

Prairieland Talk

"Asks About 'Home'"

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

I learn from a recent letter from Homer Campbell, a pioneer Holt county youth and a Frontier printer, that his latest published work, a small book dealing with some national untouched resources, has been called for by state and federal government officials and also copies sent to New York state officials. Homer was the kid expelled from O'Neill's one room schoolhouse at the town's western limits in '84 or '85 for something he was not guilty of. For many years Homer and Mrs. Campbell have been in Seattle, Wash., Mrs. Campbell being now a helpless, sick woman. Homer's parents homesteaded in Green Valley south of Stuart in early times and he asks me about that beauty spot in western Holt county. Well Old Pal, it is still the lovely valley you know 80 years ago, still robed in summer in velvet green, stately trees and quiet ranch homes, peaceful, law abiding citizens and herds of those critters that go to make Nebraska the Beef State.



Romaine Saunders

In and about the Capital City the earth is as summer left it this first day of December, not any snow. But out in the middle of the state and beyond considerable snow is reported. White Christmas is the hope of many citizens, while others prefer to stand on their grass robed lawns and look out upon the deep blue sky where shines the unclouded sun.

An ad in this household journal comes out with the assurance that "All your dreams come true." I hope not!

An interesting letter comes to me from St. Louis, Mo., written by Mrs. John A. Frenking, a daughter of that pioneer O'Neill couple, J. J. and Mrs. McCafferty, and from the scholarly way the lady writes I see she is much like her father in literary matters, Mr. McCafferty being a fluent writer, printing many of his writups in The Frontier. Mrs. Frenking pays her tribute to Prairieland Talker and goes so far as to add that this gent should be connected with the big ones in New York City. An O'Neill newspaper publisher of the long ago, John McDonough, went from his First National Bank basement print shop to the New York Sun. However, Prairieland Talker sticks it out here. Mrs. Frenking is a sister of Mrs. John Melven, the only one of the McCafferty family still in O'Neill. Their father wrote a beautiful word picture of the Elkhorn river in the early 1880's. In the 90's one Ham Kautzman got out a sheet here in O'Neill called the Beacon Light. He stole McCafferty's glowing word picture and ran it in his sheet as his own production. Mrs. Frenking is happy that one of her political and religious faith is to be our president.

1961 and a full century since the North and the South went to war, the soldiers of the north, my father one of them, wearing the blue, those of the south the grey. Some of our Nebraska State Historical workers are working on plans to observe the century date and call to mind what that conflict meant to the few on the Nebraska prairies.

It was in 1892 Arthur Coykendle took on the robe of "devil" in The Frontier print shop then located in the Millard building at what is now Fifth and Douglas street where stands today a great building housing a modern food marketing center. Arthur had come to town with his parents from out in the country. He learned the printing business, went from O'Neill, a country kid, to the great city of Washington, D. C., and went to work in the government printing plant, may or may not be living today. His parents and sister, Alice, lived out their days in O'Neill. The Frontier's first printer later became the publisher of three other papers; two other Frontier printers later became owners and publishers. And the remains of these three lie in the abode of the dead up there at the northwest limit of O'Neill. Another Frontier printer ended his typographical career in Omaha, another in Des Moines, Ia., still another in the prairieland town of Mullen. Two survive, Homer Campbell of Seattle, Wash., and the old gent in our Capital City—Prairieland Talker.

State Senator Fern Hubbard Orme of Lincoln was a recent visitor at O'Neill, the guest of her friend, Mrs. Frank Dishner, a get-together of two girlhood chums of other days before Mrs. Dishner was to take off for the southwest to hang up her bonnet for sometime. Senator Orme noted the growth and changes in O'Neill since her girlhood days when the Hubbard family was part of the O'Neill picture.

She is old, has a home of her own, little or no money. Three weeks on a bed of illness in a hospital and a bill of \$600, another for \$200 that doe wants. She has one son, two daughters with home expenses of their own to meet day by day, but they will see that mother's medical and hospital bills will be met somehow. It costs money to be sick. Costs still more to close your eyes in death and be layed away among the dead. When my father went the way of all mankind 73 years ago, \$25 paid for the coffin bought at J. J. McCafferty's, neighbors did the rest. Close the hospitals and give doc a job cleaning the streets.

Another December 4, has passed down the highway of time, another birthday for Prairieland Talker, and 90 years ago he was a babe in arms of a loving mother. Sons and daughters, other relatives and friends did me honor with gifts and greetings for which I am rejoicing. During the march of time life has taught its lessons and I cling today to the Hand that upholds all things.

Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

I can sell you a four and half horse Olds Gasoline engine, a power corn sheller, that will shell 100 to 120 bushels per hour, and feed grinder that will grind from seven to twelve bushels per hour, all for \$250. All new and warranted. Frank Campbell, Miss L. B. Monroe lost a valuable mare two weeks ago. In some way it got caught in the manger which had to be torn down in order to get the animal out, and it only lived a short time after it was free. Now if you people that owe me don't come in I will have to look for another job. Flour and feed is the same as money, would say more but it is 5 cents a line—Con Keys. DeWitt Eager, for many years a ranchman and resident of Rock county, was in the city Tuesday visiting his old friend J. A. Cowperthwaite. Mr. Eager has disposed of his general merchandise business in Rock county and was on his way to Lincoln where he expects to make his future home.

25 YEARS AGO

About 150 4-H poultry members and their parents gathered in O'Neill last Saturday for a final achievement day. Club members exhibited both turkeys and chickens. First prize in turkeys was won by Joe Curran with Willard Buskirk second and Loretta Kaup third, Margery Rees fourth and Dale Curran fifth. John Kollman of Stuart, placed second in the permanent class in the annual pasture improvement contest. Mrs. Minnie Bowen celebrated her 78th birthday last Friday and in observation of the event several relatives from out of the city gathered with relatives and friends here and spent the day with her. After living for seventeen years in the county jail you would imagine that the average person would be glad to get out, but not so with Clarence Bergstrom, he is lost. For seven years this popular and efficient deputy sheriff and his family have made their home in the county jail, as Clarence was the jailer, but as it is to be torn down to make room for the new court house and jail Clarence and his family had to move.

10 YEARS AGO

Fair weather with temperatures above the freezing mark has speeded construction at St. Anthony's hospital here. Two Holt county women were hospitalized following a head-on auto collision about 7:45 p.m. Friday night on a county road 11 miles northeast of O'Neill. Mrs. Clyde Streeter of O'Neill was taken to O'Neill hospital suffering from shock, and Miss Patricia Bowring of Chambers was taken to Sacred Heart hospital at Lynch to receive treatment for a broken arm. O'Neill egg prices Tuesday continued skidding downward after reaching 49 cents per dozen at last week's end. O'Neill city council met in monthly session Tuesday night and the principal item on the agenda concerned traffic signals. The city's main intersection—Fourth and Douglas—has been without an automatic signal for more than a month because the guidewire moorings yielded under a strong wind. Mr. and Mrs. George Taylor celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary on Saturday, December 9.

5 YEARS AGO

Thirty per cent of the holders of deer hunting permits were successful during the deer season in area four. The hunt opened Saturday and closed Tuesday night. Insurance adjusters Tuesday were studying the ruin and rubble at Johnnie's Grocery, Meat Market and Locker Plant at Clearwater, which were virtually destroyed by fire which started about 8:30 p.m. Sunday. A fire which broke out about 3 o'clock Friday morning destroyed the John Galbraith Building 66 service station in Spencer. H. McNulty, who lives near the station, noticed flames lapping from the roof. He aroused a neighbor, Marlowe Johnson, who phoned in the fire alarm. George Otte of Beit Lahia, Lebanon, Asia

ROYAL THEATER

Thursday, Dec. 15
Family Nite—Entire Family for \$1
MAN ON A STRING
Ernest Borgnine Kerwin Mathews

Fri. - Sat. Dec. 16 - 17
CHIEF CRAZY HORSE
Victor Mature Suzan Ball
John Lund
In Technicolor
Plus COUNTRY MUSIC

Sun. - Mon. - Tues. Dec. 18 - 19 - 20
ALL THE YOUNG MEN
Alan Ladd Sidney Poitier
James Darren Mort Sahl

Wed. - Thurs. Dec. 21 - 22
Family Nite—Entire Family for \$1
MY DOG, BUDDY
London - Famous Dog Star
Travis Lemmond

Minor, arrived in Chambers Friday on business. He is a cousin of Joe Daas and is a guest in the Daas home. Death: Anna M. Diekover, 81, pioneer resident of Atkinson; Mark O. Howard, 74, retired O'Neill realtor and a pioneer resident of the Page community.

The Long Ago At Chambers

50 YEARS AGO

H. L. Smith went to O'Neill today after cement for the foundation to the store room that the IOOF are going to build back of their hall. Mr. Clair Grimes while in O'Neill on Sunday last had the misfortune of having his team run away, which became frightened at a train, leaving him minus a buggy top, the horses were unhurt. Strayed: A small boy about the size of a big man, has very fine straight curly hair, and answers to the name of Johnnie or Walters, last seen wandering around Shamrock. Finder please leave at Barnums shop in Chambers. Congressman Kincaid, and other western congressmen, in behalf of their respective states, have united in a joint resolution providing that home-seekers, owing to the drought of this year, be relieved from the necessity of residence upon their claims from the date of the approval of the resolution until May 15.

25 YEARS AGO

A state man was in the Dumas community recently, and approved a highway running east and west through Dumas and Erina Valleys connecting Highways 11 and 281. The road is expected to be built some time next summer and will hit 281 three miles north of the Elgin road. One of our traveling Grocer salesmen had quite an exciting time when a little mouse in search of a new home, located it in the sample case of said salesman, who stopped overnight in an O'Neill hotel. Miles Minahan who has gotten a patent on the only power blue grass stripper made, left Monday for Hays, Kan. with his "Buffalo Grass Stripper" in response to an invitation from Government Officials to come and try it out while they were working there. Mr. Gilbert Winchell and Miss Anna Jansen of this city, were united in marriage Saturday at the Catholic Manse, Rev. B. J. Leahy officiating.

"The EDITOR"

The British call the day after Christmas "Boxing Day," but it has nothing to do with heavy-weights of fighting. This is the day when families give money to the milkman, postman and others. Around our house this day comes around once a month, but after distributing our paycheck to the milkman, the gas man, the telephone man, the grocer, the garbage man, and all the rest, my wife and I usually have a good fight, so it is easy to see how customs change from one country to another.

—RJR—
The Japanese version of Santa Claus is the ancient god Hoteiosho, who has eyes in the back of his head to help him see how children behave. Reminds us of the young mother who was shocked to learn that young Sammy had told a falsehood. Taking the lad on her knee she graphically explained the consequences of lying.

"A tall, black man," she began, "with red fiery eyes and two sharp horns grabs little boys who tell falsehoods and carries them off at night. He takes them to Mars where they have to work hard in a dark canyon for 50 years. Now, you won't tell a falsehood again, will you Sammy?" "No ma'ma," replied the lad, "you can tell 'em better than I can."

—RJR—
Women today rank companionship first among reasons for marriage according to a recent report. Second is the chance to have children; third understanding and emotional support; fourth, love and affection; and fifth, financial benefit. Although our marriage may not always be first rate, I can definitely say that it has never been "fifth rate." It used to be that a fool and his money were soon parted, but now it happens to everyone.

Help Fight TB
Christmas Greetings
1960
Use Christmas Seals

Do You Know Your Neighbor?

"Know Your Neighbor" is not a contest. There are no prizes given for correctly identifying the person pictured. The only reward is the satisfaction of knowing your neighbor.



Last week's Guess Who was Allan Jaskowskiak, owner of the O'Neill Western Auto store.



This man is a prominent O'Neill businessman.

Editorial

Compulsion Not Needed

Next year will witness a full-scale effort to eliminate the present voluntary federal-state program of medical aid for the aged, as passed by the last Congress, and to supplant it with a compulsory system tied to Social Security.

It is to be hoped that President-elect Kennedy and other national leaders will think long and hard before embarking upon this. For as many authorities, the American Medical Association among them, point out and substantiate with impressive evidence, the compulsory system would be bad for the aged, bad for the nation as a whole and, in the long run, bad for the new Administration itself.

The present program goes to the root of the problem by providing help for those who actually need help. Need is the criteria, not just an arbitrary age bracket. It was approved by Congress after careful and protracted study, and after all points of view had been heard and considered. It does the required job, it does it practically and economically—and it places heavy responsibility at the local government level where they belong.

The existing law does not waste tax dollars on aged people who are perfectly willing and able to take care of their own medical care costs, and it is not based on a compulsory, socialized approach to the problem. It deserves a full chance to work—and, there is every indication that it is working and will continue to do so.

No Mandate

Writing in U. S. News & World Report, just after the election, David Lawrence said: "This is the time when we are all exhorted to let bygones be bygones and to give our new leader the whole-hearted support of all the people. But it is a time for more than mere exhortation to the populace. It is a time to remind the successful party and the victorious candidates for all offices that elections do not settle fundamental issues but merely serve as vivid reminders of the diversity of interests and pressures that make up the modern political struggle."

This is not a carping observation. It takes nothing away from Senator Kennedy's victory. But it does spotlight a development of a unique nature. This presidential election, unlike any other presidential election of modern times, supplied absolutely no mandate for a party or a candidate. The popular vote was practically evenly divided between Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Nixon. A switch of a handful of votes would have swung the scales the other way.

Mr. Kennedy has been charged with an awesome responsibility—to keep this country strong, secure and free in a chaotic and unpredictable world. But neither he nor anyone else has been directed by 180 million people to make sweeping and revolutionary changes in the philosophy on which this nation was built, and which has made it great. The highly vocal advocates of an ever-expanding, ever-more-costly welfare state, got nowhere in this year's historic election.

One Egg Equals 100 Taxes

The Tax Foundation recently counted the number of "hidden taxes" that are imposed on items in every-day use. It found that there are 100 taxes on an egg, 116 on a man's suit, 150 on a woman's hat, 151 on a loaf of bread and 600 on a house!

In case you're wondering who ultimately pays these taxes, the answer is simple. You do!

Why Gold Is Needed

Blair Enterprise
Gold rings bind marriages. Gold blocks support the American dollar. For neither is gold essential. Without gold, however, would either be quite the same?

Remove many of the gold blocks supporting the dollar and the chance exists that the dollar would tumble, knocking down currencies of other nations in a worldwide financial panic, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States says. For many countries use the dollar as a reserve for their own currencies.

Right now the dollar is sound. For 35 American dollars the U. S. government will sell an ounce of gold to another government.

For 145 West German marks you can buy 35 American dollars. For 171 French new francs you can buy 35 American dollars. For 437 Mexican pesos you can buy 35 American dollars. For 166 Indian rupees you can buy 35 American dollars.

What this means is that as far as all other countries in the world are concerned, the American dollar is as good as gold, according to the National Chamber.

With about half the free world's gold supply, it seems unlikely that the U. S. would renege on its pledge to redeem dollars with gold, the National Chamber believes. But suppose some countries thought there was a possibility of the U. S. renegeing. Then they would profit by changing dollars into gold as fast as possible. It a run on gold occurred, the U. S. actually might be forced to half gold payments for dollars.

In other words the U. S. would go almost completely off the gold standard (this country went part way off in 1933).

Other nations rightfully might fear a rapid drop in the value of the dollar. (The dollar fell in 1933). There is the chance that a financial panic might result.

In financial panics people lose jobs. Remember 1929.

These then are reasons why America needs gold to support the dollar. Our gold hoard helps assure confidence in the dollar.

The chance of this chain of events occurring and leading to a panic might be small, the National Chamber says. But it exists. And the U. S. government plainly is concerned and is taking several steps to maintain confidence in the dollar. For example, consider the government's drive to boost exports or its efforts to get other governments to help pay for overseas, military expenses.



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