

# Slayer Search Renewed Here

'We're Giving Calkins Case All We've Got,' Smith Says

Officers Wednesday "started from scratch" again in their investigation of the murder March 7 of O'Neill Police Chief Chet Calkins.

Capt. Harold Smith and Sgt. R. E. Nichols, of the criminal investigation bureau of the state safety patrol, arrived to continue the search with Holt County Sheriff Leo Tomjack.

Thus far every probe has come to a dead end.

"You might say we're starting all over again," Captain Smith said. "We intend to review the case. We hope to explore some new angles that have come up."

During the next few days, he said, the officers will call in several of the persons previously questioned for "re-examination."

"We've been giving this case all we've got," Captain Smith said. "There have been no really hot clues, but we've followed up everything that has possibilities."

The body of Chief Calkins, 51, was discovered in the early morning hours at the wheel of his cruiser car parked near the O'Neill business district. He had been shot five times in the right side, apparently at point blank range.

Several persons told officers they saw Chief Calkins shortly after 1 a.m. talking with a man and inspecting the trunk of a car. It is believed the officer was searching for a blue suitcase stolen earlier in the night from a car here. The suitcase carried the initials "D.D."

Thousands of circulars with a description of the suitcase have been distributed throughout the country, but no leads have resulted, officers said.

Captain Smith recently went to Mankato, Minn., to question two men in jail there on a charge of possessing burglary tools.

One of the men admitted being in central Nebraska early in March, the officer said, but denied ever being in O'Neill.

"We had reports of some men in a maroon car stuck in a ditch between Ord and Burwell at that time," Captain Smith said.

"They were also seen in several other towns in that region. A maroon car was connected with the arrest in Minnesota. I went up there in my own car to talk to them."

He indicated he could not connect either of them with the O'Neill crime.

Smith said he expects to make a trip to Kansas within a few days to conduct some additional questioning.

It is apparent to newsmen who have been covering the Calkins case that authorities are grasping for straws and that to date the investigation has resulted only in a lot of hard work.

It is also apparent that the authorities still have the same enthusiasm in tracking down the murderer.

As one of them said: "It's a cop-hater on the loose and, eventually, we're going to catch him."

## 250 Served at Alumni Banquet

The annual St. Mary's academy alumni banquet was held Sunday, May 18. More than 250 were in attendance, according to Mrs. Charles Yarnall, an alumni officer who served as toastmaster.

The theme was "Gay Fiesta." The auditorium was decorated in accordance, giving the atmosphere of Spanish festivity.

Toasts were given by Very Rev. Timothy O'Sullivan, "Welcome"; Jerry Tomjack, of Ewing, "Our Clergy"; Dottie Iler, "Alma Mater"; Romona Schneider, "Our Sisters"; Mrs. Grace Hammond Moss, "Welcome to the Class of '52"; Suzanne Moss, "Response."

Musical entertainment was given by mixed octette singing "Old Woman"; girls' trio, "Beautiful Lady Dressed in Blue"; Mrs. Kathleen Flood Hansen, "Addio," from La Boheme.

## BANQUET TONIGHT

The annual rural youth banquet will be held at the American Legion auditorium tonight (Thursday). Clifford Sobotka, of Inman, will be toastmaster. Earl G. Maxwell, University of Nebraska extension forester, and Dr. Ramond Pool, retired head of the Nebraska university botany department, will be speakers. They reached O'Neill Wednesday evening. Banquet starts tonight at 7 o'clock.

## FIREMEN CALLED

O'Neill firemen were summoned at 5:55 p.m. Tuesday to the E. A. Eppenbaugh residence. Several towels hanging above an electric stove had caught afire.

Miss Esther Grosenbach, of Hot Springs, S.D., is a guest at the home of her brother and sister-in-law, Rev. and Mrs. Melvin Grosenbach. She is teaching the Bible school this week at the Wesleyan Methodist church.

## Rock Falls Oddities Again Make News

ROCK FALLS—Leave it to Rock Falls to produce the news!

This week: A valuable saddle horse impaled himself on a post. The post had to be sawed off to free the horse.

A deer was found tangled in a fence—presumably having been a "prisoner" for some time. The deer was about dead and those who found it were convinced it could never recover.

A two-year-old child put his foot in a freshly-baked cake that his mother was taking to a social affair. Result: Dirty shoe; no cake.

## Edwin L. Jardee Dies; Burial Here

Edwin Lawrence Jardee, 66, of O'Neill, died Wednesday, May 14. He had been ill for two days.

Mr. Jardee was born in Newport, and came to Holt county in 1927.

He married Emma Andersen in 1919 at Newport.

Survivors include: Widow; sons—John C., of O'Neill; Benjamin, of Rifle, Colo.; George E., of Deadwood, S.D.; Thomas U., of Elcojan, Calif.; Joseph B., of Wayneville, Mo.; daughter—Mrs. Dale LaSart, of Climax, Colo.

Funeral services were held Friday in the Biglin Brothers funeral chapel with Rev. M. H. Grosenbach officiating.

Burial was in Prospect Hill cemetery.

## Lions Will Pick Beauty Queen

The O'Neill Lions club will select a beauty queen next Monday night, May 26, at a banquet and program to be held at the Methodist church, beginning at 7 o'clock. The winner will receive a \$25 U. S. savings bond and a trip to the state convention at Norfolk, with all her expenses paid for two days—June 1 and 2. There will be about 12 candidates entered.

H. V. Osterberg, manager of the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce, will be here and give an address.

There will be guests here from Norfolk, Neligh, and Bassett Lions clubs. The O'Neill Lions club quartet will offer several musical numbers.

The ladies are invited.

## Plan 7-County Mothers' Camp

A seven-county one-day mothers' camp will be held at Long Pine on July 31. Plans are being developed by the extension club sponsors. Counties expected to be represented are Boyd, Keya Paha, Holt, Brown, Rock, Garfield and Custer.

There will be a coffee period and registration at 10 a.m., a meal at noon. The afternoon's program will include a display of pottery and demonstration of handicraft, probably wood.

## Annual Extension Picnic June 5th

The annual Holt county extension club picnic will be held in Fords' park, O'Neill, Thursday, June 5.

The Elkhorn Valley and Goldenrod clubs, both of O'Neill, will be hosts. Members from those clubs will have charge of entertainment and games for children. Refreshments will be furnished.

A spokesman said all extension clubs and club members are invited. Individuals are asked to bring their own dishes, silver and a covered dish.

## Shirley Leahy Queen of May

Miss Shirley Leahy, a senior, was elected queen of May by the St. Mary's academy high school student body.

It was her honor to crown the Blessed Virgin Mary in rites at St. Patrick's Catholic church Wednesday evening.

## NEW PATROLMAN

Patrolman Robert Gude, of Nebraska City, has been assigned to the O'Neill territory for the Nebraska safety patrol. He was formerly stationed near Ainsworth. He will work with Patrolman Frank Dineen, who has been stationed here since January, 1950.

## Saddle Club to Meet

The meeting of the O'Neill Saddle club which was scheduled for May 25 has been postponed until June 1. The meeting will be on the club grounds east of the city.

"Voice of the Frontier" . . . 780 kc., thrice weekly.

# 1,500 Applaud as Donna Mae Gets Diploma

Plucky Polio Victim, 19, Smiles from Stage; Tutor Also Heroine

By C. D. ANKNEY Staff Writer

Life for most of us is a series of eternal obstacles. And to keep going we must overcome them.

How insignificant and unimportant most of our discouragements are when compared to those of others!

I'm thinking about the case of Donna Mae Fuhrer, the 19-year-old O'Neill farm girl, a helpless polio victim who has endeared herself to the hearts of thousands of people by surmounting all the obstacles in the book to win an education.

Last week Donna reached an important milestone when she received her high school diploma without having been inside a high school classroom. Five years earlier she graduated from the eighth grade and that accomplishment was important enough to win nationwide attention. And now her latest triumph is a classical legend in Nebraska educational annals.

Let's talk for a few moments about this plucky Donna Mae Fuhrer. Let's move behind the scenes in that modest little farm home and really get acquainted with this pretty little heroine—this young lady whose personality and philosophy of life make your heart beat just a little quicker.

Consider for a moment learning to write with your mouth, and having to turn the pages of a book with an instrument held by the teeth. That's what Donna has accomplished—with proficiency!

She has earned all the credits required by high school with high grades. She received 19 one's, which rate 93 to 100, and six two's, which rate 85 to 93.

At last Thursday's graduation rite Donna, her hair neatly done, wearing a green blouse, black slacks, and a corsage, was handed a certificate for being the outstanding student in the University of Nebraska high school extension course. She finished with the highest grades ever registered in the high school extension course of study.

James Kurtz, of the university's extension branch, recently noted on one of her test papers: "Congratulations, Miss Fuhrer. It is seldom we have an opportunity to grade a perfect paper."

In Donna's presence one forgets her handicaps as she contemplates the future. She already has inquired from the University of Nebraska concerning a further course of study, which will include public speaking and radio work.

Though at first frightened by the "mike" when interviewed for the radio, she has the desire to enter radio work with a program of her own. She wants to help



O'Neill's widely-known polio victim, Donna Mae Fuhrer, receives her O'Neill high school diploma from an ambulance cot from Dr. L. A. Burgess, president of the board of education. At right are Principal Joel Lynman, Teachers Marvin Miller and Mrs. Leo Mullen. Donna Mae has never been inside an O'Neill high classroom.—O'Neill Photo Co.

bring cheer to those who are downhearted and afflicted by the means of radio.

And there is no question about her succeeding in that, too. Should you visit Donna Mae to cheer her up, you will find yourself smiling and laughing while the process is reversed. You expect sadness and a downcast spirit. Instead you are greeted with a bright face, a beaming smile and generous dimples.

Behind all this has been the will to win. This has meant a great deal of hard work. It has not been easy. Each inch of progress has been a measure of triumph.

When you try to tell her how wonderful it is that she has accomplished all this, in sincere modesty she replies, "It would not have been possible without the help of Mrs. Johnson."

And this introduces another heroine in this story of victory. Mrs. Clay Johnson, sr., of O'Neill, has for five school years and three summers attended to the supervision of Donna's education. Except when snowdrifts prevented, Mrs. Johnson visited the Fuhrer home regularly twice a week for the first year and once a week thereafter.

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## OFFICIAL'S WIFE DIES SUDDENLY

Mrs. Albert Frost, 62, Discovered Dead by Her Husband

ATKINSON — Mrs. Albert Frost, 62, wife of a newly-elected Atkinson city councilman, was found dead late Saturday, May 17, by her husband, upon his return to his home.

She had not been ill, relatives said, and death was attributed to a heart ailment.

Funeral services were conducted at 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 20, at the Methodist church with Rev. E. G. Hughes, church pastor, officiating. Rites were held at Grundy Center, Ia., on Wednesday where burial was made in a family plot.

Survivors include: Widow; son—Dr. Vern Frost, an army physician stationed in California; daughter — Mrs. Lewis C. (Avis Jean) Dickerson, of Lincoln; mother; four grandchildren.

The late Inez Peterson was born at Grundy Center. She came to Atkinson in 1916.

Mr. Frost is a veteran in the produce buying and plumbing business.

## QUICK SALE

Some sort of a sell-out record was established Friday during the Mode O' Day's smoke damage sale. The racks and shelves were cleared by a throng of eager women buyers in one hour and 10 minutes. First advance word of the forthcoming sale was broadcast at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday, May 14, on the "Voice of the Frontier" program. A quarter-page ad in The Frontier announced the sale to Frontier readers. The Mode O' Day will reopen today (Thursday).

## O'Neill and Spencer Midgets to Clash

A midget ball game is scheduled for 2:30 o'clock Sunday between O'Neill and Spencer. The game will be played on the north diamond.

The O'Neill juniors will play Orchard at Orchard on Sunday. Game time is 2 p.m.

## MRS. SUITER EXPIRES

PAGE—Mrs. Francis Suiter, 97, of Oacoma, S.D., died on Tuesday, May 6. Funeral services were held at Iona, S.D., Friday, May 9. Mrs. Suiter was the mother of William Williamson, of Page. She is survived by three other sons and one daughter.

## LANDMARK MOVED

The Henry Cook house, an old frame landmark at the corner of Madison and Douglas streets, known as the Outlaw corner, is being moved. The property recently was sold by Mrs. T. J. Donohoe to Carl and Ann Asimus. This week they are moving it onto lots west of their famous "goat house" on West Everett street.

## STUART SCOUTS Win Trophy

ATKINSON — The Stuart Scout troop 182, of the Covered Wagon council, was the winner of two days of competition at the district Scout camporee held at the Atkinson state park Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 16, 17, 18. The Stuart troop received a trophy whereas all other troops competing received a ribbon for their troop flag.

The other troops represented were O'Neill, Spencer, Jamison, Ainsworth, Ewing, Chambers, and Atkinson.

## 30 ENROLL FOR BAND SCHOOL

Municipal Band Will Make First Appearance in Parade

The newly-organized O'Neill summer band school got underway in the public high school building on Monday, May 19, with over 30 students enrolled, according to Charles B. Houser, the regular band teacher.

Full band rehearsals will be held every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning at 9 a.m. In addition, class and private lessons will be offered on all the band instruments.

A special class for beginners is scheduled to meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. to give each child a chance to try all of the instruments to see which one suits him best.

"It will not be necessary for the people in this group to purchase an instrument until after this trial period," Mr. Houser said.

First meeting of the municipal band this summer will be for the memorial day parade. All band members who plan to be in town that day should dust off their instruments and be in uniform for this event, according to the director.

## AT HOBSON INQUIRY

PAGE—Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Howell have received word from their son, Lt. W. S. Howell, that he was with the fleet out on maneuvers when the destroyer mine sweeper Hobson was sunk. He was on the Rodman, the sister ship of the Hobson. The Rodman brought the damaged Wasp that ran into the Hobson back to New York City. Lieutenant Howell will stay at Byonne, N.J., until after the investigation of the accident.

## ACHIEVEMENT DAY FIXED

Mrs. Vern Sageaser, of Amelia, has announced that achievement day will be held in O'Neill on November 6. Highlights of the program will include a report on the national meeting at Raleigh, N.C., films on North Carolina, a safety skit and booths on safety.

## HEAR COMPLAINTS

The Holt county board of equalization was in session Wednesday and will convene again this afternoon (Thursday). The board heard numerous assessment protests during Wednesday's busy session. Decisions on Wednesday's business may be told this afternoon.

## Marilyn Fritton, who attends St. Catherine's school of nursing, Omaha, will spend the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Al Fritton.

## WARM GROWING WEATHER NEEDED

But All Crops Looking Good; 40 Percent Corn Now Planted

Holt county farmers and ranchers are generally agreed that some warm growing weather is needed. Temperatures have been abnormally low for this season of the year.

They disagree, however, on another score: north-Holt farmers would welcome a good rain; south-Holt men beg nix.

James McNulty, who lives north of O'Neill, said Wednesday a good shower would be welcomed in his neighborhood, mostly for the small grain. On the other hand, Joseph Gallagher, of Inman, said: "Don't you dare order rain!"

But a heavy rain fell late Wednesday night.

That discussion points up an age-old problem in the O'Neill sector where soil conditions and altitudes vary.

County Agent A. Neil Dawes estimated Wednesday about 40 percent of the corn has been planted.

All crops are looking real good, mostly because of the abundance of spring moisture. With so many meadows under water it is too early to tell about the hay and bluegrass crops.

Some farmers say their alfalfa may soon have to be cut because of its rapid growth even though it hasn't been in bloom. Farmers are guided on the cutting problem by examining the new shoots.

Week's weather summary, based on 24-hour periods ending at 5 p.m., daily, follows:

	Hi	Lo	Prec.
May 15	75	39	
May 16	59	44	.71
May 17	63	45	.26
May 18	66	37	
May 19	67	44	.03
May 20	71	44	
May 21	71	50	

## Kicked by Horse, Surgery Needed

PAGE—Ed Stewart, 36, farmer residing three miles northwest of Page, was kicked by a horse on Tuesday, May 13. He was rushed to Our Lady of Lourdes hospital, Norfolk, where emergency surgery was performed that evening.

His condition is "improved", attendants say, and he may be released later this week.

His wife has been staying at Norfolk to be near him.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Mudloff and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wettlaufer and Sherry and Mickie Stewart went to Norfolk Saturday evening where they visited the injured man. Sherry and Mickie remained with their mother; the others returned that evening.

## Teaching Vacancy Exists at OHS

A vacancy still exists on the O'Neill public school teaching staff, according to Supt. D. E. Nelson.

A successor is being sought for Joseph George, who taught social science in the high school the past term and was not a candidate for reelection.

Twenty-one other teachers have signed contracts, Nelson said.

## Africa Missionary Speaks Here

At the Assembly of God church Tuesday evening, Rev. Murray Brown, of Africa, was a special missionary guest speaker.

He also showed slides about African life and about his work with natives there. Reverend Brown left Wednesday for Valentine.

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