

Prairieland Talk

The Frontier Is 76-Years-Old

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN — The Frontier is 76-years-old. Founded in 1880 by W. D. Mathews, the first editor, seven editorial brilliants have kept the community informed and in florid prose and captivating rhyme have had their say in politics, industry, social, cultural and spiritual affairs. Six of the seven editors are now gone and forgotten, the seventh is still with us. The first editor published a four-page paper, today it comes out with 12 to 16 pages and enters nearly three thousand homes — an all-time high in north-central Nebraska journalism. Twenty other newspapers have passed out of the picture in Holt county since The Frontier began its endless career and has survived two fires and one attempt by an envious rival to wreck the plant without missing an issue. In length of time published continuously, the Atkinson Graphic comes next, started in 1882 by a brother of the founder of The Frontier, Harry Mathews. The Graphic is probably the oldest established business concern in Atkinson, as The Frontier is in O'Neill.



Romaine Saunders

This country journal is the oldest business concern in the county operating continuously under the same title. After 21 hours deliberation, a district court jury in Lincoln's most noted murder trial returned a verdict of guilty of first degree murder, fixing the penalty life imprisonment. The accused defendant in the court action was found guilty of murdering his young wife. The jury had sat for days listening to the story of witnesses and the badgering of attorneys and after mature deliberation brought in the verdict. One charged with a crime, his lawyers and family group resent the findings of a jury that goes against them. They now demand a new trial, say they will take an appeal to the court of last resort if necessary. The American jury, functioning as a judicial body, is the court of last resort and to set aside jury verdicts is an exceedingly rare thing by a court of appeal. The jury of 12 intelligent citizens weighs the evidence, sees the witnesses called to the stand by each side and determines by what they hear and see what the facts are. The jury verdict in murder trials should be and in most cases is final. But it is the privilege of any to go from one court to another while their bank account holds out.

Dr. Ronald F. Lee of the national park service is quoted in a recent State Historical society news letter issued from state headquarters in Lincoln as saying of the society's museum that it "has attracted national attention for the quality of its exhibits, the skill and art work in its presentation and a layout that permits easy flexibility in arranging exhibits." The society's museum at Ft. Robinson will be ready to open to the public early in June.

Baby chicks are being priced at 30 cents each at some hatcheries. Not so long ago we thought we were commercial plutocrats if we got two bits for a fat hen.

Editorial

How Many Deep Wells in Holt?

Taking note of the increasing number of irrigation wells being drilled in the O'Neill region, we recently inquired of a man identified with the business how the extensive use of these wells would affect the underground water level. He quoted a University of Nebraska expert, writing in a Sunday newspaper, stating the underground level is lower now than at this corresponding period a year ago. The writer insisted, however, that the lower level was due to lack of rainfall rather than the increased number of wells. The local expert also referred to the suggestion we hear often these days; namely, it is possible that legislation is needed to regulate deep well irrigation in Nebraska. This talk comes from responsible irrigators and from others who have studied the problem. Most agree we face no immediate crisis but we should look to the future. People generally resent restrictions, especially those that affect them. We wait until the horses are out before we close the barn door. In the matter of natural resources we usually wait until the supply is nearly depleted before legislation for preservation is enacted. Water is the most important element on earth — second only in importance to either dirt or sunshine. Sound legislative planning to protect our underground water supply is in order — now — while we have time to study the problem and to avoid serious mistakes. We are not suggesting harassment or oppressive legislation; rather we have in mind something broad, sensible and unselfish.

Public Indifference

Newspapers across the land, in states where presidential primaries have been held, are deplor-

ably interested in the fact that the level of the underground water supply is lower now than at this corresponding period a year ago. The writer insisted, however, that the lower level was due to lack of rainfall rather than the increased number of wells. The local expert also referred to the suggestion we hear often these days; namely, it is possible that legislation is needed to regulate deep well irrigation in Nebraska. This talk comes from responsible irrigators and from others who have studied the problem. Most agree we face no immediate crisis but we should look to the future. People generally resent restrictions, especially those that affect them. We wait until the horses are out before we close the barn door. In the matter of natural resources we usually wait until the supply is nearly depleted before legislation for preservation is enacted. Water is the most important element on earth — second only in importance to either dirt or sunshine. Sound legislative planning to protect our underground water supply is in order — now — while we have time to study the problem and to avoid serious mistakes. We are not suggesting harassment or oppressive legislation; rather we have in mind something broad, sensible and unselfish.

Is the custom for the gent to take the outside a mark of gallant respect or for his lady to be the object for household dogs to assault as they walks by?

Time writes its wrinkles on the brow of mankind and week-by-week sounds the death call to which another of the community's citizens responds after a lifetime on prairieland. Mary Shoemaker with folded hands, closed eyes and form at rest has traveled the last mile to the cemetery. Doubtless none in the community recall, if any ever had known, that the first home of the Shoemaker family in Holt county, when Mary was a carefree maiden, was three miles east of O'Neill, in a vast sweep of open prairie where none live today—a prairie that once was the home of pioneers, now the abode of wildlings that trot at will where herds graze. The Shoemaker family did not remain permanently in their first prairieland home, reestablishing themselves in the Dry Creek country south of O'Neill. At least two of the original family survive and I wonder if either of the boys recalls their first prairie home in Holt county, along with the years of struggle that the pioneers experienced.

Two Holt county patriots, Richard E. Jonas of O'Neill and Robert Brayton of Stuart, have recently become members of the Nebraska State Historical society. Within the past month a county historical society has been organized at Trenton, Hitchcock county, and the preliminary steps taken to perfect such an organization in Omaha. Holt county is rich in material for such an organization. Maybe with a little encouragement given them by Joel Parker of O'Neill, Mrs. McKee of Atkinson and Will H. Spindler up at Wounded Knee, that rich treasure of historical interest in Holt county could be made available to all with these three and others promoting such a society.

May 5 closed a week set apart by some interested souls as mental health week. Probably as meager results followed as occasions of this kind for other things. Mental ill health more often is heart ache, soul burdened, desolate, alone.

The speaker was Melvin Olson, consultant in school administration, Nebraska department of education.

The seniors are: Abbie Gray, Delora Carson, Ronnie Carson, James Chvala, Velma Crawford, Doris Halstead, Larry Halstead, Harlene Holt, Delores Kalkowski, Donald Lueken, Myrl Merchant, Gary Micanek, Garnet Palmer, Leroy Purviance, William Rosicky, Norma Schindler, Rosalie Sexton, Julian Stewart, Geraldine Stiefvater and Delores Wells.

The eighth grade graduates who also received diplomas are: Russell Birmeyer, Kathleen McDonald, Jean Lueken, Janice Crawford.

A good product, a fair price, and advertising add up to profits despite notions or doubts to the contrary.

THE FRONTIER
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Mountain of Soap Discovered on Farm

Fine Sand Develops into Lather

50 Years Ago R. H. Mitchell, a farmer at Belden, discovered a small mountain of soap near Savage, along the O'Neill line of the Great Northern road. It is composed of a fine and very white sand, and when mixed with water greatly resembles soap. E. H. Whalen is visiting relatives in Ireland. Joseph Schollmeyer of Scottville died at Hot Springs, S.D. Miss Kate Mann was taken to Rochester, Minn., for treatment. Mrs. S. J. Woakes and Mrs. C. H. Stout won an olive spon and gold bowl coffee spoon, respectively, at the five-course luncheon given by Mrs. W. T. Evans.

20 Years Ago Mrs. F. N. Cronin, who submitted to surgery in Sioux City, returned home this week. Marriage licenses were issued to Clarence A. Olson of Crofton and Miss Asella D. Ramold of Stuart, Harry O. Lansworth and Miss Mary Grutsch, Kenneth C. Caldwell of Stuart and Miss Rena Riley of Atkinson, and Frank J. Weber and Miss Wilma N. Munn, both of Atkinson. Miss Margaret Pruss did practice teaching in district 90 last week.

10 Years Ago Dennis H. Cronin, 76, editor and owner of The Frontier since August 13, 1896, announced the sale of the newspaper to Carroll W. Stewart of Hartington. Mr. Cronin, who is also a state senator, will retire from active public life. Twenty-five men and women of the Methodist church varnished the pews under the direction of Rev. Lloyd W. Mullis, pastor. Mrs. George Bowler, 61, died at her home 11 miles east of O'Neill. Romaine Saunders, 74, had his left eye removed.

One Year Ago Miss Thelma Summers, 17, was in "grave" condition at St. Anthony's hospital following a two-car accident 13 miles east of O'Neill. Rev. Wayne A. Hall accepted a call to serve at the Assembly of God church, Broken Bow. Jesse Wilkinson, 87, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Hazel Boatman. Two airmen, absent without leave, slugged Derold Graham at Earley's station. Carl Hammerberg, 60, of Atkinson, died in Mary Lanning hospital in Hastings.

Lynch Seniors Hear Doctor Olson

LYNCH—Commencement exercises for 20 seniors of the Lynch high school were held Friday evening, May 11, at the Lynch ballroom.

The speaker was Melvin Olson, consultant in school administration, Nebraska department of education.

The seniors are: Abbie Gray, Delora Carson, Ronnie Carson, James Chvala, Velma Crawford, Doris Halstead, Larry Halstead, Harlene Holt, Delores Kalkowski, Donald Lueken, Myrl Merchant, Gary Micanek, Garnet Palmer, Leroy Purviance, William Rosicky, Norma Schindler, Rosalie Sexton, Julian Stewart, Geraldine Stiefvater and Delores Wells.

The eighth grade graduates who also received diplomas are: Russell Birmeyer, Kathleen McDonald, Jean Lueken, Janice Crawford.

ARC Collection Amounts to \$188

EMMETT—The Red Cross collection in the Emmet community amounted to \$188. Mrs. Bill Grothe and Mrs. P. W. McGinnis were chairman of the drive.

Monuments of lasting beauty made by skilled craftsmen of the J. F. Bloom Co. . . monuments from the factory to the consumer. — Emmett Crabb, O'Neill, phone 139-J. 3741

WD—Raymond L. Verzal, executive to Joseph Walnofer 3-19-56 \$5000- N1/2NW1/4 25-31-15

Royal Theater —O'NEILL, NEBR.—

Thurs. May 17 Family Night WORLD IN MY CORNER Starring the fighting star of "To Hell and Back," Audie Murphy, Barbara Rush, co-starring Jeff Morrow, John McIntire, with Tommy Hall, Howard St. John Chico Vejar, Art Aragon, Cisco Andrade. Family admitted for 2 adult tickets; adults 50c; children 12c

Fri.-Sat. May 18-19 A DAY OF FURY Presented by Technicolor. Starring Dale Robertson, Mara Corday, Joek Mahoney, the "Range Rider" of TV—in a great new role! With Carlton Reid, Jan Merlin, John Dehner. Adults 50c; children 12c; matinee Sat. 2:30. All children under 12 free when accompanied by parent

Sun.-Mon.-Tues. May 20-21-22 Presented by Warner Bros. MIRACLE IN THE RAIN Jane Wyman, Van Johnson with Peggie Castle, Fred Clark, Eileen Heckart, Josephine Hutchinson. Her friends . . . her mother . . . everybody said "No!" . . . but she said "My phone number is Regent 9-9602." The pickup date with the soldier—everybody was against it—but her heart . . . a star-lit story, tender and stunning—and quite, quite unforgettable! Adults 50c; children 12c; matinee Sun. 2:30. All children unless in arms must have tickets



District 168 Pupils Visit Mrs. Alfred Seger, teacher in Holt county rural school district 168, and pupils on Wednesday, May 9, visited The Frontier and other points of interest in O'Neill. District 168 is located west of Atkinson. Front row — Daniel Ziska, Richard Weichman, Marcia Ziska and Lee Ann Kaup; back row—Rita Murphy, Alfred Ziska, Marilyn Ziska, Mrs. Seger and Barbara Ziska.—The Frontier Photo.

Extension Tour Trip Discussed

LYNCH—Mrs. Don Allen and Mrs. Albert Kalkowski entertained the members of the Exceollo extension club at the Allen home Monday evening. Mrs. Leland Moody conducted the business meeting and Mrs. George Mulhair gave the secretary and treasurer reports. The extension club tour was discussed.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

WD—C D Bertoleto to Ray V Carlisle & wf 3-12-56 \$13,500—East 52 ft lots 11 & 12 and all lot 13 Blk 10- Atkinson WD—Lester J Derickson to Oscar D Boettcher or Selma F Boettcher 5-9-56 \$11,200- N1/2 14-30-14 WD—Gail Boies to Stanley Sojka 5-8-56 \$1- Lots 5 & 6 Blk 10- Kumball & Blairs Add- Ewing WD—Norbert H Uhl to Luella Parker & husband 4-17-56 \$500—Lot 6 Blk A- Golden Subdivision- O'Neill

WD—Amelia Schrader to Herman J Schrader 5-14-38 \$1- Lots 2 & 3 Blk 17- Bitney's Add- Atkinson WD—Gene Hoover to Alice M Hill 5-11-56 \$19,000- Part of NE1/4NW1/4 Sec 32- Twp 30- Range 14- now occupied by Bouska Motel- Atkinson

South Side Club Soon 25-Years-Old

EMMETT—The South Side club met with Mrs. Henry Patterson Tuesday, May 8. Ten members and seven guests were present. The club will celebrate its 25th anniversary during the first part of June.

Other Emmet News The WSCS will meet with Mrs. Kenneth Ruggless of Clearwater Friday. Mr. and Mrs. James Foreman

and boys of Battle Creek were Sunday afternoon guests at the Frank Foreman home.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Winkler and Mary Alice went to North Platte. They returned Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. R. B. South of Inman were Sunday guests at the John Conard home. Mrs. William Newton and Mrs. Dean Perry and children called on Mrs. Dale Perry and her mother, Mrs. Hopkins, of O'Neill Wednesday, May 9. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Perry were super guests of the Dean Perry family Friday.

Miss Beverly Perry celebrated her fourth birthday anniversary Monday. Miss Helen Martens and Miss Lucille Mitchell were overnight guests of the Wayne Bates family Monday, May 7. Mrs. William Newton visited the Dean Perry family Saturday. The Howard Newton family were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. William Newton. Miss Mary Lou Conard of Omaha spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Conard.

Bob Kramer was a guest of the Paul Newton family Sunday. The pupils of district 20 presented a patrons' day and mothers' day program on Wednesday, morning, May 9. They made gifts for the mothers and a lunch was served.

The teacher, Miss Helen Martens, and pupils of district 20 went on a field trip to O'Neill Tuesday, May 8. Among places visited were the police station, hatchery, bakery, The Frontier, pop factory, St. Anthony's, the new school building, telephone office and cleaning establishments.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kloppenborg and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wayman were dinner guests of Mr.

DR. DONALD E. DAVID OPTOMETRIST Eyes Examined Glasses Fitted Phone 2101, Spencer, Nebr.

celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this week. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Grothe will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this week. Miss Rose Mary Babl spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Babl. Rose Mary is employed in Omaha. Mr. and Mrs. Guy Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Humpal and Jim Humpal were mother's day dinner guests of the Robert Cole family. Mrs. G. Owen Cole, Mrs. Larry Schaffer, Mrs. John Baker and Mrs. Robert Cole drove to Lincoln on Friday. Jack and Pat Cole spent Friday with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Humpal. Mr. and Mrs. Dean Perry visited Mrs. Alex McConnell at the Walter Puckett home Saturday.

Navy Promotion Follows Exam—SPENCER—The navy department announced the promotion April 16 of Howard R. Friedrich, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. O. Friedrich of Spencer, to electronics technician second class, USN, while serving aboard the Pacific fleet destroyer USS Uhlmann. The promotion followed successful completion of a navy-wide petty officer examination conducted in February.

Edw. M. Gleason DENTIST 2d Floor Olligan Rexall Bldg. Ph. 240 - Box 149 - Hrs. 8:30-5

John R. Gallagher Attorney-at-Law First Nat'l Bank Bldg. O'NEILL PHONE 11

Stock Car Racing — Norfolk KING'S SPEEDWAY "The Midwest's Finest Speedway" Will Open Sunday, May 20 Gates Open 6:30 P.M. — Races at 8 P.M. Adults—\$1 tax paid — Under 12—50c

.. DANCE .. AT O'NEILL AMERICAN LEGION AUDITORIUM AND BALLROOM THE JOLLY COPPERSMITHS ORCHESTRA Saturday, May 20th Adm.: Adults—\$1; Students—50c

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