Prairieland Talk . . .

## 'Chips' Something to Pickup

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

LINCOLN-Editor James C. Lawrence of the Lincoln Star seems to have been a lucky kid, as he writes about picking apples on pioneer Nebraska farms. The engineer of this department

was a pioneer kid on the wide open prairie but I never saw such a thing as an apple to be picked. Pat Hagerty would slip east at apple time and bring backback a wagonbox load to dispense to settlers when they found their way to his trading post where the Golden hotel now stands. Probably the first apple to hang from a tree in Holt county was down near Chambers after pioneering had begun to fade and this honor belonged to Rev. Coppoc or Doctor Norval. These two men did much to encourage horticulture in the grass country.



My father, like a lot of other homesteaders, planted apple, plum and cherry trees and guarded them with great care but never saw a blossom and where they stood in the long ago bunch grass has its native domain restored, with mild-eyed steers looking at you when you pass that way maybe once in a blue moon. But venturesome souls on prairieland were not totally bereft of something to pick up even though there were no apples.

"Buffalo chips" were gathered to keep the home fires burning and spuds to accompany a roast of prairie chicken, in lieu of apple sauce a bowl of sandcherry jelly.

And now down the highway of time comes Christmas, observed thoughtlessly by multitudes as merely one of many yearly holidays, by other multitudes as the natal day that marked the turning point in human history, and ignored by other multitudes of earth now crowded with vast throngs of frustrated mankind. We of favored prairieland regard the day with joyous reverence as the birthday of a Babe in a manger whose subsequent life of 33 years was cut short by wicked hands, but left to the world the heritage of a pure life and exalted teachings, to "love God with all the mind, might and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves." We miss the mark a long way, and yet as year by year we come to Christmas there is a softening of harsher impulses and a feeling of good will even toward the fellow who disagrees with us. Out of the storm of words coming from the thunders of the late presidential campaign I like what Governor Stevenson said: "In my public life I have tried always to follow the rule laid down 2,500 years ago by the prophet, Micah, 'to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God." That is not only the exalted privilege of "public life" but for every day living. The Christmas spirit brings us a little nearer that goal.

A bus load of students and teachers took off for a point in northern Mexico and were stalled on highway 81 down in Kansas along with some 500 cars and trucks, some standing, some upset in the snow. The teachers and students, with other travelers, numbering in all 150, found refuge for the night in a Kansas farm home. The school party was equipped with sleeping bags and made out admirably in the basement of that home. They got to Mexico and back to Lincoln with nothing worse than the experiences of snowbound travelers. A number of instances of stormbound motorists being given shelter, food and rest have been reported across the snow, reminding the old timers of blizzard swept nights on the open prairie in the long ago when they found refuge in a settler's cabin. The helping hand, unselfish ministry, the milk of human kindness, human decency lives on.

The pony express is to live on, thanks to efforts on the part of officials of the State Historical society in behalf of the memory of an institution that functioned in the long ago. The society is providing markers to be erected along the Nebraska trail of the hardy men who carried the mail as their ponies loped from one station to another. Last month exercises were held in Jefferson and Dawson counties and markers placed in school yards of district schools. These things will remind a smug generation of that romantic and formative period on prairieland when a wilderness was opening to the toil of brave men and courageous women to establish homes and build

The ancients consulted the moon and stars to ascertain the favorable moment to pounce upon a neighboring king. Now a psychiatrist of a noted university tells us our emotional food may be moored in the moon. In other words, if we feel a bit crazy lay it on the moon. Now when your emotional status seems a little upset look out into the heavens and if there is no moon that celestial ball is in the dark; cheer up-your cerebration functions OK.

A lady who does not have to work to contribute to the family funds took a job during the Christmas rush for a few weeks. She says that sort of grinding toil has taught her the value of a dollar.

American Legion boys have been asked to check up on what has been reported to them to be subversive teaching involving a Nebraska Feeder." university professor. At once a cry of "smear" is raised, seeing the ominous shadow of Wisconsin's fighting U.S. senator in the background. That higher institutions of learning the country over have been tainted with teachings of questionable loyalty to American ideals is no secret. That some theological schools promulgate that which denies the only excuse for the study of theology, so there crops up in universities here and there a wise guy who knows more than our forefathers who sacrificed, fought and bled that government of the people and by the people and for the people should be the heritage of coming generations. Those engaged in the teaching profession are probably no worse or no better in this respect than those in other professions but they have the far-reaching influence of molding the thought of young America. A kid will worship his teacher. As a group, teachers are honored and respected. A common claim is that they are underpaid; so are most of us; but the pioneer teacher who got 20 a month and the pioneer preacher who got timer, too, did not experience the thrill of drawnothing much didn't bellyache about it. The old ing a year's salary for nine months actually on the job. If there is a disloyal prof on the university campus McCarthy will get him if he doesn't watch out.

Blackwater, Okla., has started something that might well be adopted in other towns. At the stroke of 11 a.m. each working day there comes a momentary pause in the activities of life and heads are bowed in prayer. . . Texas has been hit by drought until cow feed became scarce, but we did not know it was that bad. A calf grabbed up and downed a roll of currency totaling \$150. . . . A gent from Los Angeles, Calif., proposes to cross the English Channel by walking on the bottom —if somebody will stake him with \$14,000. . . . An Iowa patriot had a novel way of demonstrating it. When President Truman's whistle stop included the Iowan's town he presented Mr. Truman with a peck of apples, saying this was what he had left from a bushel of apples, the other three pecks were taken by the tax collectors. . . | Park Add- O'Neill Elizabth Kenny, known internationally for her methods of treating polio, died at her home in

They learn tricks early. A 10-year-old over at Omaha tried his hand at cashing a forged check and got caught. . . About one and a half million citizens visit Yellowstone National park in the course of a year. . . Texas has a town known as Dime Box. . . Eighty-eight and threetenths million Americans are members of some church group. . . A Nebraska boy, Stanley Sidow of Lyons, refused to report for military service in Korea because congress had not declared war. He is in jail and a Tennessee lawyer is going to find out what the supreme court says about it. . . There is a surplus of "experts." Maybe with nothing else to do to make a show of earning salaries they plan to invade the farm homes in Nebraska to show the way to "better living." The ladies are doing a pretty good job of it in their club work.

The First National bank down at Fairbury put on an exhibit of hybrids and thoroughbreds from the corn fields where cornstalks reach up into the upper strata. An ear of corn grown in the vicinity of Washington, Kans., was the largest specimen shown and among 80 some farmers a Kansas farm woman made them all take a back seat when it comes to raising corn.

The political philosophers have told us the Eisenhower landslide indicates American patriots voted for internationalism. They didn't vote for Ike for what he stands for but because they had a belly full of what the other fellows have been doing.

A class in home managegmegnt in one of Lincoln's numerous seats of learning has it figured out that balanced meals for one week per individual can be supplied at a cost of \$3.60. Trouble is, class room discoveries don't work so well after graduation.

An O'Neill couple was entertaining guests from out-of-town. The news gatherer in writing it up had it that the householders "drove them to Omaha." Shabby way to treat your guests unless the feeling was mutual. But we take it what the reporter was trying to say was that the host took the steering wheel and accompanied his friends to Omaha.

Nebraska City approaches its 100th anniversary and a stir is being made to properly celebrate the event. We have it upon the word of J. Hyde Sweet of the News-Press that Nebraska City is "the best town on earth." Well, if a town can't make a creditable showing in 100 years it better

Where the highway and a cattle crossing meet down in Hooker county travelers are warned to "drive carefully—the life you save may be next year's T-bone steak." And a fire warning sign: "Step on your butt, don't flip it."

Editorial

## Something to Think About

today if the Societ Union stopped its incessant saber-rattling and a true world peace settled around us? It is permisable to contemplate such a wonderful turn of events at this Christmas season. However, there's little prospect of such a situation in view so let's get on with the dream. More would be involved if the Soviets should do an about-face than mere peace of mind.

to think of these things, and they'd better make a few plans in the event that our defense mobilization efforts could be curtailed in the future. To begin with, at least a couple of million men would be returned to their civilian status. On top of that, thousands throughout the land would find themselves at least temporarily unemployed while industries now geared to de-

The new republican administration will have

Then the real test would start. American industry and labor, boasting the highest pay and the highest standard of living the world has ever seen, would be called upon to compete with foreign industry in both domestic and foreign markets.

fense production retooled for peacetime manufac-

The old question of high or low or no tariff would be with us again-and we would be constantly affected by international, not domestic. economic conditions. On top of all this (thanks to the extravagance of recent democratic administrations) taxes could not go down a great deal because that bogey man, the national debt, still

must be paid.

Ever consider what could happen in America | tremely difficult to get our thinking back to the myriad problems of peacetime. Debts incurred in the past few years would have to be paid, and American industry would have to successfully compete with productive areas where both labor and raw materials are a great deal cheaper. Wnether our vastly superior mass production methods would be enough or not is highly questionable, for what was done here can also be done eisewhere.

The republicans cannot afford to "stub their toe" during the next four years. Many voters who supported them this year did so with reservation. if this congress and this new administration cannot maintain a fairly prosperous America the next republican dry spell will be even longer tnan the last.

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Eagle Creekers Elect

Projects for '53-Eagle Creek 4-H club held its Pressures Great for Increased lovember meeting at the Loyal Pressures Great for Increased November meeting at the Loyal We chose our projects for the coming year and the following subjects were chosen: "Cooking LINCOLN - Governor - Elect ment program.

and Preserving Vegetables," "Beginning Baking," "Helping Mother and Dad," "School Clothes," Val Peterson were to hear the most unanimously opposed to the control of the control of the suggestion and Sen. K. W. 'Gardening," "Yard Beautifica- last of a long series of budget re- the suggeston and Sen. K. tion," "Potatoes" and "Stocker quests by the various state agen- Peterson of Sargent reminded

The money we earned for our work last year was given us at to go his own way and prepare state and would snow under any rule.

We drew names for our Christ-December 14 at the Francis porters: Wabbs home.—By Rosalie Wabs,

Bowens Head Star-E. Bowen, worthy matron; A. E. Bowen, worthy patron; Mrs. Clarence Hansen of Inman, associate matron; C. W. Porter, associate patron; Mrs. D. C. Schaffer, conductress; Mrs. H. E. Asher, associate conductres; Mrs. Esther trustee. Following the meeting the committee served lunch.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS WD- Glen Butterfield to Niobrara Valley Elec Membership

WD-D D Parsons to Charlotte Olivia Barnes & Dale Barnes 11-17-52 \$1- West 65 ft lots 6 & 7 Blk 29- Bitney's Add- Atkinson WD- Irven Parsons to Charlotte Olivia & Dale Barnes 11-17-52 \$1- East 15 ft lots 5 & 4 Blk 29- Bitney's Add- Atk Babl 10-23-52 \$12,800- S1/2 19-

WD-Elva E Leidy to Clinton G Shellhase & wf 12-10-52 \$6,-000- Lots 1 & 2 Blk L- Fahy's partment. To help plug the hole

State Capitol News

# State Budget, Crosby Explains

an over-all budget for consider- plan to change the amount of Potluck luncheon was served at ation by the 1953 legislature. money counties get for their Crosby gave some indication roads. that he expects to apply the mas party which was to be held pruning shears when he told re- Draft-

are as great or greater than for Nebraskans this week. several bienniums. Notwithofficers were elected for the coming year as follows: Mrs. A. off, at the least, and preferably inducted. should begin to decline some-

baugh, secretary, and Mrs. H. J. has probed deftly into the rekruse, reelected to succeed her quets the departments and buself for the next three years as reaus have submited for the 1953-55 biennium.

There is little question that Goveror Peterson's recommendations will be far below the total asked by all agencies. The University of Nebraska, for instance, of women to such posts. Corp 12-4-52 \$225- .74 acres in the 31 per cent boost in tax is given little chance of winning funds it's seeking.

elect from Lincoln who upset the chairman of the board, will exveteran Thomas Adams, ran into pire next May. a buzz-saw of opposition to his WD—Emil Heeb et al to John has said he intends to introduce a er he has any applications for bill which would take away a penny of the counties' 2.35 cents on each nickel of gas tttax and give it to the state highway dein the county's road funds, he would place only a half cent in-

Robert B. Crosby and Governor | County commissioners were al-Britt that 33 of the legislature's The next step will be for each 43 members came from out in the fore adopting the hot-potato

"My impression is that the rector Brig. Gen. Guy N. Henpressures for increased spending ninger had some good news for law forbids giving favors or He said the drain on Nebraska The Order of the Eastern Star standing this, it continues to be manpower has been halted and chapter met Thursday night, De- my considered conclusion that the state's young men are being cember 11, in the IOOF hall. The this is the time when spending released from service at a faster

> The general said the leveling off is "due to the fact that 24 To Tax Commissioner Phillip | months have passed since the K. Johnson will fall the job of first men were called by selectactually preparing the figures | ive service following the Korean the two men will present to the incident (he didn't call it a war) legislature. He has conducted the and any selectees and reservists hearings on every agency and called to active duty have com-

> > The Women -The fair sex may be holding down some of the top-drawer jobs at the statehouse next year. Governor-Elect Crosby said that he was considering appointment

He noted that one of the three positions on the board of control has traditionally gone to a woman and he indicated that he would not change this. The term Howard Britt, a legislator- of Mrs. Mary Prince, now the

Crosby did not indicate wheth-

Dr. Rex W. Wilson, PHYSICIAN & SURGEON Offices, 128 W. Douglas St. O'Neill

jobs from women nor did he say , To Decorate Tree in what posts they might fit.

Hands Off -

Governor Peterson has taken hands-off policy in the current controversy over the liquor commission's rule 46 which restricts the amount of discount a wholesaler may give a retailer.

But the governor told newsmen he does think the commission should have c onducted a public hearing on the matter be-

Last week, the commission released a lengthy statement explaining the rule was intended to prevent the granting of discounts by wholesalers "as a favor or inducement to encourage the sale of certain brands." State free merchandise to retailers.

The chapters of the Eastern Star and Rebekah each will furnish and decorate a Christmas tree to be placed in the St. Anthony hospital this week.

## **MONEY TO LOAN**

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