

Prairieland Talk . . .

Adlai's Divorce a Handicap?

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

LINCOLN—They say it was incompatibility or some such constitutional barrier. At that it was their own affair—until. Now that he is before the sovereign citizens of America as a candidate for the highest office within the gift of the people there will probably be enough said about the Illinois governor, now up for president, having a divorced wife. It appears to a lot of homemakers as sheer nonsense to discover that thing with which divorces are soft pedaled to the public, a discovery after 20 years together that should have been made during courtship.



Romaine Saunders

Stevenson has had that handicap as he waves the democratic banner at the head of the procession, but to what extent it will have a bearing on the counting of votes in this day of loose thinking in the matter of broken homes remains to be seen.

Party supporters always claim victory for their man before the votes are in. Joe Cowperthwaite, one of O'Neill's few goldbug democrats, when the news came that Alton B. Parker of New York was nominated by the democrats to oppose Theodore Roosevelt, with an air of finality, said, "He will be elected," knowing as he said it that Parker didn't have a Chinaman's chance. Does Gov. Adlai Stevenson have a better chance at it? Anyway, the country has got away from the eastern states for national leadership. In the time of Mr. Parker there were three candidates from New York, one from Pennsylvania, one from Indiana and one from Georgia.

Canopying peaceful prairieland, the blue of August skies will hover over a notable gathering to assemble in the metropolis of Holt county. Here come the newspaper guys from farflung grass lands for a day's lovefeast. I wonder what the old boys who mastedhead the fighting weeklies of another generation would have thought of such a conclave. Imagine Doc Mathews embracing John McDonough, Jim Riggs smiling benignly on Charley McHugh, George McArthur hobnobbing with Jud Wood, Clyde King taking the ink-stained hand of Ham Kautzman or Del Aiken coniving with Sam Evens. But even the bloodiest war must spend its last crimson drops. And now the press breathes sweet peace. Is this to be an occasion to pass the cigars, talk shop and have a big prairieland feed, or something that maybe the FBI should look into, not to mention the justice department stepping in with the view of invoking the Sherman act? Whatever weighty matters may be the cause of drawing the newshounds together they are assured of a cordial reception and the best Cal, Hap and Fay can extract out of the abundance with which O'Neill is always provided. And no doubt it would be worth a trip to O'Neill to see all the fellows.

Time writes no wrinkles on the azure brow of prairieland skies. But it wipes out generation after generation. Today we strut about and do our stuff, tomorrow we join that innumerable host from whose home no traveler returns. Fifty years ago in July two men, Art Mullen and John Maher, went to Kearney as delegates from Holt county to the fusion congressional convention. In later years Mr. Mullen was the democratic boss in Nebraska and John Maher was over in Europe hobnobbing with the deposed king of Spain. They, too, have gone the way of all humanity, other notables strut across the stage. I have known something of the ambitions of men, have felt its urge, its thrill and out of the wealth of the bygone I know of nothing better than the prayer of King David, "So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

After a hot restless night you can't deny a fellow the privilege of taking to his couch next day when skies are overcast and cool winds fan the hot earth. That is, even though a common bloke, he doesn't have to rush off to a job with lunch kit in hand in order to keep the grub supply up to somewhere near normal.

If Polio Comes . . .

If Polio Comes to My Community

I WILL REMEMBER TO Let my children continue to play and be with their usual companions. They have already been exposed to whatever polio virus may be in that group, and they may have developed immunity (protection against it). Teach my children to scrub their hands before putting food into their mouths. Polio virus may be carried into the body through the mouth. See that my children never use anybody else's towels, wash cloths or dirty drinking glasses, dishes and tableware. Polio virus could be carried from these things to other people. Follow my doctor's advice about nose and throat operations, inoculations, or teeth extractions during the polio season. Be ever watchful for signs of polio: Headache, fever, sore throat, upset stomach, tenderness and stiffness of the neck and back. Call my doctor at once and, in the meantime, put to bed and away from others any member of my family showing such symptoms.

I WILL NOT Allow my children to mingle with strangers, especially in crowds, or go into homes outside their own circle. There are three different viruses that cause polio. My children's group may be immune to one of these. Strangers may carry another polio virus to which they are not immune. Let my children become fatigued or chilled. Overtired or chilled bodies are less able to fight off polio. Take my children away from our community without good cause. Polio time is the time to stay at home and keep with everyday companions.

If Polio Strikes My Home

I WILL Have confidence in my doctor, knowing the earlier the care the better my child's chances for complete recovery. I know that my child has a better than even chance to recover without paralysis. Call my local chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis immediately for information or help. The telephone book or my health department will tell me how to reach the chapter. Remember that whatever financial help my family needs for polio care will be given through the chapter.

There is always a way to develop more trade be merchants of O'Neill will cooperate on the of merchandising.

The professor emeritus from a medical college, the prof of physiology from some other revered institution, the alleged experts on diet, are setting at naught the accumulated wisdom of the common run of folks in the matter of summer diets and pronounce with the finality of the allwise that what goes down the neck has nothing to do with resistance to cold or heat. I know a few fellows who work out under the glare of midsummer sun and incidentally know something about diet, not from lab tests but from daily tryouts. There is a conviction that comes from experience that all the fine spun scientific bunk cannot gainsay. Eat a midday meal of sliced tomato, uncooked fruit and bread and the hot afternoon sun will be merciful, when, if you have taken on a load of heavy hot stuff, you would wilt under that burning sun. So a gent who thus has experimented informs me. I am no expert in such matters but am somewhat inclined in this respect to take the word of the fellow who works out in the hot sun rather than the one loaded with university degrees who spends the hot summer days in an air conditioned room poking into scientific mysteries.

Julius Caesar, "the noblest man that ever lived in the tide of times," way dry. The "noblest" in our day, at home and abroad, are plenty wet. . . The primitive has its appeal. Give the kids a tent or anything suggesting camp life, and you touch the basic instinct of the race. . . The deposed Pharaoh of Egypt takes refuge in Europe fortified with 40 cases of whiskey. . . From the status of a penniless actor, Shakespeare became one of England's largest land owners. . . A 6-year-old neighbor girl was doing "cartwheels" and broke her left arm. . . So long as men have wits to read, Ben Jonson said, and the ladies' interests in their neighbors continues, The Frontier will be published. . . As one Southern patriot has said, we have a surplus of national leaders but the fellows of good will in all the little towns and rural communities the country over are of greater importance to the general welfare than the popular idol of the moment.

Murray, the CIO boss, makes it clear his bunch will be for Stevenson. Is this an asset or a dead weight? . . . Judge Quigley up at Valentine says he has had enough of a thankless political job, so another old guard makes way for the young novices who step into the ring to get their eye teeth cut. . . A 4-year-old child is reported dying of old age in a hospital where the little one has been most of her life, never having known the joys of childhood. . . The recent quakes in California are reported to have been the most destructive since San Francisco was about wiped out in 1906. . . Citizens of York resent the action of the state liquor commission in granting a license to an applicant who had been denied such by the York city authorities.

A friend writing of bygone days in O'Neill recalls Felix Sullivan, whose childish happy round face and friendly smile are a pleasant memory. On my visits up there Felix is usually met with one of the several native sons who sticks around. And it gives the old timer a lift to run into a warm handshake with a guy who came out of the Kid Wade and Doc Middleton days. The bakery guy's truck stops out in front, calling to mind the days I drove a bread wagon in O'Neill and the Sullivan household was supplied from the bread box on that wagon.

To the neighborhood in which I abide there recently came a woman with her two young daughters to make their home. No, it is not a home; it is a holding-up place provided by public funds for the care of these three fellow creatures. Two miles away from this, our neighborhood, is the Nebraska state penitentiary. The husband and father who should head a happy home for this mother and her daughters is a prisoner in that institution. While posing as a respectable citizen and churchgoer his evil life planted a tree that bore thorns. He has gathered the thorns from the tree he planted; they have torn him and he bleeds.

Senator Byrd's Budget

Sen. Harry Byrd of Virginia has proposed that almost \$9,000,000,000 be cut from President Truman's \$85,500,000,000 budget. The Virginia senator says such a cut will avoid "destruction of our currency and chaos."

Senator Byrd has each year, in the last several, offered a Byrd budget, in which reductions were made in the administration budget. This year, he would eliminate economic aid to foreign countries abroad, cut military aid to foreign nations slightly, trim military spending several billions, and whack domestic civilian expenditures by about \$3,000,000,000. The Byrd budget totals \$76,800,000,000. One of the ways Senator Byrd would trim federal expenses would be to eliminate 231,000 federal jobs, proposed by Mr. Truman. If Senator Byrd's budget is adopted—which is unlikely—spending in the next fiscal year would be only some six or seven billion dollars more than estimated income. And since estimated income has in the past turned out to be higher than the estimates, Senator Byrd's budget might put the United States on a pay-as-you-go basis, or something very close to it.

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REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

WD—Frank J Fisher to Lorin C Keyes & wf 6-11-52 \$10,000. Lots 3 & 4 Gile's Replat. O'Neill. WD—Henry F Dyke to Walter Farewell 4-24-29 \$34.65- Part of SW 1/4 Sec 20-26-12. QCD—Heirs of Walter Farewell to Bert Farewell 11-15-45 \$1- Part of SW 1/4 sec 20-26-12. WD—Agnes Gaffney to Cecil McMillan & wf 7—52 \$1- Part of Blk "D". Lyons Add- Emmet of WD—Genevieve Kopp to Genevieve—Katherine Almiria & Betty Mae Kopp 11-14-51 \$10- Lot 5 & West 20 ft lot 6- Blk 2- Western Town Lot Co 1st Add-Stuart

When You & I Were Young. . . 2 Closings Leave Ewing Without Bank

Fay C. Hill Will Be Receiver

50 Years Ago Jessie Newton of Atkinson was in O'Neill transacting business. . . The music-loving public will be pleased to learn that Mrs. Wagner Thomas, soprano soloist, will appear at the opera house. . . Thomas Simonson was in town exhibiting a limb cut from an apple tree in his orchard. The limb was not much thicker than a lead pencil but contained 12 nice juicy apples. Mr. Simonson says the trees are bearing unusually heavy this year.

25 Years Ago Clarence Zimmerman has purchased what is known as the Grady residence in the west part of town. . . The Ewing State bank and the Pioneer State bank of Ewing, which have been operated by the state guaranty fund commission for the past two years, were closed and will be in charge of Fay C. Hill, a member of the commission, as receiver. The action leaves Ewing without a bank.

10 Years Ago Gerald Langan, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Langan left for Sioux City to enlist in the marines. . . Mr. and Mrs. Pete Herford received a telegram from their son, Pvt. Bennett Herford, that he had arrived in Honolulu. . . Mr. and Mrs. Seth Noble went to Sioux City to attend the funeral of an aunt of Mr. Noble's. . . Miss Ima Jean Calkins entertained six girl friends at a 5 o'clock dinner at her home and a theater party in the evening, the occasion being Ima Jean's 13th birthday anniversary.

One Year Ago Cpl. Paul Hartigan of Page landed in Seattle Wash., after serving nine months of service in Korea. . . Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Tomlinson celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary. . . Mr. and Mrs. James W. Rooney are vacationing in Canada.

Say Garter Snakes Are Very Prolific

Plains garter snakes get quite large and are apparently very prolific. This was learned by "an on the scene" encounter by two game commission employees and a garter snake in the sandhills. Supervisor of Game Lloyd Vance and Warden Bill Ahern ran over a garter snake. They stopped to check the snake and found it measured 38 inches in length, about the known maximum length attained by a plains garter snake. The snake was cut open to get an idea of what it had eaten. Found in the stomach was a partly digested salamander. Further dissection of the body cavity released 116 young snakes about ready to be born which is considerably more than the average. The plains garter snake, non-poisonous, is one of the few snakes which gives birth to live young. Most snakes lay eggs.

'Behavior' Course Is Begun

The off-campus course, "Human Development and Behavior," held the first meeting on Monday, August 4, at 9 a.m. at the O'Neill public school, according to Miss Alice L. French, Holt county superintendent of public instruction. Examination for entrance into the kindergarten grade for children who are not 5 on or before October 15 will be given August 22, according to Miss French.

FINAL NOTICE TO BIDDERS THE CHURCH COUNCIL of Christ Lutheran Church will receive sealed bids on Lots 20 and 21, Block "D", O'Neill and Hagerty's addition, O'Neill, Nebr. This is the old Lutheran church property located near corner of First and Clay Sts. THIS PROPERTY includes a frame building, 26 by 36, with small addition on rear, 9 by 12. Ceiling is insulated, 2 by 6's have been used extensively in construction. Water is piped to lot but not into building. THE COUNCIL will receive these bids by mail until 6 p.m., on Tuesday, August 15, and reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Council further reserves the stained glass windows. It is intended to use these in the new church building now under construction. IMMEDIATE POSSESSION will be given upon completion of sale. MEN'S COUNCIL Christ Lutheran Church P.O. Box 428 — O'Neill, Nebr.

State Capitol News . . .

19 Western Nebraska Counties Affected by Valuation Change

LINCOLN—Nebraska's county officials this week were totaling up your tax bill, based on a state levy of 6.98 mills, 39 mills higher than last year's levy. This means taxpayers will pay \$6.98 for each \$1,000 their property bears on the assessment rolls. The levy was set by the State board of equalization and will produce \$21,552,958. The resolution adopted by the board shows the amount to be raised at \$28,051,526. Estimated revenue to the general fund from such sources as the cigarette tax, liquor tax, head tax, etc., was set at \$10,424,000. Applying the 3 percent "cushion" required by law, this leaves \$18,156,352 to be raised by the property tax for state general fund purposes. A 5.88 mill levy will produce this amount and the 1.1 mill institutional building levy added to it, produces the 6.98 mill levy. This isn't the biggest levy the state has ever known—it was 13 mills in 1919—and wouldn't have shown an increase over last year had a near-million dollars in operating funds saved by Gov. Val Peterson's 5 percent saving order been allowed to apply against next year's budget. But since the legislature drafts a budget for a two-year period, savings in the first year are not reflected in the second year's levy.

Hearing—The levy was set by the board immediately after it had ruled that increases ranging from 10 to 50 percent on farm land valuations be applied in 19 counties. The vote was 3-2 with Governor Peterson, Secretary of State James Pittenger and Tax Commissioner Philip Johnson out-voting State Auditor Ray C. Johnson and State Treasurer Frank Heintze. Auditor Johnson objected on the basis that county assessors in the 19 counties would have to rework their books completely on short notice and Heintze said he was against the plan because it did not completely solve Nebraska's tangled tax problems which should be given the attention of the legislature.

The order brings counties where the average per-acre valuation is less than 50 percent of the 20-year sales prices in those counties, up to or slightly over 50 percent. Other counties range up to 82 percent of this figure. Johnson county representatives appeared at the hearing to ask that its valuation be cut but the board took no action on the request. Grant county was handed a 50 percent increase and its county attorney L. C. Hungerford protested because "land sales out in our county are primarily squeeze plays" between ranchers competing for needed land.

Sidelights—The hearing had more than its share of sidelights. Governor Peterson suggested that the 19 counties below the 50 percent figure should be raised to 50 percent while those above be lowered to that figure. "That would be real equalization," he said. To which Auditor Ray Johnson said, "Yes and three-fourths of the other 74 counties would go broke" because they need the high valuations in order to support their county government costs because the state constitution places a limit of five mills on the levy. Peterson suggested that perhaps the state should get out of the property tax field altogether, leaving it to the counties and find some other way—perhaps a sales or income tax—to pay the cost of state government.

On one point almost everyone was in agreement: Nebraska's tax picture is in a pretty hopeless mess. State law requires 100 percent valuation of property, yet only a fraction of the classes of property, notably cars, are assessed at anything like actual value. Hogs—A special session of the Nebraska legislature will be summoned if the federal government and other agriculture states agree to pay farmers for their losses caused by the epidemic of vesicular exanthema among swine. Governor Peterson said he would ask the lawmakers to appropriate \$200,000 to be used for matching with federal funds to indemnify the farmers for their losses. The governor's office estimated

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Oakdale, Nebr. Dear Friends: I heard your interesting program Sunday, July 27, over WJAG. Here's a hearty "thank you" to The Frontier for what it has meant to me and the community that listened to your broadcasts these three years past.

Especially did I enjoy your account of the snowbound days of 1948-'49. It vividly brought back to me the horrible experience I had when I suffered a broken leg and injured ankle on January 1, 1949. I was unable to reach medical aid until weeks later, when the Fifth army took me to a doctor on a weasel—too late, however, for much medical help. I was bedfast eight weeks. The two windows in my room only afforded the view of uninteresting snow piled in drifts. Sometimes I watched a pair of beautiful cardinals that were fed table crumbs on the snow.

Mail reached us only occasionally through a relay system of the neighbors—but The Frontier was good even though a week or so late. Radio was one wonderful service, especially WJAG and particularly The Frontier. If the members of the family were in the far corner of the house, I'd ring the bedside bell and call until someone came to tune in the radio, so I could hear the programs.

Democrats—A scrap for the national committee's post vacated last week by Judge James C. Quigley was beginning to take form this week as Frank Morrison of McCook and Edward Dosek of Lincoln announced they would campaign for the job. Morrison is considered here to be a top-heavy of the "New Life" wing of the party and Dosek has been associated favorite since he has the support with the Old Guard, although he denies being a "member of any clique or faction."

Officers will be named by the democrats at their biennial post-primary convention in Grand Island August 12. State Chairman William Meier of Minden has announced he will seek reelection against the announced candidacy of Francis Robinson of Ashland, the New Life entrant. Mrs. Grace Barmore of Lincoln, elected four years ago by anti-Quigley forces, said she will also be a candidate for reelection.

Honor Infant Son—Mr. and Mrs. Ray Grubb of Chambers entertained Sunday in honor of their son, Donald, on his first birthday anniversary. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. Ed Jones and son Robert, Mr. and Mrs. Gay Wintermote and daughter Carolyn, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Elkins and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Baker and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bayne Grubb and family and Mrs. Grubb, all of Chambers and Mr. and Mrs. Roland Weyhrich and family of O'Neill.

Ivan Kaiser returned home Thursday, July 31, from Verdigré where he had been visiting.

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TB and the X-Ray Bus

Time was when the TB victim innocently walked the streets of his town undetected—and undetectable. For who had the millionaire's pocketbook to pay for examining a whole town of a thousand people to sieve out one possible victim? Now comes the x-ray bus, able to be TB detective for whole cities, for a few pennies a person. Millions of people now have their TB worries erased when the doctor says "Okay." How long did it take to get the x-ray bus? Well, for its part, General Electric had been working on x rays for 57 years. Costs of diagnosis have come down by better and better equipment. No year passes without some new development. So this was another big chapter in a long book of events. Notice the nice way these buses get into service. They are usually purchased by voluntary contributions of plain people trying to get a job done. It is always hard to write a definition of the "American Way." But this hand-in-hand achievement of state and national health associations, General Electric, and the local communities comes close to being a perfect example.

You can put your confidence in— GENERAL ELECTRIC