

PrairieLand Talk

# "The Fairest of Them All"

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, 4170 South 51st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

Sometime ago Lena Shelhart was the town beauty as she gracefully stepped about on the streets of O'Neill. The charming Miss Lena came to this town with her parents from the Mineola community when that once bustling village some 20 miles or more northeast of O'Neill became a cattle rancher's domain. That was in the 1880's. The Shelharts presided at the Commercial Hotel on south Fourth street, Miss Lena disappearing from the O'Neill scene when she married and went to Omaha. Tenie Norval, another beauty who took over the admiring eyes of young fellows when she came with her parents from Chambers, her father being elected county superintendent of schools. A lucky gent got her and Tenie too was seen no more in O'Neill. O yes, Tess Harrington of that prominent family who came here in the 1880's from Canada. Whether Tess married or passed to her rest upon the hill I do not recall. But Rosa, my Rosa, was the beauty outshining all others. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Meals who came to O'Neill from Atkinson where they had a hotel, G. W. going into law practice. Beautiful blue eyed and rosy lipped Rosa, 50 years we were lovers, husband and wife. For 16 years now she has rested in the abode of the dead at Prospect Hill. Our last happy home was in that beauty spot on prairie land in southwest Holt county and I travel the highway of life alone under the watchful care of daughters and sons, awaiting the time when Rosa and I walk again hand in hand in that Better Land to be lovers and husband and wife through all eternity.



Romaine Saunders

O'Neill's two banks, Biglins, the hotel at Fourth and Everett streets and The Frontier are all left to us that got going in the 1880's. The Frontier now in its third location, the other three business concerns remain where they began to do business.

Many weekly and monthly magazines published today. Makes work for printers and I recall the times some sixty years ago when I set and supervised a helper or two getting up the ads for a monthly publication in San Francisco. But I quit that to get back to my hometown of O'Neill and my first love The Frontier. One of the classic monthly magazines today bears the title of Reader's Digest. I had always understood that digest was a function of life that accompanied eating, not reading. There was my esteemed grandsire on my mother's side of our family, Grandpa Everett, who was born in Pennsylvania in the year 1804 and died in O'Neill, Nebraska, in the 1890's. All his long life he never ate a bite of flesh foods, but I had seen him take a boiled potato up on his fork, pour sorghum over it and down it to be digested. That's a stomach's job. Maybe we can mentally digest the stuff we read such as PrairieLand Talk.

The bell up on the hill was ringing a homecoming welcome that late afternoon, a day in 1888 or '89, as the train from the east rolled up to the depot and Father Cassidy stepped from that train to be welcomed by a group of O'Neill friends upon his return from a visit to his native homeland Ireland. With horse and buggy the priest was taken to the little house just west of the church on the hill to resume his duties as pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church which he carried on until his death some twenty or more years ago. In the 1880's St. Patrick's church was a small building compared to the sanctuary that stands there today and the residence of priests and helpers is quite different than the one that Ireland visitor returned to many years ago. And the great Saint Mary's Academy stands today to complete the picture.

I must express again my thanks for the many cheering letters and "get well" greetings that came to me as friends learned of my tumble early in September. Many in Holt and Boyd county and other Nebraska communities, some from the distant states of Washington and California, from that good friend down in Arkansas who really belongs in O'Neill—Come home, Ralph. And that daughter of one of the DeYarman brothers of O'Neill's Checkered Livery Barn. That O'Neill girl in years now gone, living in a distant eastern state. Yes, thank you all from PrairieLand Talker, again up and on the go.

Editorial

## America's Home-Town Press

The Frontier along with the 9,000 other weeklies in the nation—takes prideful note of the 22nd annual observance of National Newspaper Week beginning October 15. We'll celebrate by continuing business at the same old stand—getting out the very best issue we can.

Meanwhile, Guy Easterly, the hard-working president of the National Editorial Association and fellow publisher of the LaFollette (Tenn.) Press, has a few words to say about honoring America's home-town press—words that express exactly why we publish this newspaper. Take it away Mr. Easterly:

"This year's celebration is being launched under the slogan, 'Your Newspaper—Heritage of Truth, Frontier of Freedom.' Nowhere more in America than in Home-town America is this slogan so true.

"For your community newspaper stands sentinel to guard the American way of life. That is our responsibility. We believe in the heritage of freedom, handed down by our forefathers. We believe in an honest day's work for an honest day's pay. We believe in self-government—that in the hands of the people, our way of life is safe. And we believe that no socialized state or regimented society can replace that which we now enjoy.

"In this National Newspaper Week of 1961, we invite you, the reader, to re-examine your issue of The Frontier and determine its worth to your community. We invite criticism, for we know that through criticism, your newspaper may be better able to meet the challenge to greater improvements."

Try The Frontier Want Ads — It Pays!

October. A day before we stepped over the line to another month the Capital City of this prairie-land state had its first visit of the season from Jack Frost, who spread a delicate blanket of white on streets and lawn and building. The sun shone and that blanket of white was gone. Some rain and we now write it October, fall again on peaceful prairie-land, the green of summer turned to brown and leaf on tree and bush one by one exchanges the green of summer to the yellow of autumn and falls to the ground. November elections here and elsewhere, Thanksgiving Day a month away, PrairieLand Talker's birthday early in December, Christmas and the snows of winter as we step across and start the year 1962. May we behave till then.

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### Whom Will You Meet ???

Ord Quiz

Nebraska's speed limit for automobiles was raised this year. The death rate climbed similarly. The two facts may not be related, of course.

Nebraska is busily licensing drivers for the coming two years. No tests of any kind are required when the old license is presented. There is nothing to indicate that the would-be driver may be getting blind, or senile, or have developed a bum heart. No tests are made to check his reaction time, his common sense, let alone his skill once he slides behind that wheel.

California conducts written, oral and actual driving tests before giving out that precious driver's license. Missouri not long ago would give anyone a trifle of paper that was a driver's license simply upon payment of 25 cents, and during a year as many repeat licenses as requested were available the same way.

Tucson conducts searching examinations of drunk drivers. First offenders are usually fined \$10 and parked in jail for ten days. This is discouraging to say the least.

Many states are now bordering road edges with a painted white line, and this has brought accident figures down notably. It alerts the driver constantly and keeps him "in line."

The governor of Connecticut has taken such drastic steps that deaths are rarely ever traffic problems. He has done it by insisting that his officers and judges be extra severe as to speeding and to penalties.

What Nebraska should do is not clear. But it must be more than we are doing now.

Or does a recent slogan tell the story: "You may be a good driver who meets a bad driver."

# Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

D. J. Malone has purchased the J. P. Mann Grocery store. . . As a result of the exceedingly heavy rain of last Thursday night the basements of P. J. McManus and J. P. Gallagher were filled with water. . . Mrs. E. J. Benson was called to Akron, Colo., last Thursday by a telegram announcing the death of her brother, Ed Purdy, for many years a resident of this county. . . Ira I. Snyder, Justin, and Miss Sylvia Ery, Atkinson, were married in this city last Saturday by the Rev. D. B. Ralston.

25 YEARS AGO

The business of the O'Neill Hatchery has been growing with such strides during the past year that Manager Ralph Leidy deemed it necessary to have more room for his growing business. . . Work on the new courthouse is progressing rapidly. . . Ernie Nelson, who has been the manager of the O'Neill Creamery the past year and a half, received notice of his transfer to Kearney. . . Judge Dickson and Reporter McElhane returned Wednesday afternoon from Butte, where they had been holding district court for the past 10 days. . . Mrs. Rose Ryan received word the first of the week that she was a grandmother, a son having been born to her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Graham, California.

10 YEARS AGO

Emmet State Bank closes its doors and consolidates with First National Bank of Atkinson. . . State Sen. Frank Nelson this week filed for re-election from the Twenty-eighth legislative district; has served two terms. Mrs. Bertha Johnston, 62, died October 8 in the Stuart hospital; funeral services held October 10 at Atkinson, and burial in the Chambers cemetery. . . Cards lose 19-17 in thriller in rain Friday night at Fremont. . . Eagles had easy sailing Friday night against Creighton.

5 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Ira Moss has been elected president of St. Anthony's hospital auxiliary. . . Mr. and Mrs. Dewit Gunter will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary October 21. . . Anonymous donor gives \$5,000 to the Methodist church at Page a year ago, then duplicates gift to "dress up" the old portion of the church. . . Donald Keyes, Inman, shows best corn at the fall festival in Inman, Saturday. . . The Methodist church, Inman celebrates 75th anniversary. . . Capt. Tom Schneider, 185-pound senior backfield star for St. Mary's academy, chipped a bone in his ankle at the Stuart-St. Mary's game Friday.

## The Long Ago At Chambers

50 YEARS AGO

The Pound Social held at the Methodist parsonage Tuesday evening was a very enjoyable affair, about 65 guests were present. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Keller went to O'Neill Tuesday after a new piano. . . Mike Oetter has about concluded that the safest mode of conveyance is a big wagon drawn by a pair of spirited western bronchos as they generally prove less disappointing than the swifter going (when it goes) automobile. . . L. Fluckey has some specimen ears of corn which he raised on his farm, 3 ears weighing 4 1/2 pounds.

25 YEARS AGO

Arline Grimes drove to Lincoln with her father Saturday where she enrolled in Black's Beauty Shoppe for an eight month course of training. . . Joe Shonka of Schuyler recently purchased the quarter section known as the Gene Hubbard place. . . Mrs. Clara Oleson gave a watermelon

party for young folks of the community last evening. . . Miss Anna Scholer living southeast of Chambers, was married to Robert Kreisiger of Ewing September 30. . . "Brady" Hubbard served eight gallons of ice cream to customers and callers at the opening of his Service Station last Saturday. . . Mary, the little daughter of Frank Musil of O'Neill was brought to Chambers Wednesday for treatment of a broken arm.

## Ewing News

By Mrs. Harold Harris

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Dierks took their daughter, Mrs. Paul Waters and son, Douglas, to Omaha Sunday where they left by plane for their home in Los Angeles, Calif. They had spent the past six weeks with her parents and also with relatives in Atlantic, La., and Omaha. Dr. Waters, who had a shorter vacation, left Thursday to return home by car. Eight new members joined the Christian Mothers of St. Peters

church when they met Tuesday evening at St. Dominic's hall. They are Mmes. Walter Sojka, Carl Chmiel, Merle Sell, Don Vandersnick, Richard Kallhoff, Gary Tesmer, Frank Sliozski and Esther Sliozski. Mrs. John Miller presided at the business meeting. Mrs. Jerry Tomjack, legislative chairman, gave a report on recent acts of legislation and urged members to keep informed on the subject. Mrs. Tesmer, spiritual chairman, gave an article on "Temper". A skit pertaining to family life and the use of money was presented by a cast in charge of Mrs. Richard Cunningham, rural life chairman.

Mrs. Tomjack gave a report on the archdiocese meeting recently held at Columbus.

The annual fall deanery meeting will be held at Emmet October 24, and the day of recollection at O'Neill November 9. Refreshment hostesses were Mmes. Martin VanConet, Roy Rotherham, James Rotherham and Roy Vandersnick.

Mrs. Catherine Indra, Home Extension agent, O'Neill, gave the lesson and demonstration to the Extension clubs of the Ewing Center at the home of Mrs. J. L.

Pruden Thursday afternoon.

The Womens Society of Christian Service met at the parlors of the Ewing Methodist church Wednesday afternoon, with a good attendance. Devotions and the lesson were in charge of Mrs. Willis Rocky, assisted by Mmes. Henry Fleming, Ray Sedivy, James Tinsley and Harry Van Horn. At the business session, topics of discussion were a bake sale October 14 sponsored by the churches of Ewing for the Leon Hahbeck fund, the annual birthday party of the Society October 19 and the election day dinner in November. November 1, date of the next meeting, will be cookie day for the members whose names begin with M to Z.

Reports were given by Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Earl Van Ostrand. Card of thanks was received from Mrs. Louis Pofahl and several of the out-of-town members who attended the seminar held in Ewing last month.

Cards were sent to Mrs. Frank Schmidt, Mrs. Pofahl and Leon Hahbeck. Each member sent a message by tape recording to Mrs. R. G. Rocky, Florida. Guests were Mrs. C. H. Bennett and Pam, Mrs. Darlene Dietz

and the following teachers of the Ewing public school who were luncheon guests: Lena Baker, Mmes. Amber Schlotman, Shirley Jorgenson, Beulah Black, Fern Rexine, Neva Bergstrom and Leona Shoemaker. Hostesses were Mrs. Tinsley and Mrs. Ray Sedivy.

Mrs. Frank Schmidt is a patient at the Antelope Memorial hospital Neligh, for a physical checkup and treatment.

Mrs. Ralph Eacker transacted business in Tilden Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Olson attended a family reunion Sunday at the Oscar Wilson home, Eling, October 1, honoring their daughter, Mrs. Allan York, Seattle, Wash.

Try the Frontier Want Ads.

### Electric Motors

Rebuilding — Rebuilding  
Call 248-W — 24-hr. Service

Northwest Electric  
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# Cadillac



The word for it is... "Masterful!"

"Superb" . . . "luxurious" . . . "beautiful" . . . "brilliant"—there are many words that might be used to describe the new 1962 Cadillac car.

But if we were to select from the Cadillac vocabulary the one word that most completely captures the essence of this latest "car of cars"—we would choose "masterful".

For here is a motor car that has already established its mastery in everything that makes an automobile good and fine and desirable.

In appearance, it is clearly a Cadillac masterpiece—graceful, clean-lined and elegant.

In performance, it is a revelation. Its power plant is a reservoir of silken power—and the car rides

and handles with an instinctive ease and sureness.

In safety, it is in a class of its own—with a host of exclusive features, including remarkable new side cornering lights.

In craftsmanship, it is simply without rival. Every 1962 Cadillac will undergo more than 1400 inspections to assure its quality and goodness.

On and on the list could go. But however lengthy, that list could never replace the experience of inspecting the car and driving it.

Your dealer will happily let you do both.

Once you have, you'll understand why the word has gone out so quickly that this is the finest motor car ever to bear the Cadillac name.

VISIT YOUR LOCAL AUTHORIZED CADILLAC DEALER

VAN VLECK MOTORS, INC.

127 NORTH FOURTH ST., O'NEILL

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**No Hunting**  
WITHOUT PERMISSION  
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15¢ TO 69¢ EACH  
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See your electrical contractor

It makes "Better Living . . . Electrically" even better because every electrical convenience delivers peak efficiency!



CONSUMERS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT