

THE FRONTIER

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Out of Old Nebraska...

Tragedy Overtook Donner Emigrants

Winter on the plains and in the mountains is something not to be taken lightly, particularly by the traveller, and even with our powerful automobiles, well-marked and well-patrolled highways, we still read the weather forecasts pretty carefully before taking an extended winter trip. Think what it must have been like in the days before the automobile and the railroad, when the roads across the plains and mountain passes were little more than trails.

It is little wonder that the overland emigrants who made their way across the plains and mountains from the Missouri river to Oregon, California and Utah took pains to start early enough in the spring to reach their destination before the snows of winter set in. Even so, some of the emigrants miscalculated, and some of the greatest tragedies in the history of the West are the stories of emigrants caught in a snow storm.

Perhaps the most famous of all the tragedies of the trail is that which overtook the ill-fated Donner party in November, 1846.

George Donner and James F. Reed, prosperous farmers of Sangamon county, Ill., left Springfield with their families and others, (32 emigrants in nine wagons altogether) on April 16, 1846. That year—the "year of decision"—was a year of heavy emigration, and in the month it took the Reed-Donner party to reach Independence, Mo., the jumping-off place for the West, they encountered many other travellers bound for Oregon and California.

At Independence, the Springfield emigrants became part of a much larger caravan. It was not a happy party, and before it had reached Scotts Bluff, it had

changed leaders a number of times.

West of Ft. Laramie, there was argument about the route. Reed, Donner and a few others wanted to take a short cut advertised in Lansford Hastings' guide book.

Though warned by James Clyman, who knew the mountains as Hastings did not, that they should stay on the main trails and avoid cutoffs because they might get caught in snow on the western slope before they arrived, they determined that they would try the shorter route.

Beyond Ft. Bridger they left the regular trail and tried to make their way over the much more difficult—and at times almost impassable—trail to the Salt Lake Valley. Beyond the Great Salt Lake the road was even more difficult, and in November, at Truckee lake they were caught in a blizzard. They suffered indescribable hardships during the winter, and only 47 out of 87 survived.

Sons Honored on Successive Days

Mrs. Vern Reynoldson entertained 8 Boy Scouts on Tuesday evening, November 20, in honor of her son, James, who was 12-years-old. The boys played games and refreshments were served.

On Wednesday evening, November 21, Mrs. Reynoldson entertained in honor of her other son, Allan, who was 10-years-old. There were 6 guests and for entertainment they attended the theater.

Expects Navy Separation

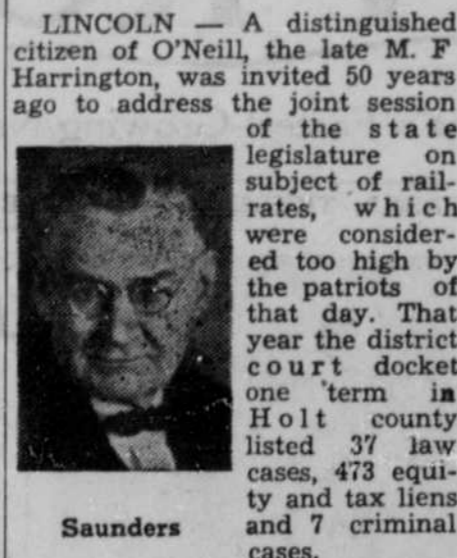
Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Quinn received word from their son, Edward, who has been stationed at San Diego, Calif., the past 15 months, that he will be separated from the navy on December 3.

Thanksgiving guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Sullivan were Mr. and Mrs. William Hanley and sons, Robert and Edward.

Prairieland Talk—

Joe and Kate Davis Were Social Contrasts— Kate an Operatic Singer, Joe a Hibernator

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS



Saunders

LINCOLN — A distinguished citizen of O'Neill, the late M. F. Harrington, was invited 50 years ago to address the joint session of the state legislature on subject of railroads, which were considered too high by the patriots of that day. That year the district court docket one term in Holt county listed 37 law cases, 473 equity and tax liens and 7 criminal cases.

In early spring of that year Joe Davis, a picturesque character who hibernated with a keg of beer out on Dry creek, received word of the death in Washington, D.C., of his sister, Miss Kate Davis, who had attained national fame as an operatic singer. Miss Davis visited O'Neill at one time. Joe and Kate were social contrasts.

The next time I see Charlie Harding I will ask him if the railroad ever paid for that horse that was knocked off the track by an incoming train from the west and had to be killed.

Another half-century note of interest was when Charley Hemstreet, who shifted from O'Neill to Niobrara, got a "new automobile" and thought he could make the daily trips from Niobrara to Verdigris "a half-hour quicker."

They come from Asia, from Europe, from Africa, from South America to look us Nebraskans over in the capital city. Among other things, our dollars have become fascinating and besides they get a good square meal. We used to find their picturesque garb and foreign flavored speech interesting. Now they come dressed as we in Yankeeand, the males with gaudy neckties, handkerchief protruding from the upper left-hand pocket of the blue serge coat, creased trousers and American made shoes; the ladies stepping about on high heels and looking every way Americanized. While we feel a bit flattered to be thus imitated the visitors from abroad lack the interest they held for us in their flowing silk robes from the Orient, hooded shies from the Arabian desert and the distinctive dress of an earlier generation of Europeans.

Eight laborers in the treasury department in Washington daily toss to the flames \$29,000,000 of wornout currency. . . Sons and daughters of Turkey's soldiers killed in Korea are provided by the government of their home-land and tuition for college education. . . Government workers in the national capital are reputed to down 225,000 cups of coffee daily at the snack bars. . . After paying \$300 fine each and \$150 court costs, those gents from Texas and

California who went to the Burwell rodeo to reap a harvest have discovered Nebraskans mean business when they start to bring an end to gambling. . . The 13 million factory workers receive an average weekly wage of a little more than \$60, and with the decline of the value of the dollar they are about where they were 10 years ago at \$30 per week.

The day dawned grey and cold. A solid mass of clouds form an iron curtain between earth and celestial light. Out of the Dakotas come winds that chill. The house is empty save for a pair of cats chasing each other tails. Streets are deserted. Trees striped of foliage add to the melancholy scene. A toe on one foot hospitalized, the heel on the other rendering walking eschewed beyond the mortal needs. On this day set apart by men such as all of us are that we have exalted to be president of the nation and governor of the state in which to join with other patriots in giving thanks and feeding to the full, what has an oldtimer to be thankful for? A multitude of life's gracious ministry spring up before me on the shining wings of memory—the background of godfearing ancestors, family ties and fellowship of friends, cultural, spiritual and material boon, and hung by a golden cord is the picture of a sweet little girl looking up into the face of an old man as he sits in meditation and asks Grandpa, are you unhappy? Yes, sweetheart, when the shadows have begun to lengthen there come to all sooner or later lonely hours, but these hours are sweetened when such as you look up into grandpa's or grandma's face with your childish questions.

Prairieland housewives probably know all about it. Seems that there is a cut of beef known as chuck roast. That there may be no mistake about it the OPS is reputed to have come up with this description of a chuck roast: "Regular chuck means the portion of the cross cut chuck remaining after the severance of the fore-shank and brisket from the cross cut chuck, and containing most of the blade bone (scapular), part of the (humerous) arm bone, part of the 5 ribs (1st to 5th inclusive), that section of the backbone (cervical vertebrae from 1 to 7 inclusive), which portion shall be obtained by a cut through the cross cut chuck made in a straight line perpendicular to the contour of the outside or skin surface of the cross cut chuck (thereby separating the brisket and foreshank from the cross cut chuck) starting at a fixed point on the inside of the 5th rib determined by measuring off 10 inches along the 5th thoracic vertebra, continuing in the same straight line to the tip of the forward end of the breast bone (forward end of 1st segment of sternum) and passing through the (humerous) arm bone in the same straight line to complete the cut."

The federal civil defense administration urges citizens to wear a tag upon the person that identity may be assured in the event of bomb raids. If this government agency regards this precaution advisable are we to understand the danger is imminent? During the fracas with Japan a government scout came to us at The Frontier to get such information as we had of stories of balloons and bombs reported and also left instruction about reporting to authorities anything that developed in what was supposed to be an enemy plan to burn the grass of prairieland. Balloons were found in a few places and a booby trap was reported discovered in a field. But prairieland sustained no direct damage, but some homes were left in mourning over sons taken from the fireside to return no more.

Science determines that there are quantities of gold in the oceans sufficient when converted into cash to allot to each man, woman and child now inhabiting the globe \$4,004. Come on—pass it around.

At one time we got this story at The Frontier. A young man living in Page, who was paying attention to a young lady over near the Elkhorn, made his regular call at her home one evening. He was met at the door by the young lady and escorted to the parlor. She then excused herself and the old man came in and said: "Young man, I have no objections to your visit here, and you may come as often as you like, but you will have to make your little bow and hit the pike for home on this occasion. We are going to have a select party here tonight, and no one is invited but 2 or 3 old women and a doctor."

One 30-day period recently wrote the tragic total of 3,560 killed in traffic accidents. With the streets and highways cluttered with automobiles and the situation complicated by firewater flowing in amber streams all over the country, there seems no chance for improvement.

Wonder if those scientists who have come up with the information that the cow on pasture spends 7½ hours grazing strained a cerebrum blood line thinking up what any farm boy could tell us.

The sniffles are still with us, but what has become of the St. Jacob's oil, the Kickapoo Indian sagwa, Dr. King's New Discovery, Chamberlain's cough remedy and Pisco's cure for consumption? Even the wool sock soaked in kerosene is no longer available.

Frontier for printing.

Blood Typing Saves 2 Lives

Blood typing is the major project goal for the home extension club women in Holt county.

Monday, November 19, a group of club women from Amelia and Chambers and County Agent A. Neil Dawes and his family had their blood typed by Mr. Shelton at the Stuart hospital in Stuart.

Mrs. E. H. White foresaw the need of this type of program and suggested it to the Holt women's home demonstration council. The project got under way last January and now has covered a large area. This blood typing was welcomed by the doctors in the county because they will know immediately what type blood a person might have. After more people are typed, these lists will be sent to the doctors. When they have immediate need for a certain type of blood they can check their list and see who matches. You can see how this hastens getting blood to a patient when he needs it. One never knows; you might be the patient some day. The lives of 2 people in the county have already been saved as a result of this project.

Laboratory Technician Shelton has just set up his office at the Stuart hospital. He comes from

West Virginia. According to Mr. Shelton, this blood typing project is one that should spread to other states, possibly over the nation. It takes only 3 minutes to type a person's blood which includes the type of blood and whether you are Rh positive or negative.

Schneiders Entertain on Anniversary

On Sunday, November 18, Mr. and Mrs. Leo C. Schneider celebrated their silver wedding anniversary. Open house was held in the afternoon.

Over 100 friends and relatives came to congratulate the couple. Many gifts were received. Refreshments were served to those attending.

Out-of-town guests included: Mr. and Mrs. Art Paulsen and daughter, Dianne, and son, Richard, of Omaha; Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Dozler and sons, Jimmy and Larry, of Elgin; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Anderson, of Neligh; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sumner, of Neligh; Mrs. Joe Ramold and sons, of Emmet; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bahl and family, of Emmet.

Visit Parents—

Miss Donna Gallagher, of Chicago, Ill., and Miss Betty Gallagher, of Omaha, visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Gallagher, over the Thanksgiving weekend.

ON HAND AND READY FOR DELIVERY!

- 1—New IHC Pull-Type Picker, at a bargain.
- 1—Case DC Tractor.
- 1—Case SC Tractor.
- 1—New M-M Cornpicker.
- 1—VAC Case Tractor with the New Eagle Hitch. (Come in and see how this new hitch works.)
- 1—New Idea 2-row Corn Picker.
- 1—Case 2-row Corn Picker.

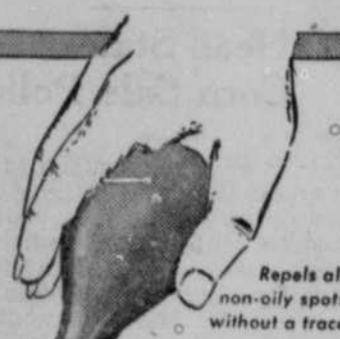
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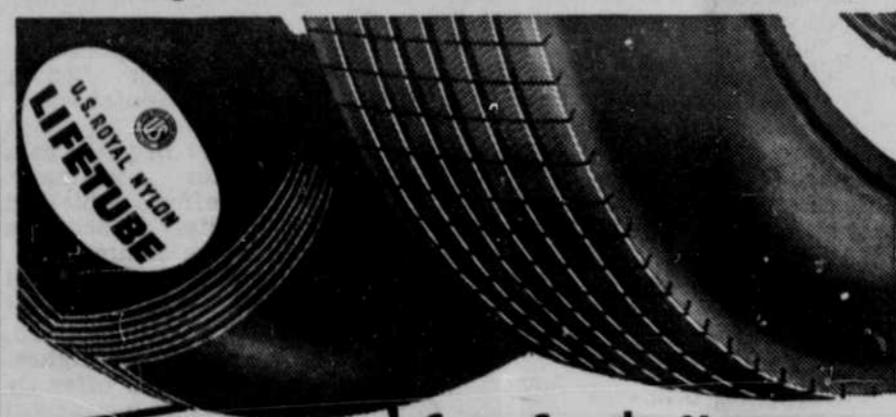
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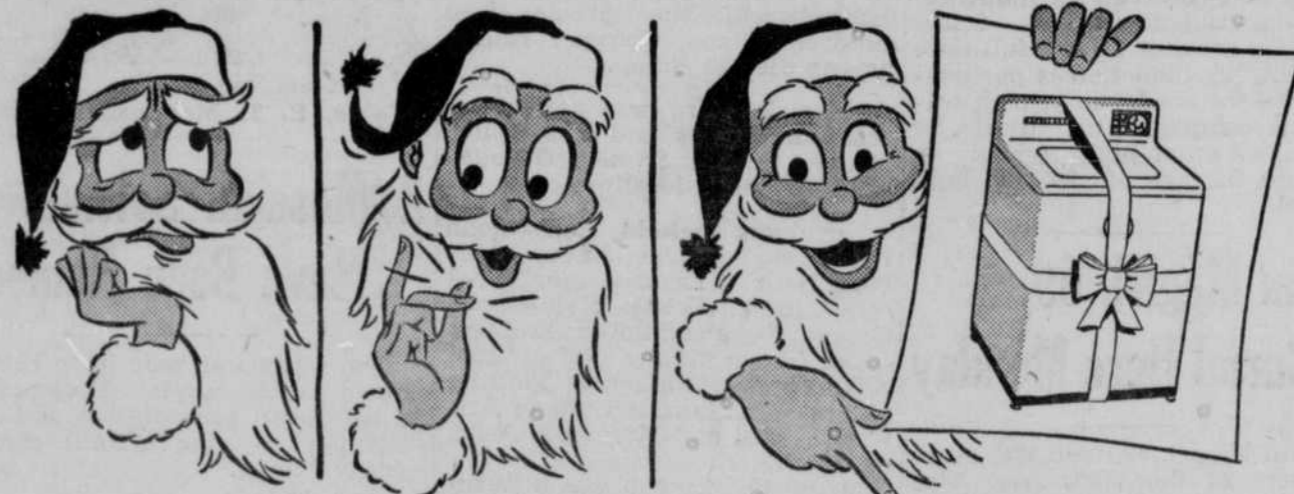
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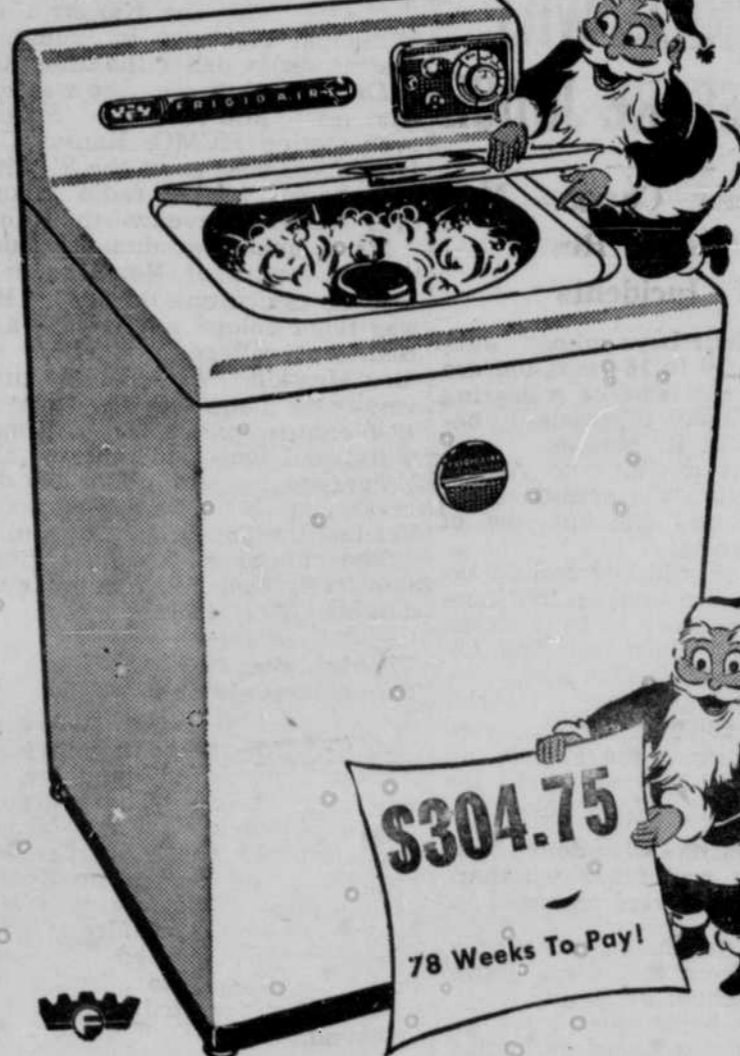


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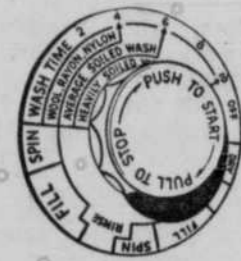


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