

PrairieLand Talk

# "Talker' To Be Back Soon"

Ed. Note: I had a talk with Mr. Saunders Friday and he says he is getting better and plans to be back at the typewriter soon. He asked the Frontier to pass along his thanks to the many persons in and around Holt county who sent him cards of sympathy after hearing of his injuries. He also sends his greetings to all his old friends and neighbors in PrairieLand. In the meantime, he has consented to let us do the chores for him.

The PrairieLand is different from many places on earth . . . both in the looks and lay of the land as well as in the type of person who lives here. But . . . in one respect it is exactly the same as any other place in the 50 states . . . and that is the various fall fevers that attack our people are reflected in others throughout the country.

Along with the football fever has gripped PrairieLand . . . with otherwise sedate and dignified citizens attending the various high school games and rooting like mad for their favorites. It's good, too, to see this enthusiasm shown for we believe that age is mostly a state of mind. And . . . it's difficult to feel old when the blood is churned up by a good 50-yard pass play or a nice run through the line.

Then there is the ailment known as hunting fever when the particular person afflicted spends long hours shining an already spotted gun, talks glibly of shots he has made (never the ones he missed!) and makes many plans for hunts that will never materialize. One such is the Westender who is getting his goose blind ready for the season with the help of his hunting companions. By the

time they get the blind on the river, accumulate all the gear necessary for good hunting, find an access road and get all prepared for the first flight, they will have had so much fun that the shooting, if any, will be incidental.

Of course, the female of the specie is not immune to fall fevers. Most prevalent right now is the fall cleaning fever with storm window complications. Many hapless males have returned to the homestead after a day's work only to find the furniture in a pile, curtains awry and the little wife in paint or floor wax clear to her dimpled elbows. That part is not completely unbearable, but the storm window complication can become serious, especially if it manifests itself during a TV football game Saturday afternoon. Probably more touch-downs are missed because the cook insists the storm windows be installed than for any other reason.

The most widespread and epidemic of the fevers is known as the World Series fever. Strangely enough, it is often worse in the female than the male and in the person who, in July, had never heard of Maris or Mantle, and doesn't know a base on balls from a bale of Holt county hay. It is, in fact, the only one of the fall fevers that can bring to an absolute standstill all the business in a given area at game time.

And speaking of fevers, I've got to clean the shotgun tonight before I go to the football game, then put up the storm windows tomorrow so I'll have it done before the Series start. — B.R.

## Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Arthur Mullen met with a serious and painful accident Saturday morning when she slipped and fell while feeding the chickens and broke her right leg just above the knee and dislocated her shoulder. Miss Ruth Meredith returned to her duties in the hospital in Omaha Tuesday after a few weeks visit with her parents. Last Monday J. B. Mellor disposed of his garage, one automobile and the east barn to E. G. Lowell, receiving \$1,000 therefor. Herman Demmitt and sister of Mineola drove into town Tuesday evening in their Cadillac '30" and took in the show.

25 YEARS AGO

Ray L. Verzal, Wayne, and Miss Margaret M. Quinn of this city, were united in marriage Tuesday morning at the Catholic church. Governor Cochran, William Grutsch and Sam Schultz were guests at a Country Club stag Monday evening. Notwithstanding the number of new houses built in this city this summer, the demand for houses, apartments and rooms continues to increase. Roger Rosenkrans, Dorsey, a junior in the college of agriculture at Nebraska university, has received a scholarship from Sears, Roebuck and company. Last rites are held at home for Linus Berglund, 73, who died September 17. Mrs. Abe Szanto died in St. Joseph's hospital last Saturday evening after an illness of several months.

10 YEARS AGO

A former Holt county clerk, John C. Gallagher, 59, died September 24 at his home here after several years of illness. Mr. and Mrs. Manford Ross September 22 celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary. Pfc. Gerald F. Boyer, Page, has been reported killed in action at Korea August 27. Corn raisers in the O'Neill region narrowly escape damaging freeze. Thomas F. Nolan, 66, lifelong O'Neill resident, died unexpectedly about 4:30 a.m. Thursday. Death claims member of pioneer O'Donnell family, Mrs. F. M. Rentschler, 78, at the O'Neill hospital September 25. Pvt. Charles Vance, Naper, was killed in action in Korea August 15.

5 YEARS AGO

John Kurtz, 33, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kurtz, was declared the winner in the Chamber of Commerce essay contest. The new Arbutnot Oil Company D-X service will hold a grand opening Friday and Saturday, according to Jack Arbutnot. Harvey Groff has been named manager of the Atkinson Cooperative Creamery. An 83-year-old Ewing resident, whose shoes will still tap a jig, last Thursday evening was honored at the 36th annual sunset banquet at the Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Price celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary Sunday with open house. Holt County 4-H livestock exhibitors have received several awards at Ak-Sar-Ben exhibition in Omaha.

## The Long Ago At Chambers

50 YEARS AGO

Last evening a wagon containing eight young people returning from a party at Mr. Graves ranch, was overturned while turning a corner; injured were a daughter and son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown. 1911 showing of Chambers fair is termed great success. Miss Olive Wood and Mr. Michael Englehart were united in marriage September 27 at O'Neill. Charles Robinson will soon commence the construction of a new residence on Victoria street. Mr. Erwin has rented the Charles hotel and will conduct it in the future. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Will Blake September 25 a 10-pound son.

25 YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Honeywell were honored on their golden wedding anniversary by a picnic and program arranged by their six living children. Mrs. Mary Ida White, 69, mother of Mrs. Harold Peterson, died at a Billings hospital Wednesday. Dwight Griswold, republican candidate for governor, is expected to speak in Chambers and O'Neill Sunday afternoon and evening. Rodney H. Tomlinson and Mary Richter were married September 2 at Butte. A marriage license was issued September 15 to Eldrey Gaskill, O'Neill, and Mildred Bieck, Verdigris. Junior Saunders went to Lincoln last week where he will attend school; he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Romine Saunders, Amelia.



EMMET — When the youngsters in the area eight miles northwest of Emmet started to school this year, they had a fine new building for a schoolhouse, recently constructed when Districts 80, 150 and 155 united. The district is now known as District 89. The building has two rooms and a full basement. There are 28 children attending this school. They are: (front row, l. to r.) Dale Mellor, Perry Kitchens, Donna Marcellus, Sheryle Kitchens, Bonnie Siebert, Terri Tickle, Janet Marcellus, Richard Schruink and Evelyn Sterns; (second row) Sherry Bauer, Norma Bauer, Cindy Steskal, Colleen Schruink, Jody Siebert, Karen Marcellus, Myron Wasson, Ricky Steskal, Jerry Tickle and Ronnie Steskal; (back row) Jeanette Wason, Connie Schruink, Sheryl Steskal, Margaret Marcellus, Roger Boneberger, Larry Havranek, Larry Seger and Robert Bauer. Teachers are Mrs. Elvon Chase (left) and Mrs. Marie Shell-hase (right).

## Deloit News

By Mrs. H. Reimer

Last Week's News—

Mr. and Mrs. Ewald Spahn attended the 25th anniversary celebration for Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Keifer, Norfolk, Sunday, Mrs. Keifer is a sister of Mrs. Spahn. The brothers and sisters and parents of the couple were guests. Mrs. Ewald Spahn baked and decorated the cake.

Mr. and Mrs. Donohoe and two children returned to their home in the Los Angeles, Calif., area Sunday. They had been visiting the Johnny Bauer home and relatives in O'Neill.

Mrs. Wanda Larson was hospitalized in Neligh a few days last week.

Farmers are busy cutting ensilage, sowing rye and other fall crops, getting the hay in, and doing other fall chores.

The HEO club met Thursday at the Glenn Harpster home. Election of officers for the coming year was part of the afternoon program.

Mrs. Ralph Tomjack spent Saturday afternoon at the Ewald Spahn home.

Leland Clark, Ellis Schruink, Earl Rossow and Henry Reimer attended a meeting in Burwell Friday.

Mrs. G. A. Bauer returned recently from Montana where she attended the funeral of her sister.

Editorial

# Eliminate Legal Notices?

What Might Happen?  
The Indiana Publisher, Sept. 1961

Our county auditor was elected to that office after serving a number of years as county superintendent of schools. In the latter job he never missed an opportunity to snipe at what he referred to as a waste of taxpayers money in publishing legal notices. He prepared the annual reports and the budget and tax levy notices for all the township trustees, although that is their obligation, and invariably we would have a run in with him for eliminating essentials in order to "save a few dollars of taxpayers' money."

So, it was no great surprise to us when shortly after he took office as county auditor he began chiseling on copy of legal notices coming out of his office. It was the same old harangue that people don't read legal advertising, that it wastes taxpayers' money that the public is amply protected by State Board of Accounts audits, that it is a bonanza for newspapers, etc., etc., etc.

Finally, we got fed up with his carrying on and asked him to come to the office at a certain time on a specified day. We sorta made it sound mysterious and he grabbed the bait. When he arrived we took him to the composing room and gave the operator a signal to start setting type for the Commissioners' Claims, at the same time explaining to the auditor what was being done. We instructed the operator to keep time on that job and notify us when he had finished. Then we took the auditor to our office, told him what we were paying the operator hourly, the time required for proof reading, correcting, etc. The operator reported the time, we right then computed the actual cost of publishing that notice and what we would receive as compensation. Then we turned to the auditor and asked:

"Now Charlie, do you think we are making a fortune, as you have been saying, from publishing legal notices?"

"Wellll," he answered, "perhaps I was guessing a little bit on that. But, I still don't think that people read legal notices."

"Now aren't you guessing on that too?" we asked. "How do you know they don't?"

"Well, I know I don't read the stuff," he said.

"Why Charlie," we exploded, "during your campaign for the nomination you used one item from the Commissioner Allowances we published to show that your opponent, the auditor, was selling supplies to the county through a dummy company. You must have read a legal notice at least one time and it paid off for you didn't it?"

"Guess you got me there," he admitted.

"Since you have been doing so much guessing, let's get down to some facts," we said. "How often since you took office has the State Board of Accounts examiners checked your records?"

"They never have," he answered. "You see, there are not enough examiners to make a frequent check so I am told they come in about every two years."

"In the meantime," we asked "if you were the wrong kind of a guy you could get by with plenty of crooked stuff and but for the legal notices you must publish the taxpayers would have no protection and would know nothing about it for two years, isn't that a fact? Of course, we are assuming on your own admission, that at least one person reads legal notices at least once and that fear of

that one person will keep a crook in the straight and narrow."

Then we told him the story given us by a former U. S. Senator about the alliance between crooked newspapers and crooked public officials in France prior to World War II and how this was one of the reasons for the weakened condition of that nation. Newspapers were bribed by public officials to keep government information from the people. By contrast, newspapers in the United States through legal advertising are paid by the taxpayers to keep them informed on the official actions of government and its officials. Even at that, as we told him, there are crooked officials but imagine what would happen without legal advertising laws if some that would be crooked cover up for a few years.

Charlie was silent for a few seconds after we finished. Then he exclaimed: "Doggonit, why don't you newspapers tell public officials what you have told me. It would open our eyes to the reason for publishing legal notices."

Doggonit why don't we?

## What Good? Dakota County Star

A newspaper editor often hears remarks similar to "It would have been better if you hadn't printed the story," or "What good did it do to print such a story?"

It usually is heard when some unfavorable situation develops involving an individual or some event, organization or even a community.

Usually such criticism stems from the same individuals who seek and expect favorable publicity whenever the occasion warrants and sometimes when it doesn't.

Some say no worthwhile good is accomplished when a respected citizen is drawn into a court test. We submit, however, that it proves that the laws are made for everyone, that nobody rates immunity.

The "unfavorable publicity" charge was heard in previous years during polio epidemics and during floods when some individuals thought the press was doing irreparable damage by reporting the facts.

We believe, however, that an informed public is by far the best policy. There is no greater enemy to rumor and exaggeration.

This newspaper has never been an "all is peachy" type publication which reports only the favorable occurrences and overlooks anything which might tend to be unfavorable to some.

A newspaper is a mirror which reflects the activities of a community and sometimes, perhaps, that mirror will become clouded.

We believe these policies, maintained and fostered through the years, formulate an adequate reply to critics who object to this newspaper publishing some news events as they occur.

Cash dividends paid to owners of common stocks listed on the New York Stock Exchange reached a new high in the first half of 1961 for the 19th year in a row. The total was \$4,926,167,380—2 per cent above that of the comparable 1960 period. Among the 25 Exchange industrial groups, 14 made larger payments and 11 smaller payments than they did in the first half of last year.

## Royal News

By Mrs. R. J. Hering

Last Week's News—

Several Are Honored At Grove Lake Picnic

A picnic at Grove Lake Sunday honored Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. Lew Wayne, and Mrs. Lyle Thomas, Nashua, Mrs. Blanche Lingerfelter, Brunswick. Relatives at the picnic included the following: The families of Clayton Meister, Wayne Walmer, Harold Piersol and M. M. Colson. Other persons present were Ernest Johnston, Mrs. Edna Johnston, who was hostess to the visitors, Everett Johnston. The Iowa visitors departed for home Monday morning. They had been to Reo Heights, S. D., to visit the Stanley Johnston family before coming to Royal.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Dodds and Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Harvey re-

turned Sunday afternoon from a two-week fishing trip near Ferguson Falls, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Aage Nielson, who had fished in that vicinity, came home a week earlier. The fisherman report cold weather and few "too hungry" fish.

Recent Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Hofer were Mr. and Mrs. Ron Brewer and family, O'Neill, and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Miller and family, Fullerton.

Donald Meisner and family came from Indiana to visit a short time with his grandfather, Frank Storm, and other relatives, before he leaves for Okinawa to which place he has been transferred. Mrs. Meisner will return to their home in Indiana, accompanied by her sister-in-law, Jacqueline Meisner, who will attend an art school.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mittels went to Verdigris Saturday night to attend a reunion of her graduating class of 10 years ago. Mrs. Mittels appeared on the program with original verses and other readings.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Beutler and Mr. and Mrs. LaVern Held attended the funeral of a cousin, Fred Beutler, at Gordon Saturday.

Frank Storm was hospitalized at Tilden during the past week, submitting to minor surgery.

Mrs. Otto Storm returned during the past week from a two-weeks stay in Lebanon, Ore., with her sister, Mrs. Edith Allen and family.

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