

Prairieland Talk—

Senator Nelson Is Undecided

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, 4110 South 51st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

LINCOLN—State Sen. Frank Nelson has been a citizen of Holt county long enough to be just about classed with the natives, though I believe he regards Ft. Calhoun, up above Omaha a few miles, his life's starting point.

He told me the last time I saw him that he was then undecided about being a candidate for the job of senator again, but I gave Frank the wink to remind him that I know how politicians talk. But the senator remembers the first dollar he earned and likes to tell about it. Who doesn't? As a lad he took a cow 16 miles, walking that distance and back home with a silver dollar clutched tight in his fist and visions of the fine new duds he was going to buy with it.



Romaine Saunders

Is there a lad about O'Neill who would walk from Fourth and Douglas streets south on U. S. 281 to the turn into Chambers and back for a dollar? Prairieland Talker did four-bits better than Frank, when as a kid I got \$1.50 for guiding three night prairie prowlers to where they could hole up.

Denny Cronin, the Biglins, John Weeks, Joe Meredith, John Mann, Katie Mann, Mrs. Wes Evans, Flo and Agnes Bentley—all the others who wrote the human picture from the late '70's until the turn of the sundial in the 1900's, no longer now in the moving scene unrolled upon the scroll as you walk the streets of O'Neill. And where are they all today—just walk a mile to the northwest and you will find where they lay.

That patriots down in the Amelia community will be successful in bringing back an elected state superintendent of schools is devoutly to be wished. The change to an appointive head of Nebraska public school system should have never been made. An elected head of the public educational setup is representing the citizens of the state who elected him, not a little group of other state officials, honorable and seeking to promote the interest of our public schools though they may be. But no group of men at the statehouse can determine what is needed in a given community as the citizens of that community know it to be. Out of the schools in communities such as Holt county's Amelia is representative come not the jail birds but worthwhile citizens. And the elected county superintendents, from the days of Charley Manvill to Miss French of today, have seen that competent teachers were in the schools.

I can not reach a hand to you glistening star, nor walk the trackless waste to worlds afar. I can not pluck a rose from Eden's blooming bower, nor sit on celestial heights for one brief hour. I can go to a lonely soul of whom I have heard, and bring to him a friendly cheering word; smile as I walk along the pathway where childhood romps and play.

Editorial—

Inconsistencies at Ainsworth

Holt countyans attending the recent Ainsworth meeting of the Nebraska School Boards association returned home quite convinced the association came up with fumbles and inconsistencies.

For example, the association went on record favoring state aid to schools but rejected any suggestion of federal control. The body felt federal aid would mean a "loss of control" but the thought of "losing control" in connection with state aid apparently never occurred to the policymakers.

The association favors a state sales tax with sufficient money earmarked for schools to assure \$50 annually distributed to the public schools on a per pupil basis. In Holt, where there are three parochial and an estimated five hundred parochial pupils, the proposed sales tax money would be returned disproportionately to what is taken from the county.

Moreover, the association can't proceed with the referendum sales tax plan until a present constitutional amendment is stricken. In other words the leadership of the association has the cart before the horse.

The school board group, strongly influenced by the Nebraska State Education association and the state department of education, wants "shotgun" redistricting.

State Sen. Frank Nelson of O'Neill took the floor and pleaded the case of voluntary redistricting.

"Don't make it compulsory redistricting on a statewide basis," he warned. "When the mercury is below zero I offer a general invitation to everyone at this meeting to come to my house (24 miles north and east of O'Neill.) Come and learn what rural road conditions are. The trip will temper your ideas of how far you can move pupils to and from their schools."

The Ainsworth meeting was three weeks ago. Senator Nelson, returning home that night, got within three miles of his home, his car bogged down in the mud and he was obliged to spend the remainder of the night sleeping in his car.

A speaker from Lincoln, whose apparent mission was to sell state aid, told of "critical areas in Nebraska where outside financial help is sorely needed."

Nelson pointed out that Ewing's mill levy recently was 99 mills and Naper's 104 mills. Yet neither of these communities is clamoring for state or federal aid to education.

"Where are these so-called critical areas?" demanded Nelson. No one had an explanation.

Jumping Through Hoops

Our Washington news letter, Human Events, reports day-by-day in the capital there is unfolding a series of "police brutality" hearings—instigated by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). The hearings are being held before the board of commissioners—the governing body of the District of Columbia.

Human Events says the District chapter of NAACP, headed by Eugene Davidson, has charged District Police Chief Robert Murray with "condoning brutal treatment of Negroes and with discrimination between white and Negro members of the police force."

A preliminary investigation was held by the justice department—at the request of the commissioners—to determine whether there were grounds for federal action concerning the NAACP's charges. The department's finding was that "the evidence does not warrant criminal prosecution for violation of the civil rights statutes." In the hearings themselves, it was brought out that Davidson,

Good morning! How's the flu? Think you have a kick coming against President Ike? Remember Miriam was smitten with leprosy for raising her voice against a great leader and was expelled from the camp until she repented. . . . October draws to a close as radiant sunshine glows from out the clear blue sky. Trees reach bare limbs heavenward, dead leaves carpet the ground below stalloward oak and cottonwood, birds have taken off for southern winter resorts. But the morning of this last day of October Indian summer returns to nod a fond farewell to prairieland. Get into your winter duds! . . . The little lad held out an open hand and I dropped a bit of candy in it, and he ate it. Then asked if he could have some to take to his sister. What can you do but respond with your last bit when a boy thinks of his sister that way?

A barefoot lad long ago hiked down town from a little white cottage at then the western limits of O'Neill, slipped into the Gatz meat market, bought and paid for 15 cents worth of beef, hiked back home and had a place at the dinner table with the rest of the family. Today he and his wife are touring Europe and I have a card from them mailed at some point in Spain. They have visited all lands on the continent ending up in the British Isles, then home. And home for Mr. and Mrs. Will Meals is in San Diego, Calif. Will left O'Neill in early youth, attended university in Berkeley (University of California) and became a mining engineer. He is a cousin of George Meals of the Atkinson community, and a brother-in-law of Prairieland Talker.

November 16, 1905—Mr. and Mrs. John Haloran of Inman celebrated the 40th anniversary of their marriage. Their first Thanksgiving dinner in their one-room homestead abode on the prairies of Holt county in the long ago consisted of dried cherries, all they had as bride and groom in their pioneer homestead abode. . . . Barney McGreevey was in the news, also in jail, either move on the part of depositors of the failed Elkhor Valley bank. . . . A railroad stopping place west of Plainview was named Copenhagen in honor of a Dane or two settling there. . . . M. F. and J. S. Harrington boarded the morning train for Lincoln and O. O. Snyder was enroute to Omaha. . . . Miss Belle Martin went to a South Dakota point where she had been engaged to teach in the school.

Wheat farmers of a western Nebraska county must fork over to a federal revenue collector \$977,671.16 because their wheat fields turned out the makings of too many loaves of bread. Has it come to that on prairieland when the national government dictates to the farmer what and how much his land shall yield per acre; taking over the job that belongs definitely to the clover, the soil and the weather. But had those wheat farmers stayed by the stock raising industry as others have in prairieland they would not now be in such a bondage to the government. As yet, word has not gone out from Washington to our prairieland cowboys setting a limit on the number of calves the cows can bring forth year by year.

before bringing his charges against Chief Murray, gave only cursory examination to the accusations of his witnesses.

As the hearings moved into their final phase last week, Congressman Joel Broyhill (R.-Va.), a member of the District of Columbia committee, demanded an investigation of Davidson's NAACP chapter. "The Washington branch of the NAACP," Broyhill stated, "has engaged in reckless accusations and unreasonable demands which, I fear, have had a very adverse effect on the efficiency and morale of one of the finest police organizations in the nation."

"One is forced to wonder", Broyhill concluded, "how long this racial association will have officials in high places jumping through hoops."

Tractor Is Child Killer

(Guest Editorial from the Pierce County Leader)

You usually consider a tractor as an adult's danger when it comes to farm accidents. . . . this will jolt you . . . a national survey shows more lives lost by tractors in the 10 to 14 year-old age group than any other five-year age group.

In a four-year survey the national safety council obtained the following startling information: Tractors killed 19 in the 0 to 4-year-old age group.

A good share of these accidents were youngsters run over while playing in the farm yard.

Tractors killed 18 in the 5 to 19-year-old age group.

Many of these are dad letting the youngster ride on the draw bar while he is driving around the place.

Tractors killed 33 in the 10 to 14-year-old age group.

This is the greatest number killed in any age group. The biggest proportion of these deaths are results of youngsters operating a tractor before proper training.

Tractors killed 29 in the 15 to 19-year-old age group.

Youngsters who have not learned to recognize danger when it appears . . . youths whose judgement is not sound ready to gamble they can make a tractor do things it was never designed to perform.

Tractors killed 10 in the 20 to 24-year-old age group.

Part of this is a reflection of youths gone to college or to the service . . . but judgement is better, arms stronger to hold a steering wheel and death drops.

The death ratio changes little then until the 55-59 age group when 31 were killed, where overwork and fatigue starts to reveal itself.

Our daughter, 6, refers to the Tilden baseball whiz as "Richie 'Aspirin'".



CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher

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"I think his brakes are grabbing."

When You & I Were Young . . .

Hay Partnership Builds Addition

James Matthews Dies at His Home

50 Years Ago
J. B. Ryan and William Frelich have formed a partnership in the hay business. They are building an addition to the stor-

age room near the railroad tracks. . . . Ross Ridgeway and Miss Florence Wrede, both of Agee, were married, also George Robertson and Pearl Miner, both of Stuart, and Eugene L. Carey of Orchard and Bessie A. Newberry of Page, Scott H. Bowers of DeLoit and Miss Maude Workman of Ewing. . . . James Matthews, a pioneer of this county, died at his home eight miles north of the city. . . . Patrick Gahagan died of a heart attack. . . . John A. Harmon's little daughter, who had her here appendix removed in Omaha, has to have an other operation.

20 Years Ago

Third grade winners in the public school for health are Connie L. Williams, Bonnie Morton, Lois Stemes, Marvel Neal, Charles Jones and Bobbie Harmon. . . . Lettermen returning to St. Mary's academy are Barty Kubitschke, Robert McDonough, Francis Connelly, forwards; Robert Shoemaker, center; Edward Quinn and Frank Vaila, guards. The coaching staff consists of Jack Arbuthnot, Ben Grady and Matt Beha.

10 Years Ago

Harry Keeler was lost in Ontario, Canada, for 72 hours. He is a resident of Ewing and had been hunting. . . . Deaths: Charles Gramma, 99, of Clearwater; Max J. Seger of Stuart.

One Year Ago

Deaths: Mrs. Al J. Souser, 62; Mrs. Martin Hamik of Stuart; John Moses, 86, of Atkinson; Mrs. Mina Green, who was reared east of Chambers, at Seattle, Wash. . . . Claude Pickering, a farmer who has been ill, was aided by neighbors. . . . Mr. and Mrs. William C. Kelley of Inman celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Disabled Should Heed Social Security Policy—

Persons who are so severely disabled that they cannot do a substantial amount of work should file an application with the social security administration to "freeze" their social security records when they are in the seventh month of their disability, according to Clifford Kittleson, manager of the Norfolk social security office.

Failure of a disabled person age 50 or older with at least five years of coverage out of the last 10 years, to file for disability insurance benefits when he is in the seventh month of his disability could cost him one or more monthly benefit payments. Applications filed before January 1, 1958 may be retroactive to July 1957, the first month for which such payments could lawfully be made.

Christmas Seal Sale

Starts Friday— TB Christmas Seals to support the voluntary fight against tuberculosis will be mailed to 300,944 homes in communities throughout Nebraska beginning Friday, November 15, signaling start of Nebraska's 50th annual Christmas seal—the 51st in the nation. The campaign, which will continue through December, supports medical research and education, case finding, and programs for the benefit of TB patients and their families and other vital work, according to Raymond M. Cross-

man, jr., of Omaha, president of the Nebraska Tuberculosis Association.

Assists with 'Kiss Me Kate'

Miss Carolyn Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wilson, 903 East Douglas, is a member of the lighting crew of the fall musical, "Kiss Me Kate," to be presented at the College of St. Teresa, Winona, Minn., November 22-25. Miss Wilson is a sophomore majoring in elementary education.

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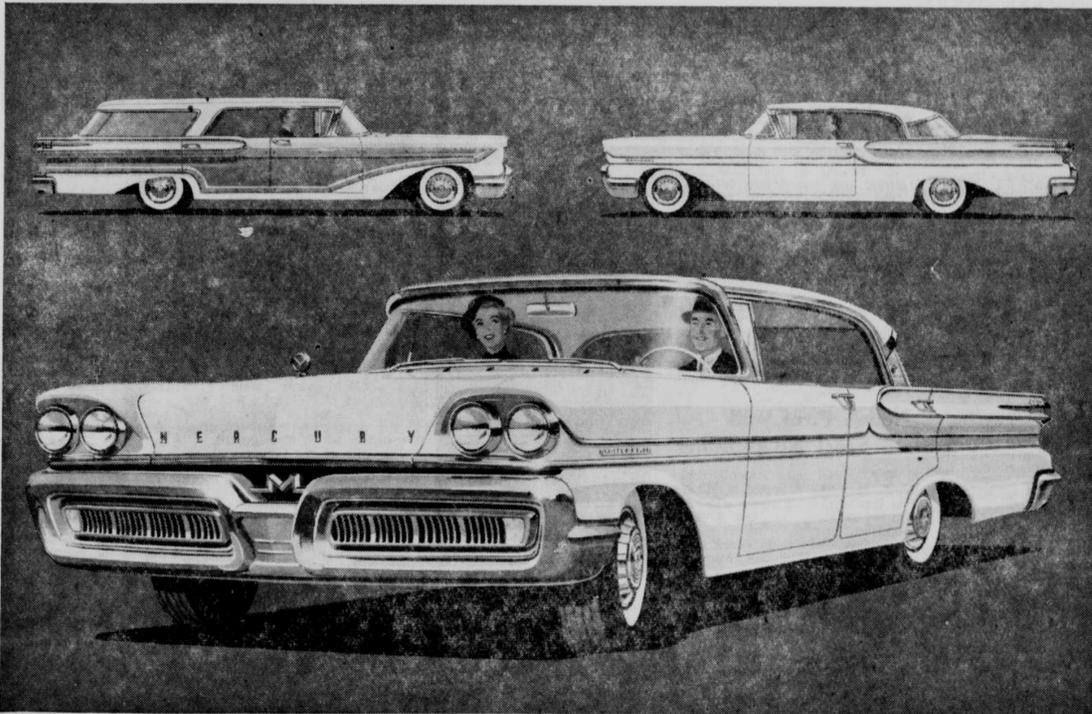
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