

Prairieland Talk

# Sympathy Goes to Students

By ROMAIN SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN—The first week in September the state fair grounds becomes the center of attraction for Nebraskans.

During the last week in August we heard again the annual boast that the state fair will be "bigger and better than ever." To a prairieland woe the livestock and farm exhibits always are something to see and this year, "56"—regardless of the "farmers' plight"—doubtless rates well, if not above, previous fairs. Exhibits, though the humble pilgrim of this department does not know at this writing whether he will visit this "bigger and better" whoop-la down at the fair grounds.



Romaine Saunders

Rather, his sympathy goes out to young Nebraskans who again take books under arm and head for school with faltering step. Another summer of freedom from books and creeds has ended for them and now they are again on the arduous highway of scholarly attainment.

As if it were something new in the field of industry, a gent, who seems to have counted them, says there are now 21 million girls and women holding jobs in the U.S.A. Let us look back 50, 60, 70 years. Nan Oberly and Mary McLaughlin set the type at The Frontier plant and Mary's sister, along with Mrs. Sam Eves, set the type for the Independent; Rosa Meals, the compositor on the Sun; Kate Sanders, at the Item; Tess Harrington took care of the troubled clients in her brother, Mike's, law office, as Ada Mills did in Dickson's office. Clara Zimmerman, Mrs. Hall, Kate Mann and others waited on customers in the J. P. Mann store. P. J. McManus, J. P. Gallagher, Jake Pfund each had lady clerks. Agnes and Flo Bentley took care of the trade at the Bentley store. Kitty O'Neill, Laura Meals, Nellie Dailey, Elizabeth O'Malley were postoffice clerks. Courthouse, schoolhouse and hotels could hardly have functioned without the ladies, and how could the old town have gotten along without Miss Alice Coykendall?

Ex-President Herbert Hoover is much more popular than was President Hoover. Government men of both political parties turn to the venerable ex-president for advice.

The ornate design of the our new governor's cabin in Lincoln is being critically eyed and commented upon, condemned mostly by those who explode via print. Probably there are some of us mortal sticks who, if we should get through the pealy gates to be escorted by a celestial being to a mansion above, would cast a critical eye over heaven's house of gold provided for us and want changes made in it. Citizens of Nebraska generally would like to see a governor's mansion symbolic of prairieland, but the building commission has reverted to the American colonial period for architectural design for our chief executive's new home.

Four preachers, one priest, one rabbi appear once a week on TV to tell you all in Yankee-land "what they believe." Neighbor Sam cares little what Neighbor Tom believes. What either believes is not important—what they do as citizens of the community, here and there extending a helping hand, sacrificing a bit here and there to help a neighbor, speaking a cheering word, being law-abiding citizens with the vision to perceive and the courage to do—those are important. "I believe"—human ego. "I do"—humanity in action.

Frank Leahy, a notable in the field of sports and a son of the family of that name who were citizens of O'Neill 50 years ago, was one of the group of delegates at the republican national convention at San Francisco, Calif., who made short addresses seconding the nomination of President Eisenhower. A labor union member, a farmer, several women, including a Jewish lady and a colored sister, were shown on TV with others who made short addresses for Eisenhower's nomination. Terry Carpenter of the Nebraska delegation cast the lone vote for a favorite son, Fred Seaton, for the vice-presidential nomination, even Harold Stassen making a lengthy address approving the nomination of Vice-President Nixon, whom he earlier opposed. The candidates are: Eisenhower and Nixon on the GOP ticket, Stephenson and Ke-taver on the democratic ticket.

Sunset, then evening twilight and after that the dark. And so the ceaseless tide of time spreads the curtain of night over another day of toil and achievement, of smiles and frowns, with its heartaches and rejoicings, ministry of mercy spreading happiness along the way, a shadow over the record of crime and sin. The night brings rest from life's daily toil, but factories, plants, railroads know no rest. I looked today into the wide-open eyes of a nine-weeks-old babe held by a mother's arm to a mother's heart. The babe looked at me with those wide-open eyes and smiled. An infant but a few weeks in a troubled world faces life with a smile. Coming down life's highway through the years—has it warped your soul? Go learn the lesson of life's greater meaning when a nine-weeks-old baby girl smiles for you.

I saw him today — bowlegged and limping, furrowed face and thinning locks, fat and well-fed. He is one of the last left in the city who was employed as a street car motorman when trolley cars served the public in the capital city. Street car tracks and trolley lines have gone the way of the horse and buggy. Now buses and taxis do the conveying of citizens from place-to-place. The venerable "has been" met with today went from running a street car to laying brick, and now lives in peaceful retirement in a Lincoln suburban district.

A dime was once a piece of money—it would buy a pint of honey, A sack of spuds, a pound of steak, A loaf of bread, a whole big cake. Bananas by the dozen for a dime, Ten cents for a melon ripe and fine. Now a dollar scarcely sees you through Where a thin dime once would do. But a dollar bill is yours today For the job a dime was once your pay.

Whom are we to believe? Out of the mouth and imagination of some comes the story of total abandonment of all churches in Russia. But one gentleman of the cloth—and, of course we accept the word of a churchman—says his church group (we believe it is the kind Billy Graham counts as his shrine of fellowship) counts a membership of 3,000,000 Muscovites.

Wall Street Journal: If drink drowns Khrushchev's career as the life of the communist party, he should have no trouble forming a Moscow chapter of the AA's. The Russians are past masters at making past politicians thoroughly anonymous.

When You and I Were Young . . .

## Japanese Setting for Dickson Party

### 12 Holt Gals Enter Competition

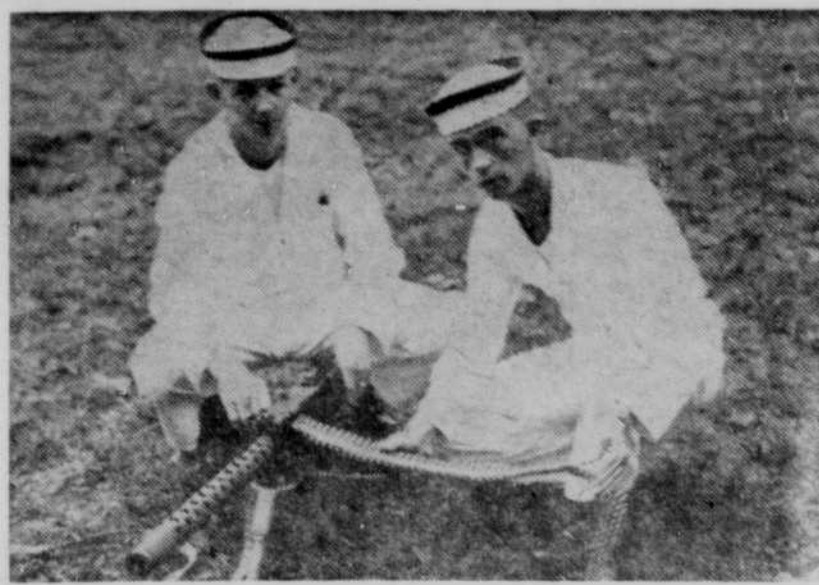
50 Years Ago Following is a list of young ladies who have entered the Frontier - Nebraska Farmer contest: Ella Gaffney of Emmet, Pearl Robinson and Ethel Fleming of Atkinson; Katie Gallagher, Page and Irene Cain, Mary Hunt, Lila Jones, Ruth Harrish, Bessie Dillon, Margaret Sullivan, Hazel Harrington and May Campbell, all of O'Neill. . . R. R. and Mrs. Dickson entertained 50 of their friends. It was one of the prettiest and most enjoyable social events of the season. Japanese lanterns, fans and streamers were used as decorations.

20 Years Ago Frederick C. Gatz, 84, an old settler, died after a very short illness. . . A. T. Crumly, living about 10 miles east of O'Neill, harvested over 4,100 bushels of rye from 410 acres, but other crops are about a failure for him. They marketed a truck load of rye at Orchard the first of the week at 85 cents a bushel. The load brought \$310. Francis Belzer, 11, of Opportunity suffered cuts received when he fell from a corn binder.

10 Years Ago Julius D. Cronin attended a reunion at Ft. Wayne, Ind., of former members of the 137th Aero squadron of World War I fame. . . John T. Biglin, 61, of Hastings, who was born here, died following a heart attack. Several hay stacks were destroyed on the Mike Troshynski farm at Opportunity. . . Velda Gallagher and George Winkler, Helen Toy and Leslie A. Grim and Estelle McNichols and Walter J. Cronin were married. . . Among those attending the Barnum and Failey circus at Norfolk were Mrs. Don Enright and children, Mrs. Clyde Elkins and children and Mrs. H. L. Lindberg.

One Year Ago Mr. and Mrs. Casper Larson of Ewing celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. . . Social Rev. Gerald T. Bergan, archbishop of the Omaha diocese, officiated at the dedication of the new St. Joseph's Catholic church in Atkinson. . . Little Mary Etta Geary was born at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Maden Funk of Ewing. Her mother was being taken to the hospital by her dad, Robert E. Geary, when Mr. Stork intervened. . . Clyde Streeter has an egg-laying hen that has recently developed into a rooster.

REGIONAL DEATHS Harlan C. Tingle FUNERAL SERVICES were held for Harlan C. Tingle, 31, who died in an Omaha hospital. He was born at Gregory, S.D., February 17, 1925, was graduated from Neligh high school in 1943, and spent three years in the air force. Survivors include: Widow — the former Genevieve Kelly of Winfield, Kans.; mother—Mrs. A. A. Tingle of Omaha; brothers—Bert of St. Paul, Minn., Robert of O'Neill and Donald of Neligh.



### Inspect Machine Gun

Inspecting a 30-calibre machine gun are Midn./2c: Joel D. Elmerier (left), son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Ellmerier of Spencer, and Malvern K. Seagren, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melville Seagren of Wausa. Seven hundred naval reserve officer training corps midshipmen received amphibious warfare training at the Little Creek amphibious base, Norfolk, Va., August 1 to 23. The training emphasized the teamwork necessary in amphibious operations and practical knowledge of the equipment and weapons used in the assault.



### Three Generations in Aircraft Factory

Three generations of one family total over 19 years of service in the West coast plant for Lockheed aircraft. They are Mrs. Adeline Sporn, material control clerk, who began work in the aircraft industry five years ago; her son, Richard Bowden, lead man in the receiving department, a veteran of 14 years with Lockheed, and Stephen Bowden, Richard's 18-year-old son, a fabrication helper. All three were born in O'Neill and S. E. Hicks is father, grandfather and great-grandfather. The trio represents the only three generation group at Lockheed. "We all got our jobs independently," says Mrs. Sporn, who regularly reads The Frontier. "Dick went to Lockheed first. I went to work there after my husband died and without telling Dick my plans. And Stephen got his job without any assistance from his dad and I didn't learn about it until weeks later." Mrs. Sporn has another son in the marines, who, likewise, says he is headed for Lockheed.

### Tilden Park Scene of Family Gathering

A family gathering was held Sunday, August 26, at the Tilden park. Those attending were Mrs. Ona Price of San Francisco, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Brogan and family of Lincoln; Mrs. Anna Chase, Mr. and Mrs. William Totterhoff and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Petersen and family, all of Norfolk; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Appleby and Dick, Janice Asher, Rex Krugman, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Krugman and family, all of O'Neill; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Asher and son Mr. and Mrs. Don Nissen and family, all of Pajon; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee of Sioux City; Fred Chase, Mrs. Adelia Price and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Tubbs, Ralph and Marie, all of Clearwater; Mr. and Mrs. Arlo

Wulf and Cindy of Pierce; Mr. and Mrs. Oral Tubbs and Stevie of Tilden.

Visit Denver—Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Johnson and sons left Friday for Denver, Colo., where they will visit their daughter, Miss Lynette, also the Misses Verle Ralya and Sharon Hancock, formerly of O'Neill. The three young ladies are employed in Denver and share an apartment.

### Paul Shierk

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### Elsworth Wales Family Visits Venus

VENUS — Mr. and Mrs. Elsworth Wales and son, Larry, of Minneapolis, Minn., recently visited with old acquaintances in this vicinity. They called at the Cecil Moser and Lyle Davis homes. Mr. Wales resided here with his parents about 18 years ago. His parents are now living in Oregon.

Other Venus News Fred Uhler and Franklin called at the Ralph Brookhouser home Friday.

Spending a week recently with their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Hamilton, and sons and their grandmother, Mrs. Agnes Hamilton, were Charlotte, Shirley and Bobby Halsted, all of Bassett.

Mrs. Ottilie Mittele, Mrs. Albert Boelter and Mrs. Gerald Waring were busy preparing an apartment at Orchard for their children who are attending the Orchard high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Ora Caskey and sons visited at the Johnson Caskey home at Bassett on Sunday, August 26.

Arthur Von Seggern has been carrying mail while Lester Raff, the Orchard rural mail carrier, is vacationing.

### Boettcher Infant Dies After Surgery

SPENCER — Funeral services for Elise Elaine Boettcher, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Boettcher of Butte, were conducted Monday afternoon, September 3, from Immanuel Lutheran church here. Burial was in the Lutheran cemetery north of Spencer with Rev. J. Rath officiating.

The child was born August 12, in Sacred Heart hospital at Lynch, was baptized August 17, submitted to surgery August 23 in Our Lady of Lourdes hospital at Norfolk, and died Thursday, August 31, having been in failing health since birth. Survivors include: Parents; brother—Robert William; grandfather — Wilhelm Boettcher of Butte.

### O'NEILL LOCALS

Dr. W. F. Finley will depart Friday for Philadelphia, Pa., where he will visit for two weeks.

Sr. M. Laurissa, who is on a two-year leave from St. Mary's academy, Friday arrived in Na-

ples, Italy, aboard the SS Independence and was to proceed to Rome where she will study for two years. Her sister, Mrs. Edward Johnson of Omaha, was a weekend visitor in O'Neill.

## ROYAL THEATER

O'NEILL, NEBR.

Thurs. Family Night Sept. 6

Jack Palance, Barbara Rush in KISS OF FIRE

Co-starring Rex Reason, Martha Hyer, with Alan Reed, Leslie Bradley. Print by Technicolor. The story of El Tigre . . . the outcast . . . who cut a blazing swath across the savage Comanche frontier . . . to seize the love of a spitfire beauty. Family admitted for 2 adult tickets; adults 50c; children 12c

Fri.-Sat. Sept. 7-8

There's no place to hide—in the NAKED DAWN

Starring Arthur Kennedy, Betty St. John, with Eugene Iglesias, Charlita. In every shadow — a waiting gun and every moment the fury mounts! Adults 50c; children 12c; matine Sat. 2:30. All children under 12 free when accompanied by parent

Sun.-Mon.-Tues. Sept. 9-10-11

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SANTIAGO

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Editorial

## Soil Bank Checks This Month

Checks to farmers signed up in the acreage reserve of the soil bank program will start going out this month, Sen. Roman Hruska (R.-Nebr.) said this week.

"The enthusiastic participation of the nation's farmers—especially those in the midwest—demonstrates the soundness of this program," Hruska commented. He noted that more than 50 thousand Nebraska farmers are eligible for 34½-million-dollars for putting 1.6 million acres of corn and wheat land into the acreage reserve.

"Nationally," said the senator, "12.3 million acres will go into the acreage reserve. More than 540,000 farmers are eligible for 261-million-dollars in acreage reserve payments."

Hruska added that the limited operation of the acreage reserve in 1956 has been especially valuable to Nebraskans and other farmers who have experienced drought conditions during the late summer. "This is not a relief program," the senator emphasized, "but acreage reserve payments will provide many farmers some return on drought damaged acres."

Soil bank legislation, enacted late this spring, authorizes such a program for basic crops over a four-year period, through 1959. Each acreage reserve agreement, however, covers the particular crop for only one year at a time. For 1957, the program is being made available early enough so that most farmers should be able to make their plans before planting.

The acreage reserve program now available for participation by farmers for their 1957 winter wheat crop is the second of four such programs authorized for wheat and the other "basic" crops, according to Harry E. Ressel, chairman of the Holt county agricultural stabilization and conservation committee. Winter wheat growers who wish to take part in the 1957 program should call at the county ASC office and sign an agreement.

### Mrs. David Stannard

The death last week of Mrs. David (Margaret) Stannard, 88, a member of the homesteading Burke family and the widow of a pioneer merchant, closed the book of life for one of the few remaining oldtimers of our city.

Mrs. Stannard's life was long, colorful and useful, and there are several generations of O'Neillites who forever will be grateful for her kindness and understanding in matters large and small.

The sidewalk past the Stannard store has been a beaten path for school children for many years. Countless have been the occasions when this little lady befriended school-bound or home-bound children with an extra mitten or an overshoe, a buttoning of the coat. Her warmth of personality and friendliness made her store a popular stopping place to-and-fro on a blustery day.

In a broader sense, Mrs. Stannard, a keen judge of people, oftentimes extended credit for food-stuffs at periods when she knew the cupboard at that home was bare.

She directed American Red Cross and federal government relief affairs (distribution of flour, etc.) during the "terrible thirties." Until her declining years she was active in community affairs. She had come to Holt as an early teenage girl

and endured pioneer life, which was quite different from the bourgeois life of an older, much larger Minnesota community. She married young, became the mother of 10 children (two of whom died in infancy), reared four sons and four daughters, and aided in no small measure her husband in business. For 72 years the Stannards have paid taxes on the building which now houses the Stannard store. After Mr. Stannard's death in 1931 she carried on in business and in the rearing of the family, and accelerated her interest in business and civic affairs.

Tired, old and frail, last week she died. As one member of her family stated it: "A beautiful life, a beautiful death."

### Those Railroad Land Grants

Certain hoary old legends never die — even though there is little or no truth in them. Into such a category falls the charge that the railroads were lavishly subsidized in their early days through government land grants.

The charge was repeated the other day by a letter-writer to the Chicago Tribune. Shortly afterward, H. M. Sims of the Association of Western Railways replied with a letter of his own in which he stated the facts. Here they are:

Less than eight percent of our railroad mileage was built with land grants — and the land, prior to the coming of the railroads, had been of extremely modest value, \$1.25 to \$1.50 an acre.

Even so, this land was far from a gift. In return, the railroads agreed to carry government, freight and passengers at greatly reduced rates. Railroads which had not received land grants still had to extend land grant rates to the government, or go without government business. A congressional committee, in 1954, reported that the railroads thus had contributed over \$900 million in payment for the lands transferred to them — which was many times the value of the lands at the time of transfer.

Lastly, as Mr. Sims stated, "The permanent values created by the railroad construction which was encouraged by land grants undoubtedly far exceed that of any similar project in American history."

So much for that old legend—

It's a smart child who understands her parents.

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