

PrairieLand Talk

"Wintertime Is Here Again"

By ROMAIN SAUNDERS, 4113 South 51st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

A cold December day. Snow and ice across the streets and lawns. Here we are another wintertime has come. Some of us have survived many, many winters. Now another month will bring the anniversary of the great blizzard. When Grandma Chaplin was one among others found frozen to death the morning after that terrible blizzard. Here in the capital city we have an organization that perpetuates the memory of that terrible day. I was within ten minutes of being caught out on the road that morning. But I did not get going and so I am still here to tell again the story of that historic event.



Romaine Saunders

He started life in O'Neill in the day of the horse and wagon. With a team and wagon he went at it and did hauling of goods from the depot to the store and homes. He prospered. He finally married and had a very nice home at Third and Everett Streets. But passed from the team and wagon days to the automobile and became one of northern Nebraska's most prominent automobile dealers also running what we call filling stations today. There on the corner of Fifth and Douglas Streets. And from his modest little home on Third and Everett Streets he moved to the town's best residential area on the east side. He had one son who proved to be not at all like his good father, J. B. Mellor.

Fern Hubbard Orme elected again as state senator representing a district in the capital city informs me the State Legislature will meet promptly at noon January 1 and no doubt a voice will be heard saying, "I move that we adjourn until this hour tomorrow". Another voice will be heard to say, "I second the motion". Senator Orme is the only woman serving as a state senator and is doing a good job of it. She came from Holt County and was a school girl in O'Neill when the Hubbard family lived there over on the east side. She came with her parents to Lincoln and finished her education at the State University and got into public life soon after that. She was elected a member of the Lincoln city council where she served for some time with credit to herself. Then the next step along the way in public life she became a state senator where she is doing a very excellent job of it. What next will this Holt County girl be up to? A candidate to be Nebraska's first woman governor?

The southern states are being hit hard by jack frost this December. Below zero weather! Throughout the country snow and ice. A cold December we are having. Maybe we must go north now to get warm instead of going south. A cold morning! Stay in bed and sleep!

Editorial

The Aspects of Christmas

There are two almost equally ancient but very different aspects of Christmas. The day, and the season, would be empty if either were missing. A century and a half ago Sir Walter Scott charmingly described one of them in his Marmion: "Heap on more wood!—the wind is chill; But let it whistle as it will, We'll keep our Christmas merry still."

This is the Christmas of celebration, whatever the vagaries of weather. It is the Christmas of gift-giving, of feasting, of good talk, of remembrances of old days and old companions. Above all, it is the Christmas of children, awed and delighted by the tree with its lights and decorations, with the wonderful, living and breathing illusion that is Santa Claus, with the excitement of opening their presents, and with the magnificent music that has expressed the spirit and hope of Christmas for generations beyond counting.

The other aspect is the meaning of Christianity, which it is the purpose of Christmas to symbolize. This, unhappily, is the aspect that in the hurried, materialistic modern world is so often forgotten.

The fundamental, all-important purpose of Christianity can be very simply stated: Love of God and a love for fellow-man equal to that we hold for ourselves. From this concept stems the Christian principles of honor, duty, forgiveness, and tolerance.

Anyway the ice and snow has silenced the noisy lawnmowers.

I do not know his name. I never did know his name, but I see him again as he stands there by the Post Office building on South Fourth Street dressed in his boots, his leather breeches, buckskin jacket and handkerchief about his neck and a big hat. On each side hung his six-shooters which he would use on a moments notice if needed. Just a picture from the past, from the long ago, in the days of Doc Middleton. He was not of that group but from the prairie range and in those days there was one of the Blincoes who had a shooting gallery where if one hit the target he would get a cigar or something. And that fellow from the range could step up and show us how it was done.

It may have been mentioned before in this department that few if any communities had the able citizens that we had here in O'Neill in days now gone. There was Congressman Kincaid, W. D. Matthews who founded the FRONTIER, James H. Riggs who succeeded him, R. R. Dixon who ended his life as district judge, M. F. Harrington, Art Mullen, James A. Donohue, S. J. Weeks and several others now no more. All laid to rest. But the community continues to grow and expand and there are able citizens here today.

At this time of year the river and little pond holes just south of town were frozen to ice. And we young blades with our skates went down to the ice covered spots and put on our skates and cut circles on the ice. There was Jim Davidson, Guy Green, Sam Thompson, Frank Mann, Harry Gillespie, and our girl friends: Minnie Selkirk, Inez Smith, Mazie Darr, Tammie Norval and the others. There we were a group of the rising generation showing them how to do it on the ice. Is young America of the O'Neill community on their skates today? I wonder. And then we had the roller skating rink where we put on the skates and rolled around the floor for a while. Matty Mann one of the best and Jimmy Riggs the champion of us all. And we had our fun.

It was in the year 1888 in the early summer our house from my father's homestead was moved into O'Neill. And it was located on a lot on what is now South First street in the 300 block. Two rooms added onto it and other changes made. It was the home of my mother and her parents and my two sisters and brother after my father had died. In that house five of my parental family died and when it became my home after my marriage, five of my sons and daughters were born there. In the year 1910 I disposed of the place and for a number of years it was the home of L. G. and Mrs. Gillespie. The house has been modernized and stands today a pleasant residence.

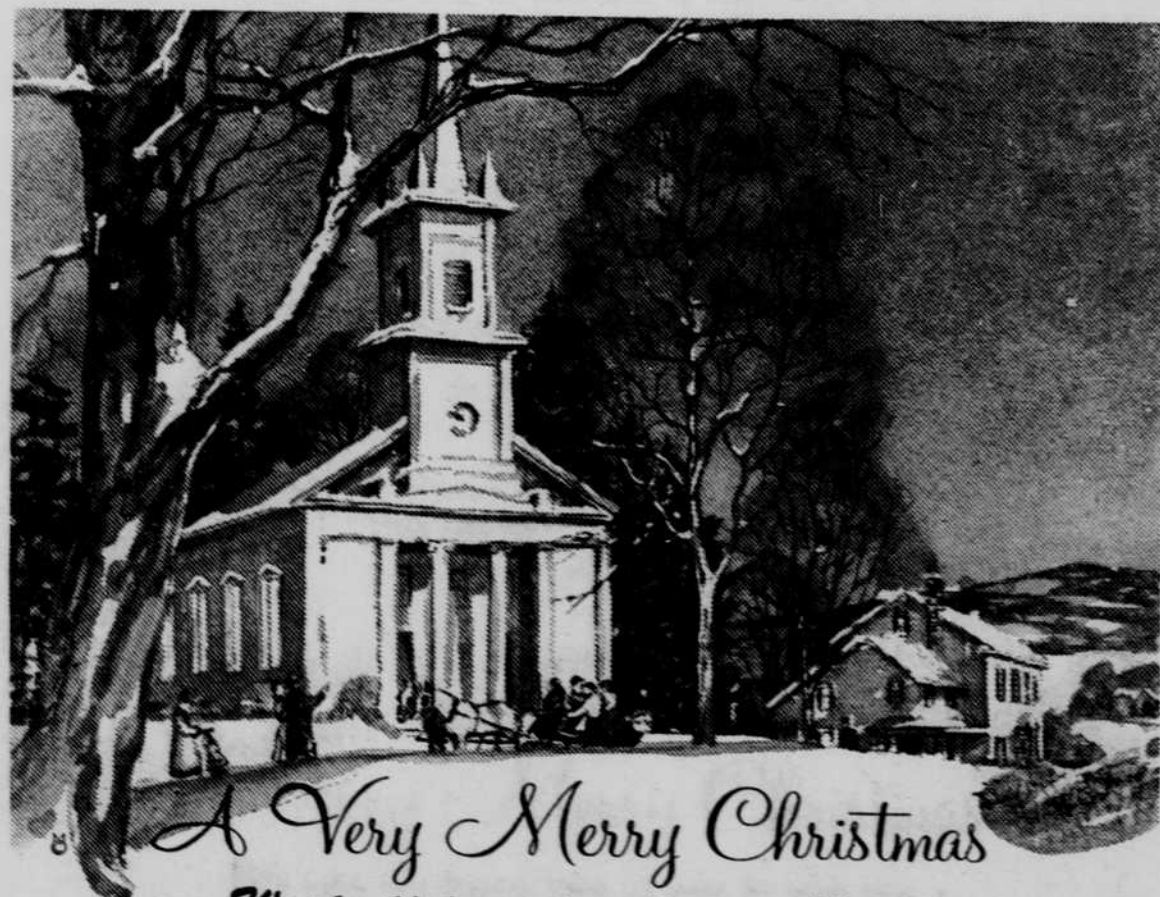
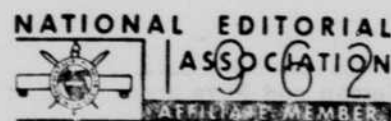
All the other great religions have a comparable base. This year, as every year, there will be Christmas celebrations throughout much of a weary world. The question is whether Christian principles, bringing peace and solace and understanding to peoples, will ultimately prevail.

THE FRONTIER

BILL RICHARDSON, Publisher
BRUCE J. REHBERG, Editor

Terms of Subscription: In Nebraska, \$2.50 per year; elsewhere in the United States, \$3 per year, rate abroad provided upon request. All subscriptions payable in advance.

Entered at the postoffice in O'Neill, Holt county, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. This newspaper is a member of the Nebraska Press Association, National Editorial Association and the Audit Bureau of Circulations.



A Very Merry Christmas

We take this happy time of year to wish you all the joys of the Holiday Season, and to join all men of good will in a prayer for worldwide peace and understanding. May your Holidays be merry and bright!

MEYER'S MIDWEST FURNITURE
O'NEILL NEBRASKA

Wise Buys For Your Holiday House!



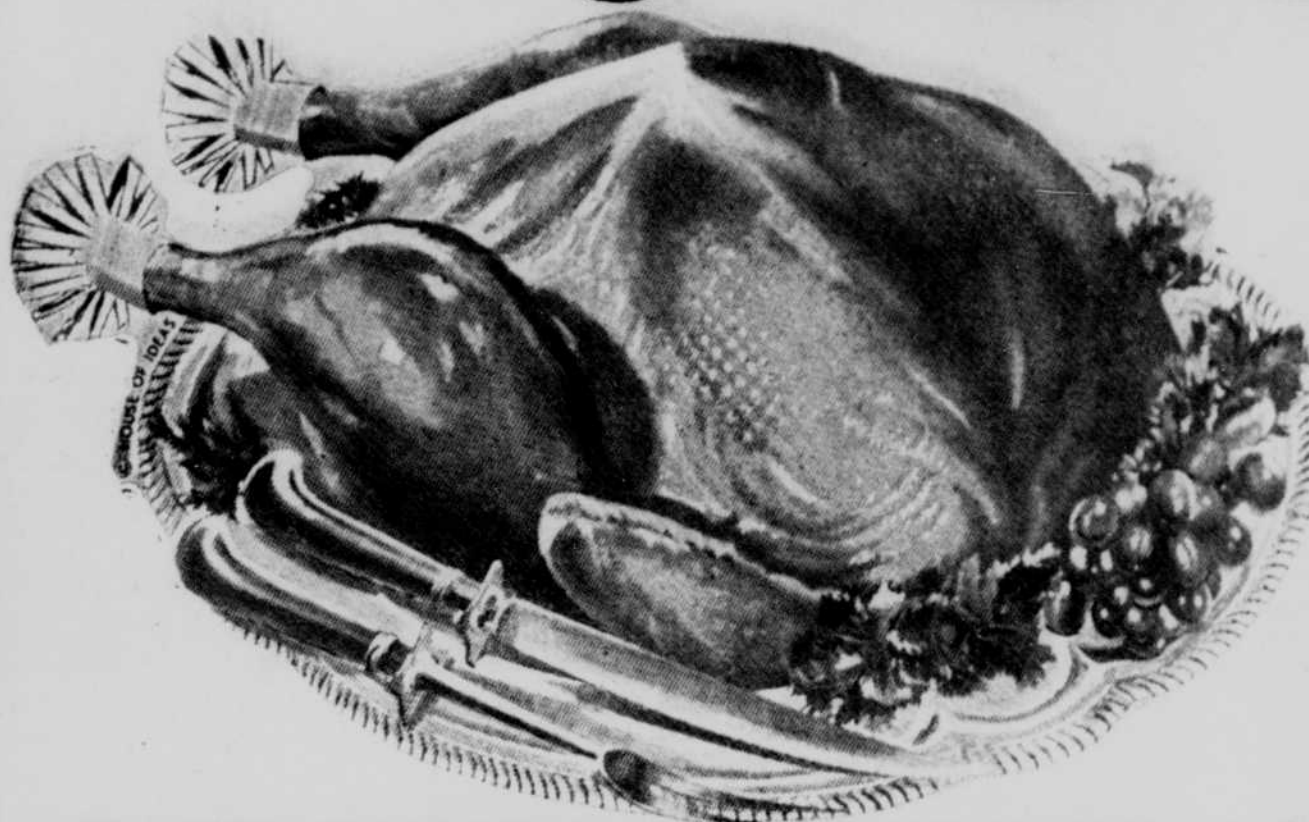
Lean Boneless
PORK CUTLETS ... Lb. 59c
U. S. D. A. Choice
CHUCK STEAK ... Lb. 69c
Lean Meaty Large
SPARE RIBS ... Lb. 49c
Armours Columbia
SLICED BACON ... 3 lbs. \$1
U.S.D.A. INSPECTED

West Coast
OYSTERS ... 12-oz. 79c
Lean Semi-boneless
PORK STEAK ... Lb. 43c
Fillet of Ocean
CATFISH ... Lb. 39c
Armour Star Cello Pkg.
FRANKFURTERS ... 1-lb. 49c

Lean Boston Butt
PORK ROAST
Lb. 33c

Young 4 to 8 lbs.
Beltsville — Parts Missing

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Per Lb.

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Lb. 19c
Firm Crisp
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FRUIT PIES
APPLE
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PEACH
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MEAT PIES Chicken-Beef-Turkey .. 6 for \$1

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3 No. 2 1/2 cans
7 303 cans

Heinz
KETCHUP
14-oz. bottles **19^c**

Jiffy — Assorted
CAKE MIX
Pkg. **8^c**

Northern
TISSUE
Pkg. **5^c**

MERRY XMAS

Dear Mr. and Mrs. O'Neill and Vicinity,
We would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas. The Outlaws P.S. That our employees may spend Xmas Eve with their families we will close at 6 pm.

THE NEW **OUTLAW**