

Prairieland Talk

Nineties Were 'Burdensome'

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN—In the last issue of the Nebraska History magazine a writer looks back to draw a picture of farm life in eastern Nebraska during the 1890's and assays to compare what he terms "exceedingly burdensome" farm life of the past with today's power machinery farming.

A farmer today has the price of a farm invested in tractors, harvesters, corn pickers and fancy rigs of various kinds. The farmer of a generation ago who had 80 acres, four horses, a milk cow or two, chickens, a plow, a cultivator and planter, was well fixed, he and his family as independent as a ...



Romaine Saunders

Today you see them here and there loitering about town and wondering if a check from Uncle Sam will be in the next mail.

Farmers of our grandfathers' day managed their work and its fruits without government interference and were successful. In an eastern Nebraska farming community where I spent a year or two in the community village in the 1890's, farmers dressed for the day come in to town in their two-seated carriages, a span of blacks or bays with their harness adorned with tassels and celluloid rings, the family attending church and entering into fellowship with neighbor, talked politics and concluded that the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 would fill all pockets with cash.

Arbor day last month when here and there a tree was planted in memory of a pioneer patriot of the Nebraska City community who had fathered the day and bankers and public officials shut up shop for the day. This month a day is dedicated in which to honor the mothers of America. Well may the mothers of not only America but of the world be honored not just one day but day-by-day. Mothers of America smile and rejoice, and sons and daughters crown them with the laurels that love and devotion inspire. Womanhood in many lands is enslaved to the traditions of men. Motherhood—many now only a cherished memory. But they, too, join with any whose mother is among the living and wave a greeting to motherhood everywhere. As the month of May draws to a close we lay our floral tributes upon a grave. Memorial day, first dedicated to the soldier dead, now country-wide observed in memory of the loved and lost who have heard the bugle call of eternity. On earth's last camping ground their silent abodes are spread, and the living ever hold in cherished memory the spot that marks the bivouac of our dead.

With fist doubled up, maybe jealously inspired, the male candidates for the same post of honor escorted their representative to court to secure an injunction preventing the name of a female appearing on the primary ballot. The court didn't see it their way. The voters of the 20th senatorial district now have the opportunity to add to our state legislature the refining influence of a cultured and scholarly lady by promoting her nomination and election. When I mentioned this to a girl clerk serving me in a store, she exclaimed, "Now you're talkin'!"

Auto production is taking a drop. It seems that many a poor man has decided to get along with one car.

Editorial

No Time to Work

An interesting item was recently published in the Chattanooga Times, and it explained how the average person spends his life.

To begin with, he spends one-third of his life asleep. He spends another four years talking with people, but women spend five years in conversation with others.

A man, it is estimated, uses about five months of his lifetime trying to tie his shoe laces. He spends another five years washing and shaving, and up to four years in smoking up a quarter of a ton of tobacco.

Telephone calls require one year of the average life span, and some six months are spent playing cards. For some of the fair readers, we would raise this to about six years.

Six years are spent eating and drinking, and three years are spent being sick. For the average person, about five years are spent in going to and from work, and this figure is likely to go up as more move to the cities and as the cities grow larger and larger.

The main point in all of this tabulating is that, after we spend all these years doing these things, very little is left for working. The time consumed in all the above pursuits approaches 50 years, and, therefore, probably less than 20 years are left for working, when it is considered there are many other time-consumers not included in the above.

In all of the items listed, it may be seen that the greatest opportunity for time-saving is to be found in the field of smoking, traveling to and from work and tying one's shoe laces. Also a great deal of time can be saved if one washed and shaved less.

We suggest that those who do not want to stop smoking should ease up on telephone conversations, shoe-lace-tying and washing and shaving. If, however, you wish to smoke, and want to wear shoes with laces, then we suggest you work at home.

The ideal situation would be to work at home, not smoke, not wear shoes with laces and not to wash too often.

The Weapons Race

Is the Soviet Union winning the race toward a superior air force, H-bomb supremacy, and the inter-continental ballistic missile? Through a maze of technical details it becomes increasingly difficult for a layman in the United States to form an opinion on whether his country's efforts in this field are enough, too much, or too little.

Defense Secretary Wilson has said wisely that it is easy to put "too much emphasis on one thing alone" in attempting this assessment. General LeMay, chief of the strategic air command, may be accurate in saying that Russia is building long-range jet bombers faster than the United States and will exceed the SAC's striking power by 1960. But by that time it may be more important to know what kind of plane America can put into the air in place of the B-52 and the Soviet Union in place of its Bison than how many either nation can produce.

(Similarly, it may be of crucial importance, as

When the territory lying between the Missouri and Niobrara rivers was detached from the Rosebud Indian reservation just north of Holt county and was organized into a county, it became known as Boyd county. The governor of Nebraska at that time was Mr. Boyd, and as other counties in the state had taken on the name of the governor occupying the executive office of our state at the time the new county was organized, so our neighbor to the north became known as Boyd county. The Indians moved out and settlers took over by filing on a homestead. The U.S. land office was then in O'Neill in a building where the postoffice now stands. Butte and Spencer were the rival villages to become the county seat. Governor Boyd, by horse and buggy with J. J. McCafferty of Spencer, who was a pioneer O'Neill hardware merchant, escorting him about and holling up with the governor to the right, decided on Butte for the county seat, whereupon a Spencer dame was reported to have exclaimed, "If I had been in McCafferty's place the result would have been different!"

A warning sign—Drive carefully; the life you save may vote republican!

Jamaica is his native land. Tall, lean and maybe hungry when he came to the "beef state" a month ago, dark of skin and speech of the colored race. He is here to get an education and pays his way by work about the institution's grounds, barns, farms and factories. Invited to stop a minute and talk but his work urged him on. And then came three 7-year-olds, two boys and a girl just out of school. The white haired lad and black haired girl stuck together. "Is that your girl friend?" the lad was asked. "Naw!"—boy fashion, while the girl squirmed. They changed the subject by telling me a policeman visited their school that day and showed them how handcuffs work. A pleasant 10 minutes with a clergyman who permits neither dignity nor ecclesiastical rank to rob him of human interests and heart-to-heart fellowship. A lady watering her lawn suggests going to work—1 move on! The day is done.

The month of May, when prairieland puts on a robe of green verdure that adorns the far reaching landscape. But tonight it is starless and intensely dark. The drum of raindrops from roof and windowsill drum a rhythmic cadence as the drops fall to earth. The rain assures us another seed time and harvest, a harvest of grain, of the varied fruits of the ground, apples and plums and berries to pluck from tree and bush. Insects and birds on the wing, jack rabbits and cockspur crows are about, herds of Herefords and Angus and the aristocratic Shorthorns are on the summer ranges. Long summer days coming down time's restless highway, the pink flash of dawn, the golden glow of calm evening, the whistle of the curlew, the song of the lark ushering in the hush of evening on prairieland.

Prairieland patriots rest until daylight comes. The wise ones of the East this time of year start on what they call daylight saving time. How daylight is saved is not clear to the compiler of this department. Save a dollar by not spending it. The day dawns, noontime glare, the gathering shadows, of night march along the highway of time regardless of what the hands of the clock indicate.

Now that we've learned to travel at super-sonic speed, perhaps in something less than the next one thousand years we can drum up a good excuse for going that fast.

Cement Walks Now West of Hotel

2 New Homes Under Construction

50 Years Ago Cement walks have been laid at the Dewey hotel, making one block of cement walks west from the hotel. Mrs. Anna Kellar Hoffman, about 30, died at the home of her brother, John Kellar, in Chambers of heart failure. Her parents, the J. S. Kellars, founded the Kellar Presbyterian church. Mrs. George Laphier of Phoenix entertained at a quilting party. Her guests were Mesdames Golder, Bell Keeler, McMain, Coburn, F. Damerio, H. Damerio, G. Parshall, B. Parshall and Finke, also Misses Damerio and Coburn. During the rain storm the home of Levi Huff north of Stuart was struck by lightning. A dog was killed.

20 Years Ago Two basements of new houses have been completed and work on the structures will start soon. They belong to Mrs. Georgia Rasley and Mr. and Mrs. William J. Froelich. Patrons go to school day was observed in the public school. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pongratz and Ivan Pruss of Pleasant Dale were dinner guests Wednesday at the Ed Heels home. Mr. and Mrs. Otto Hoehne and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Welsh have named their new daughters Delores. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Deval of Meek were given a shower at the Orville Harrison home.

10 Years Ago Michael H. McCarthy, prominent oldtime citizen, died after being struck by a car in an "unavoidable accident" while crossing Douglas street. Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Matichuk of Page received word their daughter, Mrs. Alice Hill, has been transferred from the navy base at Kearney, Calif. to the marine base at San Diego, Calif. Registrants discharged recently were: Frank J. Jungman, Virgil M. Pock and Eugene L. Gesrieck, all of Atkinson; Edward J. Funk and George M. Adrian, both of Ewing, and John V. Moler of O'Neill.

One Year Ago Danny Ryan was killed by a car. Mrs. Agnes Soukup, 88, mother and 13 and a native of Bohemia, died. Dorothy Kamphaus and Duane Summers and Phyllis J. Seger and Lt. Leslie L. Chisholm, jr., were married. Mother day guests at the Leo Miller home at Riverside were Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Ora Switzer, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miller, Sandra Tellander and Jay Butler. Richard Edwards of the Farmers State bank of Ewing was elected chairman of the village board.

Grothes Will Hold an Open House

EMMET—Mr. and Mrs. William Grothe, jr., who reside northwest of town, on Thursday, May 17, will observe open-house between 2 and 4 p.m., in observance of their 25th wedding anniversary. They will entertain their friends in the evening at a free dance in Atkinson at the Crystal ballroom.

ATTENDS MEETING Miss Bernadette Brennan, Grattan township librarian, last Thursday attended a district meeting of the Nebraska Public Library association. The meeting was held at Ainsworth and Mayor John B. Cassel extended a welcome. Miss Brennan participated in a panel discussion on the topic: "What the future holds for Nebraska libraries?"

Edward McCarthy Home on Visit

Edward McCarthy, who is stationed at Norfolk, Va., with the naval air service, flew to Sioux City Saturday and was met there by his father and brother, George M. McCarthy and Jimmy. They took him back to Sioux City on Sunday morning to catch his plane. He expects to be home in a short time for his leave.

Visit to O'Neill—Mrs. Esther Morgan of Oklahoma City, Okla., arrived Tuesday to spend a few days with Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Jones.

St. Patrick's Altar bake sale Saturday, May 12, till 4, at Shelhamer's Jack and Jill. 2c

Farm and Home Owners!

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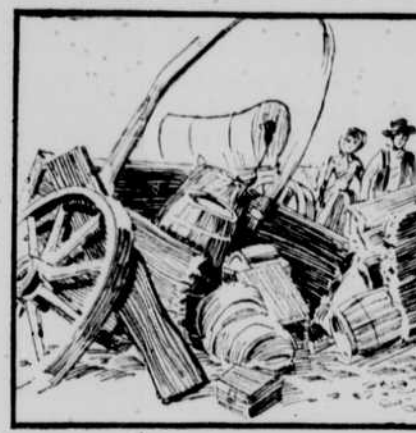
Betrothal Told

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Miller of O'Neill announce the engagement of their daughter, Joyce Miller (above) and John C. Christ, jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Christ, sr., of Peru. The couple plans a late summer wedding. Both are instructors in the Bloomfield public schools.

Urge Attendance at Deanery Meet

LYNCH—Mrs. Harry Johnson was hostess to the Assumption BVM church Altar society Thursday afternoon, May 3, at her home in Bristow. Rev. Charles Kamber led in the opening and closing prayers. Mrs. Charles Courtney conducted the business meeting. Plans were completed to serve the alumni banquet. The president urged the women to attend the NCCW deanery meeting to be held in O'Neill Thursday, May 17. Mrs. Clare Van Hove and Mrs. Bryan Jones were visitors.

It Happened In NEBRASKA...



The rigors of the Overland Trail often resulted in violent quarrels. It is reported one man and his wife became so enraged at one another, they split their worldly goods "right down the middle." They cut their wagon in two, making a cart of each half, and divided their oxen, each taking two.

OLD-TIME HARDSHIPS are difficult to imagine in these days of pleasant living. One such pleasure is the moment of relaxation we find with a cool, refreshing glass of beer. For beer is always so right... fits so well into every occasion. Keep it on hand—always!

NEBRASKA DIVISION - U. S. BREWERS FOUNDATION, 710 First Nat'l Bank Bldg., Lincoln, Nebr.

75 Ladies Present for Program

STUART—In observation of National Home Extension week the Stuart center, consisting of six clubs, presented a program at the Stuart auditorium. Mrs. Rollo Berry, group chairman, introduced the club chairmen and Mrs. Oliver Ross of O'Neill, chairman of Holt county extension clubs, who gave a report on a home extension meeting she had attended in Omaha on Thursday.

The program consisted of group singing, a skit, "Visiting the Sick," by the Cleveland club. New fabrics on parade were modeled as follows:

Nylon, by the Haydettes; Orlon by the Cleveland Clackers; dacron, by Green Valley; crease resistant cotton, by Happy Hour; dymel and pellen, by Town and Country; and permanent pleated cotton, by Sand Creek.

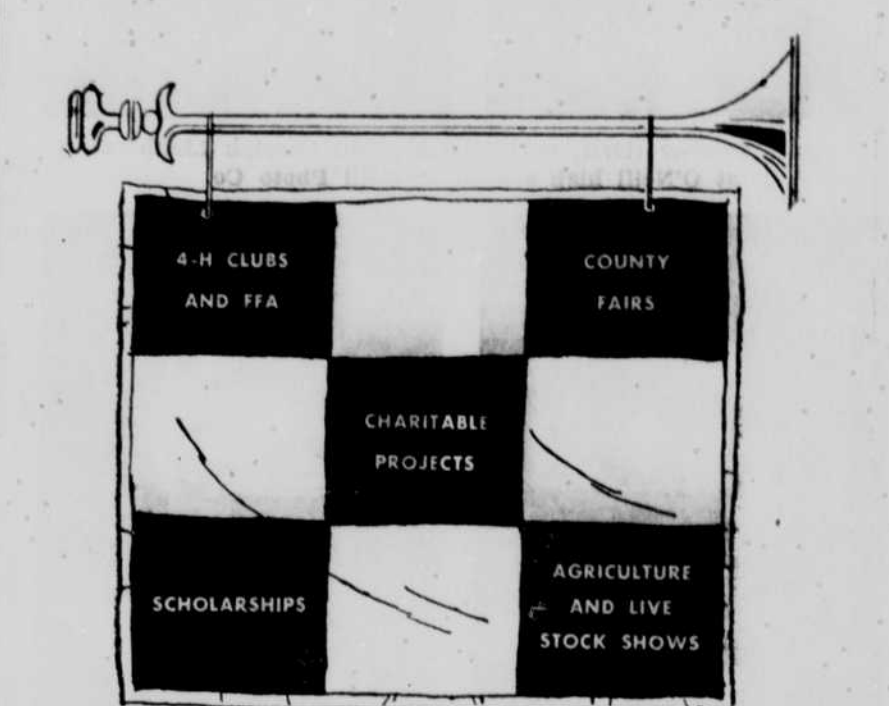
A vocal solo was given by Mrs. Neal Hamilton, "One Fleeting Hour." A film on meats and a film on parallel parking by Mrs. Kathryn Indra of O'Neill, home extension agent followed. There was a tap dance performed by Shirley Skrdla. Following the program a tea was served by the clubs.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

WD—Adolph Latzel to Ludwig V Tagel 4-24-56 \$2400- NE 1/4 NE 1/4 27-25-10
WD—Anna Clare Spence to Meta Ava Ruby 8-27-53 \$1- Lot 2 & North 5 ft lot 3 Blk 19- Ewing
WD—Ivan R Dickerson to Fannie L Dickerson 4-11-45 \$1- Lot 6 Blk A- David Neely's 1st Add- Atkinson
WD—Norman Christiansen to Celia Christiansen 4-28-56 \$1- E 1/2 and NW 1/4 32-26-10
WD—Catherine Priibl to Jacob F Priibl 4-30-56 \$1- E 1/2 NE 1/4 34- Twp 28- Range 11 Reserves life estate
WD—Mary Dusatko to Bernard Dusatko 4-4-56 \$4500- NE 1/4 - W 1/2 3-28-13

QCD—Phyllis Gesrieck to Eugene L. Gesrieck 10-26-55 \$1- Lot 9 Blk 22- Pioneer Townsite Co Add- Stuart
GUARDIANS DEED—Cathryn Adler, Grd to Joseph S Dvorak 3-21-56 \$2000- North 12 ft lot 19 & all lots 20 & 21- Morningside Add- Atkinson
WD—Mame Melvin, et al to George Pongratz 10-21-56 \$15- 500- SW 1/4 - S 1/2 SEK Sec 35-30-11 and N 1/2 NE 1/4 2-29-11
WD—Marie Jensen to Charles Jensen 8-23-54 \$1- Lots 1-2-3-4- Blk D- O'Neill & Haggerty's Add- O'Neill
WD—Thomas & Wm Troczynski to Josephine Bruder 4-27-46 \$600- Lot 1 St. Joseph's Add- Atkinson
WD—Henry Krier to Robert E Larson & wf 4-27-56 \$360- Part SE 1/4 SW 1/4 19-29- Range 11
WD—Vivian Daugherty Childre to Frank Hawk & wf 5-3-50 \$2- 000- Lot 7- Blk 25- Ewing
QCD—Grace Hetzer to John P Berger 4-17-56 \$1- N 1/2 - 7- All 6- E 1/2 - SW 1/4 9-30-10

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