and at times when the litigants and attorneys went to court with a gun at the hip—just in case.

Edwin, my son-in-law, has flown across the Pacific ocean to a distant island kingdom in the region of Australia, to do a bit for the natives in the way of Australia, management; while his wife's companion, my daughter and their two girls remain at home in Burbank, Calif., counting the days and weeks until his return, and Edwin's aged mother in northern Michigan joins wife and daughters in their prayers for the absent one. And this prolonged winter chill has just about inspired old man Prairie Land Talker to float out where daughter dwells for a month or so, but prairie land under a blanket of snow invites me to stay at home.

Birth control. Don't know what the plan of the advocates of few kids may be. There is one sure way—do it no more. Moving a few millions from earth to a distant planet is proposed by 'the wise guys. The one out there directing the affairs of a vast universe will see to that.

# Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

We understand that the village of Inman is again to have a newspaper. C. E. Perude, who has been in the newspaper business at Hinton, Ia., the past year will move his plant to Inman and establish a newspaper. The new paper will have to receive better patronage than did Brother Pond's Inman News if he desires to keep the wolf from the door. John Wrede was in from Agee Monday. Last week he purchased the Halstead store at Redbird and took possession yesterday. The Redbird store has been a money maker ever since its establishment and The Frontier believes John Wrede will make it more popular than ever. . . . Orville Horgan was in from Black Bird Tuesday and sold a load of hogs on the local market for which he received \$8.55 per hundred. This is the highest price ever paid on this market, but many look to see the price go above \$9. . . . A few more hot days like Wednesday and the farmers will be able to get into their corn fields.

25 YEARS AGO

Next May the sixty-first anniversary of the founding of O'Neill and some of the local business men are of the opinion that it would be a good idea to celebrate the event with proper festivities. We think it would be a good idea and a celebration in keeping with the importance of the event and the city is a business way should be provided. . . . At the second weekly bridge tournament held at the Golden Hotel last Friday evening Mr. and Mrs. Ben Gray won the high score for the east and west side and Mrs. F. J. Biglin and Mrs. Edward Campbell were the high score winners for the north and south side. . . . Reynold E. "Ray" Wolfe, cruiser patrolman of the Omaha police department, was fatally wounded in a running gun battle at Omaha about 10 o'clock last Saturday night. He died an hour later at Lord Lister hospital. His cruiser partner was wounded in the leg, but will recover.

10 YEARS AGO

Quick action and fast thinking by Blanche Graves, a Page high school student, Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock saved the lives of three small children when fire completely destroyed the 8-room Max Wanser frame farm home, 300 yards northeast of the junction of highway 275 and 20.4 miles east of Inman. Miss Graves discovered the fire in a chimney. She took the three Wanser children she was in charge of to the barn, wrapped them and made sure they were safe before she dashed to the highway to summon aid. . . . Last Thursday Mrs. F. E. M. Brady, affectionately called "Grandma" Brady, celebrated her 81st birthday anniversary with an open-house from 2 until 6 for her family and relatives. The affair was held at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Harry Johnson.

5 YEARS AGO

For six years The Frontier has awarded trophies to Hereford and Aberdeen-Angus breeders exhibiting the best pen of three bulls in connection with the annual shows and sales sponsored by the various registered breeders' organizations. H. A. & R. E. Van Horn of Page were presented this newspaper's trophy Saturday at Basset in connection with the annual spring show and sale of the North-Central Nebraska Hereford association. Inasmuch as this marked the 3rd consecutive year in which the Van Horns had exhibited the best pen of three at Basset, the trophy becomes the permanent property of the Van Horns. . . . Death: Miss Mary D. Murphy, 72, a lifelong resident of the O'Neill community; James Robert Hayden, 63, former resident of the Redbird community; John C. Miller, 76, a longtime resident of the Ewing community; Robert F. Cook, 72, employee of the city of O'Neill street and water department for the past 16 years; Mrs. Mary Venette Earl 91, who came to Holt county in 1886.

## Riverside News

By Mrs. Lionel Gunter

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Hord were dinner guests Sunday at the Alfred Napier home. . . . Julie Ann and Cheryl Kay Pierston visited Friday at the Earl Napier home. . . . The Willie Shrader family visited Saturday evening at the Dewitt Hoke home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Z. H. Fry were overnight guests Saturday at the Otto Retke home in Inman. . . . Mrs. Daisy Miller, Ethel and Carol Ann Napier visited Saturday afternoon at the Wayne Fry home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. George Montgomery visited Friday evening at the John Miller home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Willie Shrader and Mrs. Will Shrader visited Friday in Norfolk. . . . Mrs. Daisy Miller, Ethel and Carol Ann Napier, Mrs. Don Larson and Wanda and Mrs. Alfred Napier visited Saturday afternoon at the John Napier home. . . . Mrs. Billy Lofquist and children visited Tuesday evening, Feb. 23 at the Wayne Fry home. . . . Mrs. Alfred Napier and Mr. and Mrs. Rol Hord visited Mrs. Keith Middlecome Saturday afternoon. . . . The Archie Johnston family were dinner guests February 21 at the Will Shrader home. The Archie Johnston family called on Mrs. Emily Johnston in the afternoon. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Ora Switzer visited Friday afternoon at the Amos Switzer home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Napier visited Wednesday in O'Neill. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Willie Shrader called Friday evening at the

Lynn Fry home and left a couple gold fish. . . . Mrs. Duane Jensen, Jerry and Janice of Newman Grove visited Friday afternoon at the Z. H. and Wayne Fry homes. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Ahlers visited February 21 afternoon at the Frank Schmidt home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Grover Shaw called one day last week at the John Napier home. . . . The Billy Lofquist family visited Thursday evening at the Wendell Switzer home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Dale Napier and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Fry met Mr. and Mrs. Z. H. Fry in Columbus Thursday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Z. H. Fry have visited relatives in California and Washington state for the past eleven weeks. . . . Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Hord and Duane visited February 21 evening at the George Montgomery home. . . . Mrs. Mott and Sharon were Neligh visitors Saturday February 20. . . . Alice Shrader visited from Monday through Thursday at the Gerald Wettlauffer home at O'Neill. . . . Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Hord, Duane, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Woods and the Alfred Napier family visited Sunday, Feb. 21 afternoon at the Dewitt Hoke home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Grant Mott, Tamie and Ronnie were Norfolk visitors Friday afternoon, Feb. 19. . . . The Robert Montgomery family were dinner guests February 21 at the Lorraine Montgomery home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Willie Shrader and family and Mr. and Mrs. George Montgomery were O'Neill visitors Saturday afternoon. . . . Margaret Fry, Betty Napier, Mary Napier and girls, Daisy Mil-

ler, Ethel and Carol Ann Napier were afternoon callers Saturday at the Dewitt Hoke home. . . . Sandra Shrader was a weekend guest at the Willie Shrader home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Billy Lofquist were O'Neill visitors Saturday afternoon. . . . Mrs. Don Larson and Linda called Friday afternoon at the Wayne Fry home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Bert Fink had dinner Thursday at the Frank Snyder home at Page. . . . Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Hord visited Friday evening at the Archie Johnston home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Dale Napier and the Richard Napier and Glen Harper families called Tuesday evening, Feb. 23 at the John Napier home. . . . The Art Busshardt family of Neligh called at the Dave Pollock home Thursday evening. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Otto Kallhoff of Clearwater visited Monday evening at the John Miller home. . . . Mrs. Dewitt Hoke attended Star Kensington Friday afternoon at the William Spence home in O'Neill. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Z. H. Fry and the Richard Napier family were dinner guests Saturday at the Dale Napier home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Napier, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Fry, Jackie and Sheila and the Lorraine Montgomery family were supper guests Friday at the Dale Napier home.

Phone Your News To  
The Frontier—  
Number — 788

## A Poem From Mrs. Eby . . .

This poem was inspired by the picture of "Christ Knocking at the Door." It has been requested. It's my own.

KNOCKING

There's some one knocking at my door, that gentle knock I've heard before.

The bleeding wound in His nail pierced hand, and still in His nail continues to stand.

My house unfit for such a guest, the walls are draped with sins unconfessed.

The floor covered up with envy and pride and all unfit for that guest outside.

Knocking, knocking, so gentle and mild, knocking for me, a poor sinful child.

Dare I let Him in, reveal all my sin, when my heart I know is so deeply defiled.

The window near I tried to see out, but the pane was covered by cobwebs of doubt.

The knock so gentle again I hear, struggling still with my doubts and fears.

But I opened the door a wee small crack feeling so keenly my poor home's lack.

I saw that wonderful Face so tender and sweet and full of grace.

He was saying, "My poor sinful child, I died for you, may I come in and help you be true?"

"Oh! Lord," I depart from this sinful place, but such a smile crept over His face.

With Him inside I looked about the pane was cleared of the cobwebs of doubt.

The black, black walls were shiny and white, the floor just shone with a wondrous light.

Yes, I let Him in, He forgave all my sin, cleansing my heart so sweetly within.

—Della Stuart Eby

**Alice's Beauty Shop**  
Res. 13 doors west of Texaco  
125 East Douglas  
Phone 263 — O'Neill

**Morgan Ward**  
Accountant & Auditor  
Tax Service  
Golden Bldg. O'Neill, Nebr.  
Phone 414

**Money To Loan!**  
Property, Cars, Trucks,  
Farm Equipment  
Household Goods, Personal  
**HARRINGTON**  
Loan and Investment  
Company  
LOW RATES

# Schaaf's Bar and Tavern

IN ATKINSON, NEBRASKA

A going business, complete with fixtures and excellent building; also a fine, 3-bedroom, completely modern dwelling house.

## OFFERED FOR SALE TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER

This profitable business property and dwelling is being offered for sale by the heirs in order to close the Estate of the late Julia M. Schaaf. Sealed bids will be received at the Law Office of Francis D. Lee, Atkinson, Nebr., until one o'clock p.m. on March 5, 1960. Bids may be made on either property separately, or on both properties. The heirs reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

## THE BAR AND TAVERN

Legally described as E½ of lot 6 and all of lot 7 in Block 10, Original Town of Atkinson, Nebraska. Holo-stone tile building erected in 1951, designed especially for a tavern. Includes all necessary facilities and fixtures — modern heating and air conditioning; built-in coolers and storage space. This is a going business. It enjoys the reputation of earning one of the highest net profits of any beer tavern in North Central Nebraska. An exceptional opportunity for any interested purchaser. Accounting records will be open for inspection by any prospective purchaser. Possession will be given so that license can be procured by May 1st, 1960.

## THE DWELLING

Legally described as Lots 8 and 9, Block 1, Collins' 2nd Addition to Atkinson, Nebraska. This is a 3-bedroom, ultra modern dwelling built of Holo-stone tile, located within 2 blocks of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and School; within 6 blocks of Atkinson Public School — probably one of the most desirable locations in Atkinson. It has a finished full basement and all the desirable features of a modern home.

Both properties are open for inspection upon appointment with the administrator.  
**Edward Bouska, administrator, Atkinson, Nebraska**  
**Francis D. Lee, attorney, Atkinson, Nebraska**

Editorial

# "Why Irrigate"

Farmers and ranchers owning the 71,000 acres of irrigable land in northern Holt county are asking themselves these days just one question. Should I be for the Irrigation project and if so, why?

We say that he should be for it and at the same time we will give some reasons why he should be for it.

A farmer is the biggest gambler in the world. Every year he bets his life's savings against the elements of nature that he can wrest a profit from the land he owns.

He isn't competing against the businessman down the street. He isn't betting that his personality and advertising program will bring more customers into his store. He is betting against nature—and in many cases he is playing with a stacked deck. And still he will bet his life's savings.

Nature can be ruthless. One year the farmer gets too much rain for his hay and grain—more often, in this area, he gets too little water. The chances against getting an optimum amount of rainfall two years in a row are great. The chances against getting optimum rain two out of five years are almost as great as two years in a row.

Irrigation insures optimum water—when it is needed—every single year. IRRIGATION REMOVES ONE MORE OBSTACLE IN THE FARMER'S GAME OF CHANCE. And the farmer needs every obstacle removed that can be removed.

Many landowners in the area are not interested in corn and therefore feel that there is no need to irrigate. Consider this. Not once in the 51-year period that figures are available has Holt county shown even a \$20 per acre return. Yet, in the Mirage Flats irrigation project in western Nebraska, a project that has been in use only 10 years, the average per acre income last year was \$123.50 per acre. A farmer at Mirage Flats was making more money on 100 acres of land than a Holt county farmer has ever made on 650 acres.

This is all theoretic, of course, as we're sure that more than one Holt county rancher grossed \$12,000 or flatter on 650 acres. But on the average, the Mirage Flats man is earning more than the Holt county man on one-sixth the land.

The diversification of irrigation farming is unlimited. The rancher in Holt county today is directly dependent upon the supply and demand factor of just one item—cattle. If cattle prices are up a profit is made, if cattle prices are down little or no profit is made. No one needs to be told that.

Therefore it holds to reason that if the farmers east of Nebraska can show a profit feeding cattle then the Holt rancher can show a bigger profit by combining his already profitable business of raising stocker cattle to the feeding of them right here in Holt county.

Irrigated land is not one-crop land Sugar beets, a crop which has already proven itself in the area provided that there is enough rain, is capable of giving a healthy profit. Truck farming, the raising of tomatoes and other vegetables, is being extensively explored in the Loup Valley. There are many good indications that this type of agriculture is feasible in Holt county.

Land values increase two and three-fold when irrigation facilities are adapted. In the Mirage Flats area, land that sold originally to the government for about \$20 per acre before irrigation sold for \$70

per acre when the project was completed. Landowners in that area today have turned down offers ranging from \$200 to \$250 per acre.

Estimates by Bureau of Reclamation men say that this area, with irrigation, can support at least 150 new families. Holt county is sadly in need of new families. This county has lost steadily in population since 1920 and with the population decrease has gone many needed facilities.

Roads in sparsely populated areas are always in need of repair. School districts are folding up for lack of pupils. Towns are dying for lack of shoppers. The area's young people are leaving the county for lack of something to do. These processes can be slowed down and even halted when enough people populate an area to make themselves heard.

We have mentioned only the more obvious reasons why Holt ranchers and farmers should be in favor of the irrigation project. But rumors can defeat such a project—rumors which are not based on fact.

The O'Neill irrigation committee has scheduled many meetings in schoolhouses and here in O'Neill. Take it upon yourselves to attend one of these meetings and learn all you can about the project. You and your children stand to gain the most by irrigation.

### Renew Friendships Now

Ever hear of the sudden death of an old and very dear friend, one with whom you had been very closely associated in younger days, and in later years, though not much farther away, you had lost all contact? Then you pay your last respects at their funeral.

I was guilty of doing just that, as I attended the funeral on February 15 of Mrs. Anna Rossman at Atkinson.

Their's was one of the first families I knew after coming to Holt county in 1911. It was nice to meet members of her family, who I hadn't seen in over thirty years, but rather sad, too, under the circumstances.

It is for reasons like this that I strongly recommend making a special effort to renew friendships while they are living.

—Mrs. Floyd Johnson



JAMES CHAMPION, Editor and Co-Publisher

Terms of Subscription: In Nebraska, \$2.50 per year; elsewhere in the United States, \$3 per year; rates abroad provided upon request. All subscriptions payable in advance.

Entered at the postoffice in O'Neill, Holt county, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. This newspaper is a member of the Nebraska Press Association, National Editorial Association and the Audit Bureau of Circulations.



Graciousness is the rarest attribute a motor car can possess. Yet, even a cursory inspection of the 1960 Cadillac reveals it in fullest measure. It is instantly visible in the classic symmetry of Cadillac styling. It is epitomized in the warm welcome extended by

the richly beautiful and generously spacious interiors. Even performance portrays it in the superlatively smooth ride and quietly authoritative response. Your Cadillac dealer invites you to confirm the value of this unique Cadillac virtue with a sixty-minute ride.

VISIT YOUR LOCAL AUTHORIZED *Cadillac* DEALER

**A. MARCELLUS CHEVROLET COMPANY**  
127 NORTH FOURTH ST., O'NEILL