

Prairieland Talk

# "Try the Old Man Once"

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, 4111 South 51st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

A flash of lightning and Andy Potter lay dead down by Dry Creek south of O'Neill. He and two friends were on a wild duck hunt out that way, caught in a thunder storm and one of them lay dead. Potter had lived on a ranch in southern Holt county before coming to town to take over the hotel management of the town's first pretentious hostelry that stood at Fourth and Fremont streets, later burned. His sister and brother were operating Hotel Evans, now the Western. Lightning — look out! Mrs. Saunders and I were awakened a night some twenty years ago as we lay sleeping in our bed at home five miles west of Amelia, awakened by the thunder storm. Then suddenly our house was lit up, and I jumped out of bed to hasten to a window to look out. A hay stack some forty rods from our buildings was on fire, a bolt of lightning did it. But rain prevented the spread of fire. A horse out in the pasture was killed by lightning that night, but the owner of that horse did not do as one gent did who had once heard of. One of his horses was killed by lightning which made that fellow so mad that he cursed and swore, shook a defiant fist at that over-hanging cloud and shouted "Try the Old Man once". The thunder cloud responded and that man fell dead under a bolt of lightning.



Romaine Saunders

The officer escorted the convicted man from his stately mansion in our Capital City to the state prison at the southwest limits of Lincoln where he will be for the next four years, having been convicted of a crime. No it is not the teenagers and ignorant and unlearned among us that are up to all the devilment. Here is a cultured informed medical man, a citizen of our Capital City, led away to prison because first being led away by the Devil.

During my brief Memorial Day visit to O'Neill I happened to bump into my good friend Walter O'Malley, that sturdy north Holt county ranchman. He told me it had been a hard winter in his region and 20 new born calves of his had died. When I suggested that at his age he retire from the cowboys job and come to town he turned a longing vision toward California, but his poodle dog was holding him still to Holt county Prairieland. His sister Miss Elizabeth, now 93 years of age and most of her long life spent in the O'Neill community is now with her younger sister in Omaha. The O'Malley family were among the early pioneers of Holt county.

Sunday closing laws about everywhere. Maybe Jack and Jim are hoping something can be done to put a stop to having to milk those cows one day each week, watering and feeding the livestock and tossing corn out to chickens.

Once again You and I and most all of us stood by the graves of our dear dead ones, placed there a bunch of flowers and recalled memories of the past. From our Capital City to where my dear are buried it is 250 miles, along green robed open country and through several towns out on beautiful Prairieland. Turning away from where our lifeless loved ones lay we meet friends who with us cherish memories of pioneer life of the homestead days in good old Holt county. There they lay our own dear ones and friends and neighbors we had known. Yes, one by one the dead are laid to rest and some day we too go under the sod to be called forth to meet our Lord on the resurrection morning. May we all so have lived on this old earth that we may inherit that "home over there". And while yet up and on the go it has been a pleasure to grasp the hand and speak again with friends we had known.

The month of June starts out wet, no roaring tempest but a steady drip from a clouded sky. North Nebraska is well wet up and that great cattle and hay country looks promising for another season. And down here in our Capital City we are pretty well behaved.

On the highway out of O'Neill in the southern regions of Holt county you see a sign by the highway that invites the traveler to go east four miles to the inviting shore of Goose Lake, a beautiful body of water. Holt county has two large lakes and a number of smaller ones.

We looked again at that gleaming white house on south First street, where daughter, who sat beside me, was born and where she had spent her childhood, the white house that had been my home for 25 years. But no fellow beings there today that were there in our day. New homes all about housing those who come along on the march of time. And so it is along the highway of life, here for a time and then gone. We drove about the neighborhood and daughter recalled where this one and that one had made their home, now no more. Yes, now no more, but memory lingers.

We knew it 70 years ago as Hagerty's Lake, a little body of water on west side of Hagerty's quarter section just south of O'Neill. Driving down by there Memorial Day the whole quarter section was under water, but the highway was dry.

# Frontiers Ago

## 50 YEARS AGO

The hitching posts were taken up from along the business streets by order of the city council. M. P. Sullivan and Ellen Mari Murphy were united in wedlock at St. Patrick's church Monday morning. Rev. J. B. Cherry, Ponca, has been secured as pastor at the Presbyterian church in town, he reaches an altitude of six feet four inches. The work of construction began Tuesday on the new hotel.

## 25 YEARS AGO

Canker worms, another pest to be reckoned with, is infesting scores of trees in Holt County. D. C. Schaffer and James W. Rooney returned Friday from a farm credit conference held on Thursday and Friday in Broken Bow. On June 20-21-22 the O'Neill Country club will hold the sixteenth annual golf tournament. Wed Tuesday morning at St. Patrick's church in this city, Miss Eileen Enright became the bride of Thomas Smelek of Norfolk. Mrs. Florence Jensen, state manager, and Mrs. G. A. Miles, state president, attended a district meeting of the Woodman Circle held Saturday at Chadron.

## 10 YEARS AGO

William McIntosh was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce June 1. Elgin Ray new Lions Club head. 31st annual gold tourney will be held June 14. Marilyn Fritton graduated from St. Catherine's school of nursing in Omaha, June 5. Marriage licenses were issued to Donald Grant Walton and Miss Irene Norman Jackson both of O'Neill, June 6. The first television set in the community was installed recently in the Lambert Bartak home.

## 5 YEARS AGO

Miss Elizabeth Schaffer was graduated from the University of Nebraska Monday. 170 attend banquet honoring William J. Froelich. Rev. Robert Duffy is new assistant pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church here. Eight confirmed at Christ Lutheran church. Pat DeBolt and Larry Kruse married in First Presbyterian church. Mrs. Franklin and Kenneth returned Sunday from a week's visit with her sister.

# Venus News

By Mrs. Ralph Brookhouser

Memorial Day guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Faulhaber, were his sister, Mrs. Nora Harshiser and daughter and family, Cedar, Minn. and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Linquist, Plattsmouth.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brookhouser were Sunday evening visitors in the Frank Bartos, sr. home.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Bartos were Monday morning visitors at the Ralph Brookhouser home. Mrs. Fred Uhler visited in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerhardt Luebecke were Monday evening visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Heggemeyer and Eddie.

The hard rain in this vicinity Monday night damaged a lot of trees. It is believed a small twister hit in an area near the George Heggemeyer and Ernie Boelter farms. Four windows were blown out in the latter's home.

Ernest Smith, Santa Ana, Calif., visited in the Fred Uhler home Monday and Tuesday. Ernest is a former resident of Knox County.

Saturday overnight guests in the Ralph Brookhouser home were Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Davey, Bellevue, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Brookhouser and Jeffrey spent

Sunday with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Davey called at the Roscoe Groeling, Arden Laursen and Russell Ickler homes Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Boelter and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Caskey visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Block, Neligh, Monday evening.

Annett Uhler spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Uhler. Annett resigned from her employment at the Verdigre bank and entered Wayne State Teachers college June 4. She accompanied Marlen Soucek and Mrs. Henry Vonasek to Wayne.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cihlar and daughters and Mrs. Paul Cihlar were Thursday evening visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kinnison.

**FEDERAL LAND BANK**  
Real Estate Loans  
On Farms and Ranches  
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Through Federal Land Bank Assn.  
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Lyle P. Dierks, Mgr., O'Neill, Nebr.

# ROYAL THEATRE

Thurs. June 14  
Family Night  
Alan Ladd Shelly Winters  
"SASKATCHEWAN"  
Fri-Sat. June 15-16  
Audie Murphy Dan Duryea  
Joan O'Brien  
"6 BLACK HORSES"  
Sun.-Mon.-Tues.-Wed.-Thurs. June 17-18-19-20-21  
Rock Hudson Doris Day  
Tony Randall  
"LOVER COME BACK"

Mrs. Irwir Held entertained the Help U club in her home Wednesday, June 6. The hostess served dinner at noon. The afternoon was spent doing needle work for the hostess. Mrs. George Jeffrey received the door prize. Mrs. Kenneth Waring will have the next meeting.

**DR. D. E. DAVID**  
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Complete Visual Care  
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By Appointment Phone 2101  
8th floor, Nebraska

# It happened 100 YEARS ago

The oldest incorporated trade association in the country, the United States Brewers Association, was organized in 1862... the same year that



Sketch of first homestead in the Nebraska Territory

IN NEBRASKA the people cheered when they learned Congress had passed the Homestead Act, making it possible for them to get free land in the territory. Throughout the west the event was toasted with foaming steins of beer.

For then, as now, beer was the traditional beverage of moderation — light, sparkling refreshment that adds a touch of Western Hospitality to any occasion. Nebraskans have always enjoyed the good fellowship that goes with every glass.

TODAY in its centennial year, the United States Brewers Association still works constantly to assure maintenance of high standards of quality and propriety wherever beer and ale are served.



Nebraska Division UNITED STATES BREWERS ASSOCIATION, INC. Lincoln

Editorial

# Those Square Envelopes

**Dakota County Star**  
There's a new post office directive which is scheduled to become effective next January 1 which may not be too popular.

If you gals have any thank you notes or greeting cards which go into square envelopes you'd better use them up before January 1.

After that date, envelopes having shapes other than rectangular are non-mailable. The post office department says envelopes of standard sizes and shapes are essential to the economical handling of mail. In addition, envelopes less than three inches in height or 4 1/2 inches in length will not be permitted.

Envelopes more than 9 inches in height or 12 inches in length, are not recommended. Neither are envelopes having a ratio of height to length of less than 1 to 1.414 (1 to the square root of 2).

Handling junk mail at a tremendous loss — mail that folks didn't want in the first place and usually toss into a waste paper basket — is permissible for the Post Office Department.

But square envelopes, even though bearing enough first class postage to pay its fair share of the postal distribution cost, are taboo. It looks like all the squares which should be eliminated are not in envelopes.

## Faulty and Dangerous

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States has succinctly and compellingly summed up the main arguments against providing medical benefits under the Social Security system, to be financed by increased SS taxes. They run like this:

The proposed program is compulsory. Employers and employees would have to pay for it whether or not they wanted to participate.

It is not needed. Private insurance plans are available in ever-increasing numbers for those needing and wanting health insurance. The Kerr-Mills Act of 1960, which provides aid under a federal-state system for those who cannot afford a private plan, hasn't been given a chance to prove its effectiveness.

It would pervert the Social Security system. For

the first time, a beneficiary would be forced to accept part of his benefits in the form of government-paid service instead of cash. He'd have no choice in the matter.

It is unfair. A young married couple would be forced to pay higher Social Security for a lifetime to finance health benefits for wealthier older citizens who have contributed relatively little to the fund. It can be added that people of large means can, and do, draw Social Security payments, so long as they don't work at a paying job.

It is illusory. Many aged people seem to think the program would take care of all their medical costs. In fact, it would cover only a part of hospital and nursing home expenses. It is said that for the average older person, only about a fourth of his health and medical costs would be met.

No one minimizes the medical problems of the aged. But those problems would be compounded, rather than solved, by the faulty and dangerous Social Security approach.



BILL RICHARDSON, Publisher  
BRUCE J. REHBERG, Editor

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# The Long Ago At Chambers

## 50 YEARS AGO

Try a chocolate ice cream soda at Wood's place. Taste it you will not waste it. Adv. Flora Grimes and Lovena Adams left Monday morning for Peru, Neb., where they will attend the Peru Normal this summer. Rev. Eggleston came out Sunday to perform the baptismal services of the Methodist church held at the creek near A. E. Holcomb's, a good many being sprinkled and several immersed. The farmers are rejoicing over the heavy rain which fell Wednesday morning as the ground was beginning to get quite dry. Born to Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Jones Sunday, a fine baby girl. Charles Allen has purchased a new Oakland car from John Nelson of Atkinson. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Walters Saturday a boy. We haven't seen Charles yet but expect he will soon be able to be around.

## 25 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Nancy White conducted the services at Swan Lake Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Medical departed last Friday early to take their daughter, Miss Elizabeth, to Chadron for summer school at the state normal. The Glee Grimes Family drove to Wayne Sunday, taking Dorothy there to attend the summer college term. Over eighty guests were entertained at the home of Mrs. Arthur Walters and Mrs. J. A. O. Woods, the occasion being a shower for Mrs. Hale Osborn (nee Thelma Cooper). The fair days for this year are September 7-8-9-10.

**McDONALD'S**  
J. M. McDONALD CO.

## GIFTS THAT HAIL THE MALE ON FATHER'S DAY

**SUNDAY JUNE 17**

To Dad... for the best supporting role of the year!

**FREE-ACTION COTTON KNIT SHIRT**

A comfortable shirt every man will enjoy wearing

A gift for Dad... One he'll love!

**2.98**

EACH

Dad will be as cool as a breeze in this shirt, whether he's a golfer or just an expert on picnics! Wonderful free action style with rib knit raglan sleeves, extra long shirt tail; 100% combed cotton in white, lemon, blue, sage green, black. S-M-L.

The most popular style of the season for men!

**TROPICAL LEISURE SLACKS FOR SUMMER**

He's assured of looking his best in these Ivy styles, single pleat front. Sizes: 29 to 40

**7.95**

Skillfully tailored of 55% Dacron® polyester, 45% rayon worsted fabrics, these slacks are crease resistant, wash and wear for easy summer care. Either Ivy style or single pleat front in this season's newest dark tones. Perfect slacks for summer!

For the hot summer months ahead!

**MEN'S SHORT SLEEVE WHITE DRESS SHIRTS**

For cool comfort and style too!

**2.99**

Finest quality imported dress shirt of 65% Dacron® polyester, 35% combed Pima cotton batiste. Button trimmed notched cuffs, semi-spread collar, two pockets. Buy two shirts at this low price and save!

Five year guaranteed

**Men's Nylon Socks**

One size fits all

**79c**

3 pairs 2.25

Stretch nylon socks are always welcome gifts, one size fits all so there's no guessing. 18 assorted solid colors to choose from.

For the well-dressed man!

**B. V. D. DACRON TIES**

100% Dupont Dacron® polyester

Assorted styles **1.50**

Smart wash 'n wear ties, no pressing required; each tie is unconditionally guaranteed, will not fray, fuzz or wrinkle. Smart embroidered panels, stripes.

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