

Prairieland Talk

# "Thank You' Good Friends"

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

"Get well" greetings have come to me from friends in Holt county and elsewhere. Yes, these bodies of ours get sick. I was in my customary good health when down I went like a load of brick upon the solid concrete sidewalk. No bones broken but the inner organs of life jarred into severe aches and pains. A few weeks of suffering and restless nights as a result of that tumble. But OK again. Yes, our human bodies can't stand abuse. I would like to write to all who sent me encouraging messages but can do so only through Prairieland Talk. Thank you all, good friends.



Romaine Saunders

Mr. Stewart, late editor and publisher of The Frontier, drove from O'Neill to Lincoln and came to see me as I lay with jarred up liver and lungs. It is always a pleasure to see friends from my "home town" community. Cal was on his way to Chicago to spend a day or two there. He came to Lincoln to take a train for that trip, all north Nebraska citizens who have occasion to travel east or west to other states get behind the steering wheel and roll to Omaha or Lincoln to board a train. Mr. Stewart told me he maintains an office in the former Frontiers building and said the book he has written of World War II experiences will be available in March, a noted book publishing house in New York City turning out the work. Cal reports conditions in Holt county very fine, the Prairieland robed in velvet green and the landscape lovely.

Autumn comes to Prairieland once more. Another fruitful season for Nebraskans, orchard, garden, fields and grasslands did a good job again and while some regions of earth may soon be shaken by rumble and grumble and roar of war once more we on Prairieland may enjoy peace and plenty.

Rancher Peterson of Atkinson had an exhibition at the recent Nebraska State Fair that aristocratic "gentleman" horse from his ranch down below Holt creek and took the horse fanciers admiring eyes. A thing of beauty Charley's stallion but is there nothing more than horse the beautiful on those four legs. Can such as he do what our native Prairieland broncos did under the saddle or in harness. I think not. Just ask my Spindler, Walter O'Malley or my young friend Trudie out there on Eagle creek. In my horseback and wagon days I had even one of those Kentucky race horse beauties, but nothing ever matched Doc, foaled by a native plow mare in 1887 on the prairie five miles out from O'Neill.

Editorial

## Sacrifice For What!

The people of the nation have been told by high government officials that they must be prepared to "sacrifice." They can understand that, when sacrifices are essential to defense or war, but it is difficult for them to enthrone about sacrifices for purely domestic spending by the government on schemes that smack of nothing by expanding political power.

The Wall Street Journal of August 24 cited a classic example. It quoted a citizen of Corsicana, Texas as saying, "This is one year people ain't going to get the grass hoed out of their cotton, because we ain't going to do it." It gave facts and figures on "Groceries Day," which occurs once a month over the nation when free food is handed out.

Only 40,031 Georgians got free federal food in January. By June the number had risen to 154,429. In Oregon, the number jumped from zero in January, to 7,435 in June. A Louisiana official notes that 200,000 people are getting federal free food in the state now, compared to 80,000 a year ago. In North Carolina, in June 1960, only 58 citizens called for food. But by June 1961, the number was 147,289.

The Journal article showed the expanding give-away program has gained new customers rapidly by adding fancier fare, such as chopped meats, beans, eggs, oatmeal, powdered milk, and peanut butter, in addition to the basic list of flour, cornmeal, rice, lard and butter. "By mid-1961, some 6.2 million Americans, officially classed as 'needy,' were receiving free federal commodities . . . compared with . . . 3.3 million who were on the free list in June, 1960.

Commenting editorially, the Journal said, "No doubt there are, among these millions, many who are in true need. But nowadays need is something it is not nice to inquire about; it might embarrass men with pride . . ."

Other give-away political programs are costing the taxpayers billions of dollars. Apparently the only persons who are supposed to "sacrifice" are the workers who must prepare to pay higher taxes to provide the money for the public spenders to dole out.

Some weeks ago Prairieland Talker received a good letter from the household of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Segelman out at Seattle, Wash., the former being part of the O'Neill community and today cherish memories of life here. They enclosed a newspaper clipping of what the big town on our northwest coast is doing for its citizens to hole up when the anticipated Muscovite blast strikes. Better come back to prairieland, esteemed friends. Here human life will dwell safely as long as time lasts. It was in pioneer days on the prairie homesteaders had a storm cave to spend a stormy night in. The wind picked up a homesteaders shanty a few times but no one seriously hurt. Some fifty years ago Chambers was hit by a storm that raged out of the southwest and one or two houses were wrecked. Lightning has struck to earth a horse, a cow now and then and set fire to a hay stack, but we continue to dwell happily here on green robed prairieland.

Otto Wolf—his lifeless form rests today in the abode of the dead down at Madison, the county seat of Madison county to the east of Holt county. Mr. Wolf died early in September in Lincoln where he had made his home in recent years with his wife and daughter, Maxine. His early life was spent in Madison where he got into printing and newspaper work, published a paper there and later in Edgar, Nebr. Otto was publishing a paper in Madison in the later years of John Sprecker of the Schuyler Quill, the gifted Edgar Howard of Columbus, C. H. Swallow of the Humphrey Democrat, and D. H. Cronin of the Frontier. Otto was also a gifted writer with a keen sense of the needs of community life, heart and soul devoted to his Lord as he saw it and an active member of the Presbyterian church. At least two of the Wolf family prolong the newspaper traditions of their father, Miss Maxine in editorial work with Lincoln's morning paper, the Star, a son, Arthur F., is in New York and for many years in Associated Press work. Otto had been living in retirement in Lincoln in recent years, went about visiting the aged and lonely of whom he learned and brought to them a bit of cheer. He had lived a useful life and died at the age of seventy-seven.

A musical gentleman with talent that gives him a place on the TV says he thinks of the many hungry and starving people of the world so he can not sit down to a big feed but eats sparingly. I met up with him a few years ago while awaiting the arrival of a midnight train, a fellow traveler along life's way hungry, homeless and broke. I gave him some of what it takes to get food, and went out to get on my train feeling thankful for another chance to help a needy one.

## Frontiers Ago

### 50 YEARS AGO

Several automobiles from the eastern part of the state, loaded with would be South Dakota landowners, passed through here Wednesday on their way to Gregory, S. D., where they will register for the land drawing. . . . Walter Wyatt returned last Friday evening from Detroit where he accompanied a carload of Ford automobile dealers on a visit to the factory. . . . G. S. Keefe, who has been agent for the Burlington in this city the past year, has been transferred to the city ticket office of the company at Lincoln. . . . J. P. McIntyre, who is moving to Iowa, will have a sale of his personal effects of the old John Fallon farm north of this city Thursday.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Wallace R. Johnson, one of the prosperous farmers and stockmen of the county living northwest of O'Neill, celebrated his 56 years of residence in the county last month. . . . One county owes \$8,650.45 for care of insane for the period from August 25, 1935 to September 1, 1936. . . . Drought rates are now available on feed for Holt county. . . . It has been quite chilly here the past week but so far has not yet reached the freezing point. . . . Bankers of the North Central district of Nebraska will meet in O'Neill, October 6 at the Golden hotel. . . . On Tuesday morning about 4 a. m. the barn on the A. L. Rouse place, Meek, and all its contents burned to the ground.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Paul Montgomery, former O'Neill hardwareman, dies in Oregon September 27th in a truck accident near Baker, Ore. . . . Mabel Gatz and Winnie Barger purchase the Apparel shop from Ruth Case and Mrs. W. A. Doering. . . . John Grutsch, Holt county service officer, has been appointed civil defense director for the county. . . . Holt county 4-H clubbers and their livestock entries made a good account of themselves at the Ak-Sar-Ben. . . . Door to door mail delivery is started in O'Neill. . . . Funeral services were conducted October 3 at Inman for George Leonard Lines, 88, retired farmer. . . . Ten Holt county men win deer hunt permits. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kayl observe their 51st wedding anniversary at Spencer.

### 5 YEARS AGO

An old fashioned melodrama was presented Monday evening when the Parent-Teacher association of the O'Neill Public school met at the school. . . . Funeral services were held at Spencer for Frank S. Mott 77, October 2 at the First Methodist church. . . . William J. Frosch Jr., this week was graduated from Georgetown university law school Washington, D. C. . . . The O'Neill Methodist church was filled to capacity September 28 for the funeral services of Homer E. Asher, 59, resident here for nearly 20 years and state plant engineer for Consumers. . . . Coach Mary Miller's O'Neill high Eagles tasted their first win of the season Friday night, running roughshod over an undermanned Burwell Longhorn team, 35-0.

## The Long Ago At Chambers

### 50 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Josephine Linehart commenced her school in the Lehigh district last Monday. . . . Mr. Smith from Fullerton is working in the barber shop during Mr. Jarman's absence. . . . W. W. Stevens, of Sioux City, is in Chambers arranging for a sale on his farm known as the Boyce farm which will be held October 12. . . . J. D. Grimes, one of Chambers' most popular citizens, died at his home north of Chambers last Sunday morning. . . . Emmet is building a splendid new schoolhouse which will be ready for use soon; has two rooms and the teachers will be Nellie Armstrong and Ruth Larson. . . . Mrs. Mary A. Lell, who had resided in Holt county since 1883, died at her home in Chambers October 1.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Lester, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Oetter, and Harvey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Seymore Harkins, both of Bliss, are in the Casper, Wyo., hospital for injuries received while herding sheep out from Casper. . . . Van Robertson has moved his old house back and is building a new home with full basement. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Louie Barthel are happy over the arrival of a 8½ pound girl born to them September 30. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Herman Holcomb returned Saturday from attending the centennial in Texas. . . . The open season on ducks this fall is November 1 to 30 inclusive. . . . Darlene and Dorothy Erwin have been very ill the past 10 days with flu. . . . The nominees at the Conley township included A. G. Fluckey, Harry J. Scott, J. G. Howe, Henry Weber, R. S. Hilliard, Edwin Thornin and Willie Belick.

## Atkinson News

### Three Members Are Added to Garden Club

The Atkinson Civic Improvement Garden club met September 27 at the home of Mrs. Charles Skopec for an evening meeting. Mrs. Carl Smith had the lesson on material taken from the National Gardener magazine. Three new members were added to the membership list, Mrs. E. Spann, Mrs. L. G. Fleming and Mrs. Marjorie Genung. Mrs. Spann had been a former member and resigned for a few years while she was teaching school. The next meeting will be held October 11.

### Ewing News

Thursday morning was visiting day at the kindergarten room at the Ewing public school. The mothers were invited to come and visit the class. Sunday, Oct. 15, will be Thank Offering Day at the United Presbyterian church. Guest speaker for the service will be Martha Temple, Cameron, West Africa. Communion services were conducted at the worship hour of United Presbyterian church Sunday morning in which 73 members participated. Six new members were received into the church. They are Sherry Switzer, Leroy Napier, Leon Spangler, Jack Fry, Duane Krumtorf, Terry Harpster.

### Mr. and Mrs. Frank Enbody and Craig went to Spencer Saturday to visit their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Rolland Kersch and family. They returned home Sunday night.

### Mr. and Mrs. William Morgan Jr. went to Pierce Sunday to attend a Legion meeting. Their family spent the day with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Smith in Atkinson. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shane and family were also Sunday dinner guests at the Smith home.

### Mr. and Mrs. Connie Frickel and Mrs. Evelyn Pacha went to Lincoln last Friday to spend the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Frickel.

### Mrs. Lou Brown, Terry and Cindy and Nora Widfeldt visited with Mrs. Ethel Brown and Mr. and Mrs. Arlan Brown and family Monday evening.

### Ray White, Lincoln, was an overnight guest of his sister, Mrs. Bill Wefso, Monday night.

### Mr. and Mrs. Pat Medcalf entertained Sunday evening at a pinocchio party at their home in Atkinson. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Willard Linville, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Osborn, Mr. and Mrs. John Bonenberger, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Upton, Mr. and Mrs. Elvon Chace, Mr. and Mrs. Marlee Featherston and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Butterfield. Prizes were won by Gerald Upton, Dick Osborn, Mrs. Chace and Mrs. Linville. Lunch was served at the close of the evening.

### Mr. and Mrs. Tom Osborn, Wisner, were Sunday guests in the home of their son, Dick Osborn and family.

### Mrs. Bill Wefso went to Grand Island last Saturday on business.

### Mrs. Mike Bonenberger accompanied her to Grand Island.

### Mr. and Mrs. Denton Colback moved from the Ben Nelson farm near Bristol Sunday and are living at the Ed Hetsch ranch north of Atkinson. Those helping them move were, Emil and Dennis Colback, Gene Putnam, Paul Lampman, Gary Arp and Ed Heiser.

### Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Johnson, O'Neill, were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Roth in Atkinson. They did some late fall fishing at the gravel pit in the afternoon and enjoyed a picnic dinner.

### Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Hickok left Saturday morning for Lexington and spent the weekend visiting their son, Wayne Hickok and Mrs. Hickok.

### Mr. and Mrs. George Zaruba, Grand Island, and Mr. and Mrs. Claude Johnson were Saturday evening visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Schenzel in O'Neill.

### Mr. and Mrs. Robert Krysl and family, Gregory, S. D., were Sunday dinner and supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. LaVern Krysl. Other guests were Albert and Ronnie Krysl.

district meeting was held Sunday at Neligh. Attending from Ewing were Bertha Harris, Marie Davis, Robert Woepel, Jaze Spragg, Rosalynn Spragg and Russell Tuttle.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Suhr, Wisner, were luncheon and evening guests Sunday at the Ernest Norwood home.

St. Rita's Circle of the Christian Mothers of St. Peter's Catholic church are making plans for a bake sale Saturday at the Coffee club when yeast breads will be featured. Mrs. Ed Kaczor is chairman of the group. Coffee and pie will be served during the afternoon hours.

Sunday dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Norwood were Mr. and Mrs. Homer Blaine, Creighton, and Arthur and Arlene Pelletier, Ewing.

Supt. and Mrs. G. D. Ryan and family spent Saturday afternoon

visiting relatives at Niobrara. The Rev. Mrs. Nina Haines, who is holding revival meetings at Curtis, was expected home Wednesday.

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