

Back from 3 Years in Thailand

(Continued from page 1)
 abundance of water during the rainy season, comprising about half the year. The other half is dry.

The United States has poured lots of money into the rugged little country, which prides itself on its independence. The "Thais" finally won independence from the British; during World War II the land was occupied by Japs but the Thais stubbornly resisted and currently the country exerts rugged independence against the communists. Thailand (formerly known as Siam) stands out in comparison with the soft attitude of some other countries.

"The Thailanders don't know how to handle money any better than they do machines," Mr. Roberts explained. "But we have done quite a bit of good there."

His work largely involved building dams and reservoirs for irrigation purposes. Equipment used was American-made.

Mr. Roberts was born and reared 12 miles northeast of O'Neill in the Joy community. His parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. E. F. ("Rass") Roberts.

He had been stationed at Korat (about 12,000 population) for 13 months before Mrs. Roberts arrived. They met in the Philippines and visited the Manila grave of their son, Lester, who survived the infamous Bataan death march but later died in a Jap prison camp.

Mr. Roberts said U.S. money and machines are being used to build a giant dam north of Bangkok. The project has been six years under construction and is yet unfinished.

Living is primitive there. Rice is a principal crop; also timber. The country maintains a king and royal household. Religion is Buddhism and it's a big event when a priest is made. Currently the new priests are paraded down a street in a jeep.

Colonies of American missionaries and American technicians helped to make life more pleasant. Water buffalo are used as beasts of burden and are the dominant animal.

Fifteen cents buys the best haircut in a swank barber shop. Leprosy takes a heavy toll and



Mrs. Roberts and native children . . . she taught English.



Thailand children . . . their parents have leprosy.



Water buffalo . . . a mainstay in South Asiatic economy.

children are removed from afflicted parents.

Mrs. Roberts aided missionaries during her stay and taught conversational English to native teachers.

Their homeward trip began at Bangkok First stop was at Djakarta, Java. Later they visited the port of Singapore where a week was required to load rubber. Other stops were made at Panang, Malaya; Colombo, Ceylon, and Asab, Ethiopia. At Asab, 3,600 tons of coffee were loaded onto the 10,000-ton freighter. At each port the Roberts spent considerable time ashore.

They passed near the Holy Land and through the Suez on the Easter weekend. Final stop, before Boston, was Port Said near the mouth of the Nile. From there it was nonstop to New England.

The Roberts were enroute back to Albuquerque after having attended a Roberts family reunion at Park Rapids, Minn. It was a reunion of the five living members of the original Holt county family: Herbert of Bismarck, N.D.; Mrs. C. L. (Martha) Benson of Norfolk, Mrs. E. T. (Bessie) Wolverson of Denver, Colo., and Walter of Wahoo.

Besides the son who died during World War II, the Roberts have a son, Clarence, who lives at Colorado Springs, Colo., and a daughter, Mrs. Robert (Neva June) Chadden, who resides at Houston, Tex.

State Capitol News

Prison 'Hole' Is Replaced

LINCOLN—Unruly inmates of the state penitentiary soon will be housed in a new \$140,000 maximum security building which prison officials call the "adjustment center."

The building, now completed, is as different from the old "hole," as day and night.

Gov. Victor Anderson, who drew considerable criticism for handling of last year's riots, was a prime backer for the new building.

The old building is in a corner of the yard. But it is not segregated and the tough core of prisoners who cause trouble in any institution and who usually occupy the "hole" for varying periods, could communicate with other inmates in the yard.

This caused excitement among the inmates and the shouting and talking of the unruly prisoners kept the other inmates tense.

Thus, even when confined in the old security building, a handful of men who cause all the trouble still could not be rendered ineffective.

Last December work began on the new adjustment center. It is a model of modern, efficient prison planning. It is segregated from the yard by a high wire fence. Then, security building inmates have an exercise yard which is isolated from not only the remainder of the prison but from the remainder of the security building yard.

Both ends of the new structure are only a few yards from guard towers on the wall.

Last year, prisoners even rioted once in the "hole," but this would be tough to accomplish in the new building because of automatic cell locking devices and the way the structure is designed.

In the new building, also, are provisions for interviewing prisoners sentenced there, to see if prison discipline can be done to reshape their thinking.

Warden Joseph Bovey, the governor, board of control and other officials are enthusiastic over the new structure and what it will add to the over-all rehabilitation program at the institution.

But the governor said he has an interest as a citizen and as commander of the Nebraska national guard. The guard was used to help quell the flurry of riots last year.

The new building was viewed during three days of open-house ceremonies this week.

Pump Irrigation—The relation of Nebraska's under ground water supplies to surface water is getting keen attention from a group of state senators, who comprise a committee of the legislative council.

The council is composed of state senators who grapple with knotty problems when the legislature is not in session, then make recommendations to the next unicameral.

Sen. Don Thompson of McCook heads the committee looking into the water situation.

State Sen. Frank Nelson of O'Neill is a member of the council and has participated in the underground water talks.

Thompson says he believes orderly development of pump irrigation wells "may preclude for many years" the necessity for regulating them. Thompson said in his opinion there is enough water for pumping and natural flow irrigation, if the wells are spaced properly.

Another problem that is showing up with increasing frequency is that where a farmer digs a pit near a river, then uses the water which seeps into it for irrigation. This way he escapes paying for

the cost of acquiring natural flow water.

Thompson said it may be necessary to pass legislation forbidding the pits within a certain distance of a river or stream.

Airline Service

Thirteen Nebraska cities ought to have local airline service immediately, according to Rolland Harr, director of airports for the state aeronautics department.

Harr made the statement in material prepared for the civil aeronautics board's July 17 hearing on air service in seven states, including Nebraska.

He recommends service be provided at once to Scottsbluff, McCook, Beatrice, Hastings, Kearney, Imperial, Sidney, Grand Island, North Platte, Alliance, Chadron, Ainsworth and Norfolk.

The airport director also said that O'Neill and Gordon should have service but he said they are not part of the proceedings being considered July 17 by the CAB.

Meanwhile, State Highway Engineer L. N. Ress declared Nebraska's road situation is not nearly as bumpy as alleged recently by the state aeronautics department. The state aeronautics people were going all-out to convince the civil aeronautics board that Nebraska needs local airline service.

In reference to highways, the state air people wrote in their report:

"The situation is critical, and it is generally foreseen by the department of roads and irrigation and the public generally that the Nebraska highway system will not accommodate the traffic for many years to come. Private driving over Nebraska highways is dangerous and unsatisfactory already . . . the element of distance combined with slow and unsatisfactory ground transportation . . . isolate most Nebraska communities."

PHONE US your news . . . insure publication by reporting it early

Highway Commission

The advisory state highway commission will get a new member July 1—Ralph Baker of Valentine. Baker will replace Don Hanna, jr., Brownlee rancher who quit to devote more time to his business.

Baker attended public school in Gordon, is a World War I veteran and has done extensive ranching in Nebraska since 1921. He also has been active in stockmen groups.

Hanna drew praise from Gov. Victor Anderson. He said Hanna had served the state well and was always cooperative and conscientious.

Hanna said "in view of the depressed agricultural situation" it is necessary he devote more time to his ranch.

Ewing News

Perry Saiser returned home on Monday, June 18, where he had spent a few days at the home of relatives.

On Tuesday evening, June 19, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Urban, Mr. and Mrs. John Bauer and family and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bollwitt and family attended the Ewing-Tilden baseball game at Tilden. Victor Bollwitt provided transportation for a carload of boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Urban spent last Thursday visiting at the home of his brother-in-law and sister Mr. and Mrs. John Honeywell, at Chambers.

Mrs. John Wunner spent Monday and Tuesday, June 18-19, with relatives in Stanton.

Mrs. Ruth Waples and daughter, Judy, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Waples, jr., and two children of Lincoln were weekend guests at the home of Miss Ina Bennett and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Shrader. Mrs. Ruth Waples is a sister of Miss Bennett.

Grade School Costs \$97 Per Pupil Here

Lowest Figure in Nebraska

School costs per pupil in Nebraska elementary school districts vary from \$97 to more than two hundred dollars a year, the Nebraska Citizens' Council has reported.

The tax research agency expects to release soon a full report on school costs.

The \$97 cost was recorded at O'Neill. Costs of more than two hundred dollars per pupil were registered at David City, Madison, Tilden, Pierce and Loup City.

High school costs exceeded five hundred dollars a year per pupil at such places as David City, West Point and Alma. A few districts recorded costs of less than three hundred dollars, among these being Lexington, Neligh, Ainsworth, Central City, Fullerton, Plainview, Crete, Gordon and Stanton.

In general, school costs per pupil run higher in the smaller cities.

Dakotans Make Visit Here

Mrs. William Lyons and the Misses Sharon and Marilyn of Belle Fourche, S.D., left Monday after having been guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Merriman and Sgt. and Mrs. J. K. Lyons since last Thursday. They left for Sutherland, Ia., where they will spend a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Wilson and James returned Saturday from a vacation near lakes in northern Minnesota. They left Monday, June 18.

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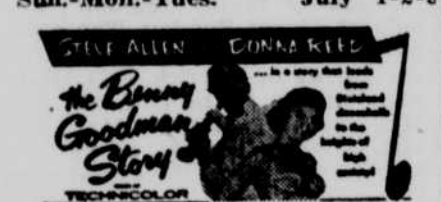
MILLER THEATER

Atkinson

Fri.-Sat. June 29-30



Sun.-Mon.-Tues. July 1-2-3



Wed.-Thurs. July 4-5



PUBLIC SALE!

AS I AM unable to continue haying operations, I am selling the following property at public auction, on the premises located 3 blocks north of Town House in O'Neill, and second house east —

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

— Sale Starts at 2 P.M. —

1 - HORSE - 1

1—SADDLE QUARTER HORSE, 6-years-old, well broke
 1—BLACK SADDLE, bridle and martingale
 1—HEAVY WORK HARNESS, good as new

MACHINERY

48 Farmall A Tractor, good condition	7-Ft. John Deere Mower, nearly new	2-4 Rubber Wheel Trailers
Plow	"A" Stacker	Wagon with Running Gears
7-Ft. International Mower, nearly new	Back Stop	3—Rolls (100-yd.)
36 John Deere B Tractor, A-1 shape	2—Double Rakes on "A" frame	6-Ft. Galvanized Cribbing Wire
	Walking Plow	3—Spools Barb Wire
	Drag — Slip Cultivator	2—25-Ft. Steel Gates

TRUCK: K5 International Truck, good; also 1951 Car, good

TERMS: CASH. No property to be removed until settled for.

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