

Prairie Land Talk

His Name Is Burch

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN—His name is Burch, the son of a Mississippi Confederate soldier who sneaked out of the rebel ranks and headed for the Union army and changed the grey uniform for a soldier's blue suit. He found 300 others who had pulled the same trick.

He was just one of the friendly guys met with at a bus stop and he was planning a trip to Gordon, the former family home, to stand again and walk where once his youthful feet had trod across the open prairie.

Later years have found him with many others where crowds have taken over but always with the living hope before him of one day being homeward bound to the scenes of childhood and youth. Prairie land, open wide the gates, another native will want in!



Romaine Saunders

Some of those mentioned in the O'Neill news of 53 years ago follow: Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Mann were out from Chicago, Ill., for a few weeks among friends here and to look after Mr. Mann's business interests. . . Ed Alberts, who had been pitching for the Spencer ball club, pulled out for Belle Plaines, Ia. . . Michael Hynes, a nephew of Barney Hynes, arrived from Ireland to become a citizen of the community, one of the last to come here from Ireland. . . Lawrence Skirving, who had attended the Kearney Military academy, arrived home. . . S. J. Weekes, Merrit Martin, W. T. Evans and R. R. Dickson were the newly elected officers of the Masonic lodge. . . Mr. and Mrs. T. V. Golden went to St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn., for a few days' outing. . . Father Cassidy went to Omaha to attend the funeral of a friend, an aged priest. . . Arthur F. Mullen took off for Clinton, Ia., where he was "married to one of Clinton's fairest maidens."

The 13 original states and one more are strung along the Atlantic coast. Patriots of only three states look out upon the vast Pacific ocean.

Billy McNichols has been to town, the home of his childhood and youth. He left his home in Hollywood, Calif., where the world's greatest showmen and stellar lights of stardom daily perform to come to O'Neill to see the rodeo performers do their stuff. Maybe Billy lived again to see visions of Tim Bunnell rope a runaway steer near his childhood home just off of Fourth street. During this visit to the scenes of other days, Mr. McNichols found the circle of friends reduced but those left will always enjoy his genial companionship. He let us know that a cousin of his, Lt.-Gov. Steve McNichols of Colorado, will be a candidate this year for governor of Colorado. Steve's father, William McNichols, was one of our kid group in O'Neill in the days long ago that this generation knows nor cares nothing about.

After 10 days of summer sunshine that brought melting heat, I awoke that morning at 3 o'clock to hear rain engulfing the city. At 6 o'clock the last drop fell. We look out today on a washed land, lying refreshed and calm, the dads of the community opening packages, smiling as they look upon richly adorned in bright colors the father's day greeting cards and read the message of thoughtful remembrance from sons and daughters. Are you not a dad or granddad — life's richest treasure gave you the overpass. But that overpass is rerouted down the avenue of life's other pleasure when little ones in the community look to you as their friend. And maybe the rain came this morning as a symbol of the refreshing the day brings to the fathers of the race.

The Russian idea of life has terminated in turning to the school room to teach students from early years up to hate everything that pertains to religion. France once tried to impart similar sentiments to citizens of that country when the French revolutionists set up a goddess of reason in the person of a licentious actress. The French saw their folly and de-throned their female god. Muscovites have taken the logical step from atheistic communism and like the bloated Babylonian monarch of old call out, "Where is the God that can defy me!" No people have long endured under the banner of atheism.

The compiler of this department joins with their many friends in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Stout that they have traveled the highway of life hand-in-hand for 55 years. Mrs. Stout, whom we knew before her marriage as Kittie Dwyer, has spent her days in O'Neill, the daughter of a pioneer couple. She was active in dramatic and musical entertainments, devoting her talents to all such undertakings. Charley came to O'Neill 60 years ago from the eastern part of the state to take on a job as drug store clerk, later becoming owner of the store. Now in the ripened years of life the couple enjoys the serenity that comes after the years of activity with their two daughters and their families in the community. Mr. and Mrs. Stout's 55 years of home life are symbolic of others where the cultural influence of churches and schools was felt.

Hastings Tribbines: "She's no heaven-sent shark at canasta," declared one Hastings woman to another regarding a third one during the after-dinner dishwashing stint, "but you know she's really the life of the party because she has such a grand sense of humor."

Working for the betterment of mankind is excellent; especially if you're really working for the betterment of mankind.

Editorial

On Modern Art

Main draw back with the policy of reserving space each week for editorial comment is that the space has to be filled. Sometimes weekly newspaper publishers are obliged to go far afield to present readable matter.

For want of a better subject during this final week of June, we decided to dwell on a subject which has been a sore spot for lo' many moons.

We would like, at this juncture to take a few shots at what is generally called "modern art." The editor poses as no expert on modern art (as well as dozens of other subjects that necessarily come in for comment in this department). Neither are we posing as an expert on ancient art.

However, we do credit ourselves with average intelligence and that is all that is needed to recognize certain phases of the art vogue mainly as a racket—a scheme to separate suckers from an over-abundance of green folding paper.

We admit that by writing such blasphemy we run the risk of being accosted in a dimly-lighted hallway by an ardent art lover. In spite of this possibility, we are going on record as saying that most modern art is usually hokum.

It is surprising how gullible the public sometimes is, and this fact is demonstrated very effectively by the peddlers of modern art. Real art, great paintings which prove restful or exhibit great talent, are treasures to be enjoyed for a lifetime. Portraits of loved ones are likewise valuable in many cases.

But the current version of modern art has no place in society, achieves no purpose, is not restful, or beautiful, and is strictly for the birds. If you have made a blunder and have purchased such a monstrosity, paste a piece of beaverboard on the back of it and use it for a dart target.

Or, break it over the head of the "painter" who sold it to you the next time he calls.

Be a Good Neighbor

A move to raise funds in behalf of an armless young Holt county farmer, a war veteran, has been started by the O'Neill newspapers in cooperation with the city's two banks.

Leonard Lorenz, a man with a perpetual smile, was maimed June 8 in a hay baler accident. His right arm was severed at the shoulder; his left arm between the shoulder and elbow.

It was a horrible accident.

Mr. Lorenz has a 9-year-old adopted son, Larry, who has been making his home with his dad for two years.

This is an unusual situation in a number of ways, and here is an opportunity for all good neighbors, near and far, to make a financial contribution, thereby brightening in a small measure, an outlook that is grim.

Checks can be made payable to the Leonard Lorenz Fund, and forwarded to the O'Neill National bank or the First National bank. All contributions will be acknowledged in the O'Neill newspapers.

Good News

Sometime in the next few days congress is going to raise the debt limit temporarily once more. But there is good news in the fact that this year the administration has asked for only half the boost voted in each of the last two years. This time a temporary lift of \$3,000,000,000 will enable

the government to get by until the spring flood of income tax collections comes again.

Indeed, the treasury expects to close the current fiscal year on June 30 with a \$1,800,000,000 surplus. There is good hope that this can be used to cut the national debt below its current \$273,000,000,000. That will be moving in the right direction—toward using boom-time surpluses to balance deficits which may be necessary in poorer years.

Our Gift to Science

(From the Lincoln Star Journal)

Western Nebraska's fossil beds have yielded rich finds to science and seem to be in virtually inexhaustible supply.

Comes word from sites near Bridgeport, Broadwater, and Oshkosh that important new finds are expected during this summer's digging—clues to the animal ancestors of our present-day horses, camels and rhinoceros. Scientists there are delving in a fossil bed in the Kimball formation more than a million years old.

To the laymen, fossils are fossils and add up, when put together, to some mighty strange creatures. But they grant that to the especially informed a great deal of world history is written in old bones and old earth structures. They contribute their important part in man's long search for the story of the world and of creation.

Fossil beds are good for a state. They remind one of the extreme brevity of the modern age which is measured in a few years to a few, mighty few, thousands of years. We are momentary occupants rather than original owners of this space we call Nebraska.

No Surprise — This!

An interesting note in the June 29 issue of the U.S. News & World Report comes as no great surprise to The Frontier's editorial staff:

"John Foster Dulles, secretary of state, is reported not entirely happy about the way other officials try to move in on issues of foreign policy. Inside comment is there actually are coming to be four 'secretaries of state': Mr. Dulles, Milton Eisenhower, Harold Stassen, Sherman Adams."

Eventually many people who are in the public eye get in the public's hair.



CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher
ARTHUR J. NOECKER and ESTHER M. ASHER, Associate Publishers

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When You and I Were Young . . .

\$6,000 Budget Set for School Year

Hanley, Flynn, Cronin Join Board

50 Years Ago
T. D. Hanley, Dr. F. J. Flynn and D. H. Cronin were elected to the board of education at the O'Neill district's annual meeting. It was estimated it would take \$6,000 to run the school for the next year and wipe out indebtedness. "Grandpa" Powell, 82, died at Stuart. James P. Anderson, 85, a resident of Dorsey since 1878, died after a month's illness. Adelbert Baker has gone to Bismarck, N.D., to accept a job in the land office. For sale: A good second-hand Case, 14 horse power rig, cheap.—Frank Campbell. "The Home Against the Saloon" was the topic of a lecture given by Mrs. Anna R. Simmons. Last week the poles and wire were put in place for the Page-Inman telephone line.

20 Years Ago
Riley Lambert of Fairfax, S.D., won over Hugh O'Donnell at the golf tournament at the Country club. Miss Arlene Page of near O'Neill and Charles Clyde, formerly of O'Neill, were married. Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the large barn on the Karl Keyes farm near Inman. Miss Maxine Lindberg of Laurel is visiting this week with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William Newton of Emmet.

10 Years Ago
Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Watson, well-known American couple, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Mrs. Viola M. Hossie and her sister, Mrs. Charles Harding, died within 52 hours of each other. Miss Ruth Haras was commissioned in New York City to become a missionary. She will study Chinese first at New Haven, Conn., before departing for her missionary assignment. Otto E. Clevisch, a Springfield, Mo., couple, died after a two-years' illness. A barn dance was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Clark, 13 miles southwest of O'Neill.

One Year Ago
Gordon Hinkle, 40, and his 10-year-old daughter, Katherine, of Spencer drowned in the ocean near New Burn, N.C. while on vacation. Emmet John Stauffer, sr., of Page and Mrs. Mary Agnes Collamer of Atkinson died after illnesses. Gene Sanford marked his 80th birthday anniversary quietly. Miss Marcella Lewis and Lewis Vandernick, both of Ewing, were married.

Kin from Distance at Hull Funeral

Among those from a distance here to attend the funeral of Mrs. Levi Hull, 72, held Wednesday, June 21, were Mr. and Mrs. Arch Hull of Crookston; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Haynes and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hull, all of Parmalee, S.D.; Mr. and Mrs. William Haynes of Martin, S.D.; Mr. and Mrs. Dale Manson of Correctionville, Ia.; Mrs. Carrie Wintermote of Oteo, Ia.; Mrs. Orrie Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hull, all of Sioux City; Miss Lavine Manson of Smithland, Ia.; Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Hull of Johnston; Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hull of Niobrara.

Hear Report on Juror Selections

PAGE — Ten members of the Golden Rule extension club swayed roll call at the home of Mrs. Lorenze Riege Tuesday afternoon, June 19, with a hint for a bridal shower.

Mrs. Harrison Hallman gave the lesson on "Playtime for Children."

Mrs. Harold Asher and Mrs. Melvin Held reported on "Juror Selection and Their Duties," given by Judge D. R. Mounis at the courthouse at O'Neill for the benefit of the extension clubs.

Mrs. A. T. Crumly was the winner in the guessing game contest. The hostess served lunch.

The July 17 meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Robert Nissen.

Visits Here—

Miss Shirley Ennen of Verdigris arrived Sunday, June 17, for a visit with Mrs. Ethel Frisch and boys, Mr. and Mrs. George Mott and Mrs. M. E. Richard Clyde and family. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ennen, came for her Saturday.

South Dakotans Here—

Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Lyons of Winterset, S.D., are visiting the James R. Lyons and L. M. Merriman homes. They arrived Sunday.

Royal Theater

O'NEILL, NEBR. —

Thurs. Family Night June 27
Rosanna Podesta and Jack Sernas in
HELEN OF TROY

Ancient battles set off by a classic love rage across the screen in this imposing spectacle. Italy's Rosanna Podesta and France's Jack Sernas fill the bill. Family admitted for 2 adult tickets; adults 50c; children 12c

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The story of Durango's last violent hour in
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Sun.-Mon.-Tues. July 1-2-3
James Stewart, Doris Day in
Alfred Hitchcock's
THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO MUCH
"The season's best thriller"—Look Magazine. Surpassing the suspense of "Rear Window"—the excitement of "To Catch a Thief"—"The Man Who Knew Too Much" is a masterpiece. Adults 50c; children 12c; matinee Sun. 2:30. All children under 12 free when accompanied by parent



To Teach in Wagner

Richard E. ("Eddie") Tomlinson (above), son of Richard Tomlinson of O'Neill, recently was graduated from the University of Nebraska college of agriculture. He has signed to teach the veterans' ag class at Wagner, S.D.

Letters to Editor

The University of Nebraska Director of Public Relations
Lincoln 8, Nebr.
June 20, 1956

Dear Cal:
I read with a great deal of interest the column of Mr. Saunders in your issue of June 14 and his appraisal of the college of agriculture. I sincerely trust that his appraisal of the value of the college of agriculture is not necessarily representing the views of the present editor.

Certainly the college of agriculture is doing a great deal for Nebraska's basic industry.

Some time when you are down this way I would be most happy to give you a little Cook's tour of the campus if you are interested and tell you something about the achievements of the college.

Best regards and drop in and see us when you are down this way.

Sincerely yours,
GEORGE S. ROUND
Director

(Editor's note: Prairie Land Talker's views are not always shared by the editor. However, we do respect his views and do not tamper with his material. At 85, he types his own material. At 85, he does his own research, and occasionally nails people, organizations and institutions to a cross. We thought he was harsh on the college of agriculture. However,

the college turns out reams of publicity [all favorable, of course], dished up by professional publicists at the expense of the taxpayers and it should come as no surprise to draw an occasional lampposting from the outside.)

CHURCH NOTES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN (O'Neill)

Rev. J. Olen Kennell, pastor Sunday, July 1: Sunday-school, 9:45 a.m. worship service, 11 a.m. The Lord's supper will be observed at this time. Every member and friend is urged to attend. The ordination of Rev. Curtis Barnett to the gospel ministry in the First Presbyterian church of Atkinson, 8 p.m. Monday, July 2: Bible study, 2:30 p.m. Thursday, July 5: Women's society meeting, 7:45 p.m. Senior camp at Cleveland July 5 to 8. Intermediate camp at Cleveland, July 10 to 15.

CHURCH OF CHRIST (O'Neill)

Rev. James, evangelist Sunday, July 1: Bible school, 10 a.m.; preaching and communion service, 11 a.m.; youth meeting, 7 p.m.; evening service 8 o'clock. Bible study: O'Neill—Wednesday, 8 p.m.; in Larson home near Chambers, no Bible study this week. The monthly singspiration of the Elkhorn Valley Churches of Christ will be held here in O'Neill Friday, June 29, beginning at 8 p.m.

CENTER UNION (O'Neill)

Rev. C. P. Turner, pastor There will be no morning services as some of the young people will be in the young people's camp at Long Pine Sunday, July 1. Evening service as usual; young people's meeting, 8 p.m.; preaching service following the young people's meeting.

Prayer meeting and Bible study will be in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ernst Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

METHODIST (Chambers)

Sunday, July 1: Sunday-school, 10 a.m., E. R. Baker, superintendent; worship, 11 a.m. William Fager of Ainsworth delivered the message at the morning worship service. He was accompanied by Mrs. Fager and daughters.

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN (RFD, Ewing) Rev. J. Olen Kennell, pastor Sunday, July 1: Worship service, 9:30 a.m. The Lord's supper will be observed at this time. Sunday-school, 10:30 a.m.

WESLEYAN METHODIST (O'Neill)

Rev. Duane Lauber, pastor Sunday, July 1: Sunday-school, 10 a.m.; worship service, 11 a.m.; the evening service will be discontinued so that all may be able to attend the union evangelistic services at the Page high school auditorium.

Inman Workers Hold Session

INMAN—The Inman Workers project club met Wednesday afternoon, June 20, with Mrs. Albert Reynolds, Mrs. Kenneth Coventry and Mrs. James Coventry gave a lesson on county gov-

ernment dealing especially with a district court trial, the selection of jurors and their duties. Mrs. Reynolds served a lunch following the lesson. The club will adjourn for the summer months and the September meeting will be an all-day session at the James McMahan home.

.. DANCE ..

American Legion Ball Room

— O'Neill —

Saturday, June 30th

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