

THE FRONTIER

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No. 34

McCLURG NOW HAS OFFICE OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Parker Sends Office Keys To Mr. McClurg Before Supreme Court Makes Decision.

Everything is now quiet and serene in the office of county superintendent and Superintendent McClurg and his assistant, Harold Weirs, are in complete control. Last Monday morning Mrs. Luella Parker sent the keys of the office up to Mr. McClurg, thus relinquishing all claim to the office, several hours before the matter was decided by the supreme court.

The case was argued in the supreme court last Monday morning and the court announced its decision shortly after the noon hour, sustaining the decision of the district court, that the superintendents had no basis for their claims. It was announced that a written opinion would be handed down later.

Organize County Board At Meeting Tuesday

The new county board met last Tuesday, shortly before noon, and re-elected John Sullivan, one of two democrats on the board, to the position of chairman for another year. Sullivan was the only one mentioned for the position and the election was unanimous.

After convening after the noon hour the chairman announced the following committees for the ensuing year:

Court House—Matousek, Stein, Steinhauser.

Finance—Stein, Cook, Matousek. Printing—Carson, Stein, Reimer. Taxes—Steinhauser, Cook, Carson.

Bonds—Cook, Reimer, Stein. Bridge—Carson, Reimer, Steinhauser.

Settlement with county officers—Reimer and the entire board. Claims—Matousek and the entire board.

The Frontier was selected as the official paper of the county for the ensuing year.

O'Neill Man Finds Black Widow Spider

Elmer Bowen calmly walked out to a shed at the Bowen home in north O'Neill, plucked a "bug" he saw dangling in a corner and found it to be a black widow spider with an entire spread as large as a half dollar. Its belly was decorated with the usual red hour glass, indicating it to be a female fully developed and ready for business, in this case assisting the undertaker.

The spider was sent to a certain Nebraska school where a teacher said it was very doubtful if there are any black widows in Nebraska. It was returned but its body shrunk and it is hard now to identify it. Some here are wondering how we are to get any sleep next summer if black widows increase again. Cold weather is supposed to hold down the hatch. Down south is their ordinary habitat. The poison is more than 100 times more deadly than that of the rattlesnake.

Spring Seed Orders Are Coming In Fast

Application blanks for seed oats, barley and spring wheat are now being called for at the Agricultural Agents office by many producers. Anyone who will need seed from this source should get their order in early so that they will be assured of obtaining supplies. Orders will be collected at the county agents office. As soon as the orders total a carload, the seed will be shipped out. Upon arrival of the cars, those who ordered will be notified, so they can take it off the car. If they do not have facilities to store it at home it can be left in the elevator for a charge of one cent (1c) per bushel, per month. The seed must be paid for when it is taken out of storage or from the car. Oats will cost 75 cents per bushel; seeding barley \$1.10; malted barley \$1.35; wheat \$1.25. Because of a very limited supply it is advisable to order early. Anyone wishing to order should see or write Agricultural Agent F. M. Reece for application blanks.

Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Harrington left this afternoon for Omaha to attend the funeral of Edward Nordstrom, brother-in-law of Mrs. Harrington, who died Wednesday.

Frontier Sending Out 1,200 Extra Copies

The Frontier is sending out 1,200 extra copies of this week's issue to prospective readers over the county. Read it over. See what you can get for a whole year for \$1. Then go to the postoffice, get a money order for one dollar and mail to this office and The Frontier will visit you each week for the next fifty-two weeks. It's the biggest newspaper value in the county. Join our great and growing family of readers and do it today.

Two and One-Half Pound Infant Dies

One of the smallest babies ever born in Holt county was Donna Rae, weighing only 2½ pounds, born last Thursday morning to Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Calkins in southeast O'Neill. The daughter lived only about twenty hours and died Thursday night. Friday the remains were interred in Prospect Hill cemetery.

Those who saw the little girl remarked about her remarkably small size, comparing her to a little doll. Dr. J. P. Brown was the attending physician.

Preparing For Display Of New Model Cars

Manager Lundgren, of the Miller Brothers Chevrolet Company, of this city, has a force of men at work remodeling and redecorating the garage formerly occupied by Arbutnot & Reka, which they took over the first of the year. They have torn out the petitions in the front part of the building and will change the doors and when the work is completed it will be much brighter than formerly. Mr. Lundgren says that he looks for a splendid business this year as he has had many inquiries from prospective customers, regarding the 1935 models, one of which they have on display on their floors.

Four Brought Here On Charge Of Violating Federal Liquor Laws

Last Sunday the matter of fact slam-bang, wheeze and sizzle of one of the largest alcohol distilling plants allegedly being operated contrary to the federal laws, situated north of the quiet town of Wood Lake, in Cherry county, was indicative that all was well on the Niobrara but there approached two men who may have thought when they saw a huge alcohol still in operation that all was alcohol wells on the rugged old river.

Jesse B. Owens and Elvin E. Cook, investigators for the Internal Revenue Alcohol Tax Unit of the United States, had arrived on the scene. They found a still, it is learned from unofficial sources, was capable of making from 300 to 400 gallons of alcohol each day. Since the tax on alcohol is \$3 a gallon it would seem that Uncle Sam may have been let down to the tune of about one-third of a million dollars a year on product of this outfit.

The investigators destroyed the still and then took four men to Valentine as prisoners. While the six men were at Valentine a dramatic incident occurred at the site of the still.

People came from everywhere. A nice Sunday with nothing to do and no where to go. Big news. A mammoth still confiscated by "feds" or "revenuers" or yet "furdiners" and the news quickly spread on wings as of wind to show what real speed is.

As hundreds of persons from Valentine, Wood Lake and other towns nearby gathered around the still, so a report from Cherry county indicates, a rather drowsy man drove a huge truck right amongst them, stopped the truck, opened a door, blinked like a bewildered owl facing a lantern, then jumped out and bee-lined straight for the sand dune section of Cherry county. No one has seen this man since and it is believed he may be still going.

In his truck was five tons of granulated sugar, a lot of sugar yet only enough to supply the huge still until he brought another five tons from some unknown source.

One Cherry county man described the layout as clean. He said that he had not known there was a still in Cherry county.

Monday occurred another chapter in the case. Owens and Cook

brought the four prisoners to O'Neill and they were taken before United States Commissioner F. J. Dishner at his office here where the four were charged with the following offenses against the United States revenue laws:

Making mash fit for the distillation of spirits on premises other than a duly authorized distillery by law, carrying on the business of a distiller without giving bond as required by law, the concealment of non-tax paid spirits on premises other than provided by law.

Each of the four men entered pleas of not guilty. Mr. Dishner set the bond of each at \$5,000 with the exception of Stone and his bond was set at \$1,000. None of the four could furnish bond and they were incarcerated in the Holt county jail, subject to the federal authorities. Hickman and Stone gave bond Wednesday and the others are expected to furnish bond tomorrow.

The prisoners range in age from about 25 to 35 years. As to their places of permanent residence it is believed that Hickman lives at Wood Lake, Stone at Valentine and the other two, as far as The Frontier could learn, have no permanent address.

Charges against the men, summed up, mean defrauding the U. S. on distilled spirits. Penalties for this are severe. All four waived a hearing when arraigned here.

Nebraska Climate Not Changing, But Changed

The climate of Nebraska is not changing. That question has been settled. It has changed. The fact was brought home a few days ago when a caravan of covered wagons rolled in here from the west and pitched camp in southeast O'Neill, near the Northwestern railway tracks.

Monday afternoon a Frontier news hunter visited the camp and interviewed the "mayor" of the little canvas city, E. L. Suitor, who said he had been near Stuart about thirty days and came here by degrees.

There are three covered wagons, 16 head of horses, one automobile and the usual accoutrements. There are seven persons, Mr. and Mrs. Suitor and five children, all grown. The Suitors were here last summer, camped just north of the Northwestern stockyards. The family has been here numerous times in a decade or more and permanent residence has been at Tilden, Neligh, Meadow Grove and other Elkhorn river towns.

Suitor said that last summer after he left here a tornado at Lake Andes playfully taught his best wagon how to do summersaults in the South Dakota tempo and when the zephyrs had finished their tune—and the wagon—he was richer by about one cord of kindling and short one wagon, the best in the procession. The horses appear in fair flesh considering the sparse vegetation nature offered last season. Monday evening the caravan moved to near the James Moore farm where the scenery, perhaps, was more to the liking.

There is a man here who remembers but two incidents during the blizzard of January 12, 1888, but he was only five years of age at the time, his birth occurring in 1883. He says he recalls his mother showing him the storm through a window and that all he saw was something like a sheet over the window. He recollects also seeing the Northwestern railway section men blasting great cakes of snow skyward where the snow fence is in west O'Neill. This boy lived on the cemetery hill in 1888.

To satisfy numerous inquirers it may be stated the paving to start the 17th of January is that part connected with the placing of storm sewers and the balance of the paving work is to follow in regular sequence, depending on the weather. How many men, how many days of work and other details are not available at this time but it is certain the job is almost half as big as the one finished here a few months ago.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all those who so kindly assisted us during the death and burial of our darling baby, Dona Rae.—Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Calkins and daughter.

BRIEFLY STATED

Buyers of cattle are reported scouring Holt county for stock that is reported scarce after the federal clean-up. There seems to be an increasing demand for hogs also.

Mrs. Martha Strong, of Norfolk, mother of Mrs. L. D. Calkins arrived in response to a message indicating her daughter was seriously ill. Mrs. Calkins is out of danger.

Gen Lydon on Monday went back on the road for the O'Neill Photo company, after spending two weeks of her vacation here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Lydon.

Mrs. Ralph Moore, of Inman, recently won an award in Poultry Tribune's contest on her high producing Leghorn pullets. Mrs. Moore is one of the outstanding poultry women of this section. Eggs from this flock are sold to the O'Neill hatchery.

Both J. J. Delay, of the Delay National bank of Norfolk and J. H. Moeller, of Leigh, have asked the state banking department for authority to open a new bank at Columbus. Each man represents one of two rival groups of financiers, reports indicated.

Not as much wood is being used as fuel here this winter as was last winter according to householders quizzed. It is believed the limit of pruning, thinning and removal of windfall wood has been reached in the county and that replantings will be heavy from now on both for fuel and windbreak purposes.

Several farmers recently made inquiries about watch dogs, young ones that will at least bark when prowlers are on farms. O'Neill never was accused of being short on dogs. It is suggested those seeking such dogs get in touch with Chief of Police John Martin who may know of good homeless watch dogs.

Elmer Wolfe and Mrs. J. K. Ernst received a shipment of pedigreed cockerels from C. S. Byers of Indiana, one of the greatest Buff Orpington breeders. These birds are from high producing hens and possess color and quality seldom seen. The O'Neill hatchery is using a great many such birds to build quality in their flocks.

Laverne, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Van Every, will be 9 years old next Saturday. Laverne, quizzed, said he would be in a receptive mood Saturday and if anyone cares to take him by surprise he will do his part by being as surprised as the dickens. Laverne was born on the anniversary of the great School Children's blizzard, January 12.

Sunday Mr. and Mrs. George Van Every and sons, Marvin, Laverne and Dean, went to Page and visited Mr. and Mrs. Heeb Asher. The boys inspected the Page school building and pronounced it a marvel for a town the size of Page, large, finely appointed and having a high class manual training layout.

Ice skaters who waited all week for a chance to cut fancy figures on Kersenbrock lake and other sheets of ice were materially reminded the climate must be changing to a tropical one. Ice melted rapidly the latter part of the week and the first of this and boating or fishing would have been more in line with the temperature.

A play entitled "The Tin Hero" was offered show goats in matinee Tuesday afternoon and the standing room sign was out before the doors had been opened half an hour. Wednesday evening a packed house, the school auditorium, greeted the players and enjoyed the presentation. All the players were juniors and are public school students.

Nothing has been heard for a week regarding the location of the new federal building. Late last Thursday the department wired W. G. Beha making him an offer for his corner, which was also to include the Episcopal church ground, just north of the Beha property. An acceptance of the offer was dispatched but so far nothing further has been heard.

Production Credit Association Will Hold Meeting Here

Plans were completed Thursday for the annual meeting of the O'Neill Production Credit Association, to be held Thursday, January 17 in the Golden Hotel at O'Neill, beginning at 10 a. m. A number of borrowers in this county will attend the meeting which was called by the president, R. H. Lienhart, of Chambers.

E. R. Heaton, president of the Production Credit corporation of Omaha, and Mr. Lienhart will discuss operations of the Production Credit associations, which supply short-term credit for general agricultural purposes.

Other orders of business include the election of five directors, the report of the executive committee, and discussion of loan policies. James W. Rooney, secretary-treasurer of the association, will present the financial statement.

Present directors of the association are A. U. Dix, of Butte; E. W. Moss, of Burwell; George Weber, of Stuart; Frank Kaiser, of Spalding, and Mr. Lienhart.

The O'Neill association serves farmers in Boyd, Holt, Garfield and Wheeler counties.

Supplies Of Grain Sorghum Seed Short

Supplies of genuine atlas sorgho seed will be extremely short this spring, P. H. Stewart, extension agronomist at the Nebraska College of Agriculture, has notified Agricultural Agent Reece. He warned that much seed offered as atlas sorgho will not be "true atlas."

Atlas has proven its value for Nebraska conditions as a forage and ensilage crop, Stewart says. Unfortunately in 1934, the demand was so great that much seed sold in good faith through regular seed channels turned out to be other varieties. Seed of this so-called atlas will probably be on the market in some localities.

One variety, hegari, may be available to Holt county farmers for spring planting. It has produced slightly heavier yields of cured forage than black amber sorgho during a 6-year period in Nebraska experiment station tests and was unsurpassed in grain production. It should prove satisfactory as an emergency forage crop. As a forage crop, it should be equal or superior to blackhull kafir and grohoma. Because of its shorter height, hegari will not yield nearly as large a tonnage as atlas sorgho and other tall sorgho varieties. The seed is rather soft and starchy and may give some trouble in securing stands although it should be less troublesome than fetterita. In any case, the seed should be treated with copper carbonate before planting.

Methodist Church To Hold Special Meeting

Next Sunday will be a red letter day in the Methodist church when the pastor will receive about 30 new members into the church, and baptize several. Following the reception of members the choir and congregation will participate in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. This day will be known as "Come to Sunday School and Stay for Church Day." It is expected that the largest number during the present conference year will be in attendance at this special service. The choir will render special music and assist in the ritual of the Sacrament.

In the evening the Young People's choir will give a special program consisting of special music, negro spirituals and chorus songs, and talks on religious topics. The evening program will be conducted by the young people.

Two Pioneers Meet After Sixty Years

Ed. A. Fry, editor of the Herrick News, of Herrick, South Dakota, visited friends in O'Neill last Saturday on his way to Grand Island, where he was accompanying a sick friend to a hospital there. Mr. Fry returned Sunday and visited in this city for a time with Mrs. Mina F. Gaddie and son, John.

Mrs. Gaddie is also an old pioneer having moved here with her parents in the fall of 1873, when she was five years of age. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. James E. Bader and Mr. Bader homesteaded near

where the Dorsey postoffice now is and had a good crop of corn, wheat and oats and a good garden in 1874 when the hoppers came along and cleaned them out.

Mr. Bader moved his family to Niobrara in the fall of 1874 and Mrs. Gaddie has known Editor Fry ever since he came to Niobrara. He resided there for a number of years and edited a prosperous and popular newspaper. It is needless to say that Mr. Fry and Mrs. Gaddie had a nice visit.

St. Mary's Cageters Win From Public School 27-22

A game of basketball looked forward to by basketball fans here for some time between St. Mary's Academy and the public high school, both of O'Neill, was pulled off on the public school floor Tuesday evening before one of the largest crowds ever to gather at a local game. There is keen but friendly rivalry between the schools. A hot battle was anticipated and the spectators were satisfied. St. Mary's 27, Public school 22 is the result of the battle. The reserve teams played, the public school basketeers winning 14 to 13. The scores tell the nip and tuck feature of the contests.

Oil Company A User Of Newspaper Advertising

Newspaper advertising will again form the backbone of Continental Oil Company's 1935 sales promotion program, the largest in the history of the company, it was announced here today by Charles Reka, of the firm of Arbutnot & Reka, Conoco's local managers, who stated that The Frontier has been selected to carry Conoco advertising.

"Proof of the value of newspaper advertising, backed by quality products and outstanding service," he said "is seen in the fact that our company during 1934 showed a gain of 65 per cent in the sale of Conoco Processed Motor Oil as compared to the previous year.

"As a matter of fact, Conoco's gross sales in 1934 were better than for any year since 1929—a fact that leads us to believe that general business conditions are definitely on the upgrade. Of course, Continental Oil Company hasn't just marked time, but has gone out after business, backed by a larger advertising program year after year.

"This year marks the sixtieth anniversary of Continental Oil Company, and we expect 1935 to be the best in our history."

The Six Club was organized in southeast O'Neill today, Thursday, with the following members and officers according to Phyllis Mitchell and Leah Bruegman: Davine Loy, president; Leah Bruegman, secretary; Phyllis Mitchell, Donna Vanderlinden, Jean Calkins, Margaret Thavenet, Maxine Wilkinson and Virginia Daly. Saturday the members meet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Loy and at some one of the other homes each Saturday thereafter. The president, somewhat older than the others, is a directors of their activities in the club.

Rev. H. D. Johnson returned from Atkinson Wednesday night following the installation service of Rev. W. R. Radliff as pastor of the Atkinson Presbyterian church. Tuesday night Rev. Johnson moderated the installation of Rev. R. C. Probst as pastor of the Valentine Presbyterian church. In both services Rev. Johnson represented the Presbytery of Niobrara as Moderator.

What is the jack rabbit population of Holt county? Perhaps several millions. Over at Chambers G. A. Kelly decided to buy some rabbits and within seven days he had purchased 3,000, some of them being cottontails. A Norfolk firm wanted them for re-shipment to New York city where a charitable organization planned to donate them to those in want.

L. M. Merriman, suffering acute sinusitis, was placed in St. Joseph's hospital at Omaha last Thursday and was reported today as greatly improved by Mrs. Merriman who went down to see him last Saturday and returned Sunday. Mr. Merriman operates the Merri Beverage Company.

COMMISSION VIEWS APPLICATIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS

Over Half of Applicants For The Pension Are, Or Have Been On Relief Rolls.

At a regular meeting of the Old Age Pension Commission held at the court house on January 7, there was presented over sixty applications. An examination disclosed that over one-half of the applicants were receiving, or had been receiving, relief.

Attention is called to Section 13 of the Act which provides: "During the continuance of the old age pension, no recipient shall receive any other relief from the state, or from any political subdivision thereof, except for medical and surgical attendance." In view of this provision of the law, the commission was undecided as to what course to pursue.

Most of the applications were in due form and entitled the applicants to share in the fund; but, under the law if they accept aid from the state or county they cannot receive a pension. Considering the number of applications filed, and the number that will probably be filed, and the money available; and that in no event could a pension of more than \$2.00 per month be granted, and that this would be of little help to any of the applicants; and that on February 1 there may be a material change in the matter of relief that might affect the applicants, it was thought best to defer action on all applications until the next regular meeting on February 4, at which time it is hoped that all those entitled to share in the relief will have their applications on file with the secretary, John C. Gallagher, of O'Neill.

While the law does not prohibit a person receiving an old age pension from receiving help from the federal government; yet, according to reports, the unemployed, which will include nearly all of the applicants, will have to be taken care of by the county, which would prohibit the drawing of an old age pension if county relief was necessary and accepted—leaves matters in such shape that the committee deferred all action on all applications.

Hospital Notes

Robert and Marjorie Sholes, of Inman, had their tonsils and adenoids removed last Thursday.

Mrs. Fred Bredehoeft was brot to the hospital Tuesday suffering from an attack of pneumonia.

Pat Shea, who has been quite ill the past two weeks, is up and around the hospital the last two days.

Corn Fodder Available In Bales Or Chopped

Word was received from Gramlich Monday stating that corn fodder may now be purchased by anyone in any quantity. The fodder may be had, either cut with an ensilage cutter or else just the baled stalks. This makes very good feed after it is chopped as there is very little waste. The fodder contains a small percentage of corn. The baled fodder may be purchased for \$10.00 per ton and the chopped fodder for about \$11.50 per ton.

Mrs. Roy Johnson spent the week's end visiting in Page with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilton Hayne. Mr. Hayne, operator of a blacksmith shop, is the "Puddle" Hayne who turned common baseballs to cannon balls when he pitched for the O'Neill baseball team nine years ago. At the time, home folks, one survivor said, were never surprised to see an opposing player come home wounded but were astonished if he were struck by a pitched ball and did other than attend his own funeral. "Puddle" could throw straight, too much so for those who hated to have the fuzz scorch off a thigh to make 'em nervous so they would miss the next two. The trouble was players used to bat in two or three places at once, they were so excited, so they scraped "Puddle's" cannonballs now and then in spite of precautions.

O'Neill walks never were more slippery than this Thursday morning following a light fall of snow.