

# THE FRONTIER

## Elmer Merri- man, Pioneer of '79, Taken

Elmer M. Merriman passed away at his home in this city last Monday evening about 11:00 o'clock after an illness of about one year at the age of 72 years 8 months and 1 day. The funeral was held last Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 from the Presbyterian church in this city, Rev. Johnson officiating and burial in Prospect Hill cemetery.

Elmer Monroe Merriman was born at Clifton, Wisconsin, on December 23, 1863. His family came to this county in the spring of 1879, when Elmer was 16 years of age, coming here from Granite Falls, Minn., and he had been a resident of this county most of the time since that date. On September 26, 1889, he was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Walker, the ceremony being performed in this city. To this union three sons were born, who with his daily companion of nearly a half century, are left to mourn the passing of a kind and affectionate husband and father. The children are: Floyd E. and Ralph W. Sioux City, Iowa, and Lawrence M., of O'Neill.

In the passing of Elmer Merri-man Holt county lost another of its old time pioneers. Coming here as a youth with his parents they located northwest of O'Neill where they resided for many years. Shortly after Elmer reached manhoods estate he came to this city and for several years served as deputy sheriff of this county, in the real old trying days. He later established a soft drink factory in this city which he conducted successfully for many years. He left here for a time, moving to Sioux City, Iowa, where he was an employee of the traction company for about ten years, then he came back to his first love. He lived in this city for about four years after his return, then moved to Page for three years, then back to this city last April, where he made his home up to the time of his death.

In his younger days Elmer was greatly interested in sports and he was a member of the O'Neill base ball team in the early nineties, holding down first base, a position he very ably filled. O'Neill had a bunch of salaried men in those days who were real ball players and Elmer was able to hold his own with any of them. The old diamond was then in the southeastern part of the city and many an interesting contest was pulled off there, with the team representing this city giving a very good account of themselves against all comers. In sports, as well as in everything else he was a good clean player, one who could taste defeat without becoming grouchy and one whom victory did not swell. He had the happy faculty of making and retaining friends; always cheerful and optimistic, looking on the bright side of life always. He had many friends in different parts of the county who will learn with sorrow of his passing.

The Frontier force joins the many friends of the family in tendering their heartfelt sympathy in their hour of bereavement. After some preliminary cleaning of the grounds last week, work with the teams excavating for the basement of the post office building began Monday morning. We understand ten months are allowed for the completion of the building. An imposing modern building will stand where a landmark of town stood for over half a century, marking another step forward in the development going steadily along in the city.

The burning of a patch of weeds by two citizens out on the Eagle got that community excited Tuesday and a call for officers to "come and take them" was sent to O'Neill. The weeds burned out, fire and excitement subsiding the idea of having anybody arrested died out.

**DISTRICT COURT FILINGS.**  
August 21—Laura Zimmer vs. George Zimmer, divorce.  
August 22—Bertha A. Thompson vs. Walter Thompson, divorce.

A spike puncturing a tire as they drove onto a bridge near Joe Stein's place northwest of O'Neill gave Mrs. Carl Burkhardt and three girls a harrowing experience. The tire flattened and the car swerved into the railing, plunged through and dropped a sheer fifteen feet, turning in mid air and landing squarely on its top. Sufficient to have killed all four, only one of the girls sustained a slight collar bone fracture. Mrs. Burkhardt is the wife of the Ford dealer at Winner. Their car was crushed in at the top and otherwise wrecked, and was recovered and brought into O'Neill by the Mellor wrecking force.

Elmer Stolte, coach at the High school, came in the first of the week from the summer spent in Colorado, California, Oregon and Washington.

## Precinct Offi- cials in Meeting

About half of the precincts of the county were represented at the court house Saturday, called for the purpose of discussing ways and means to meet the fire hazard that has arisen by reason of the prolonged drouth. Hay, buildings and other property is in constant jeopardy and considerable loss has already been sustained in various parts of the county. This meeting Saturday was a gathering of the precinct officers at the request of the county board.

The meeting resulted in a decision to let each community handling the situation in its own way. Precinct clerks will call a meeting of citizens in the various precincts for Friday night, August 28, to discuss the matter of fireguards and make what arrangements they see fit.

While on a trip to mountain parks and resorts R. R. Morrison and party visited Butte, Mont., and Bob found one of the most enjoyable features of the outing was their visit with former O'Neill people, now and for many years living at Butte. Among these were Phillip and Jack Sullivan with their brothers and sister. Also Miles Gibbons and his sisters. Butte, he says, impressed him as a somewhat rundown mining town with a rather over-developed propensity for gambling.

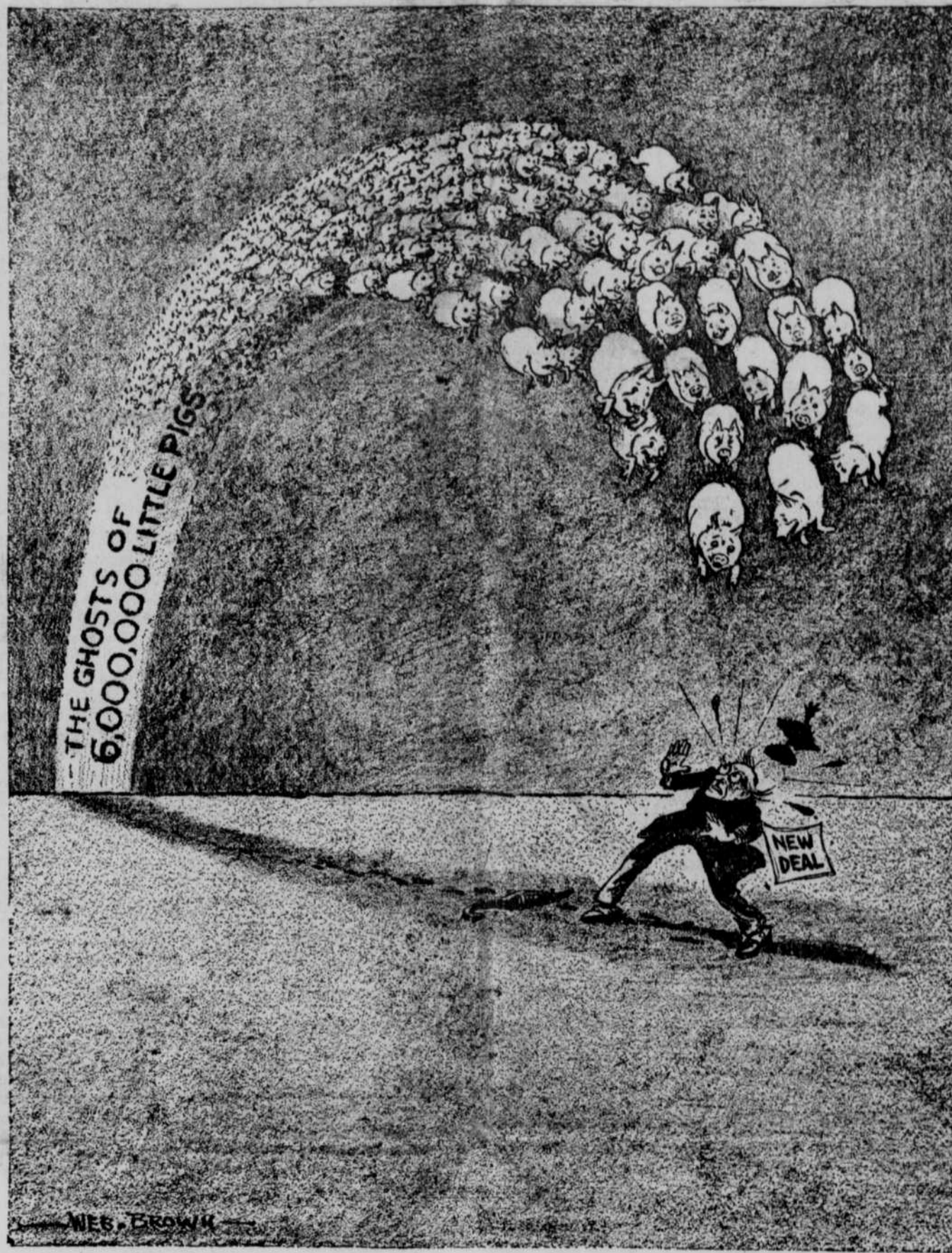
Barnum used to say that a sucker was born every minute, but even that won't be enough to pay all the future taxes the New Deal is piling up.

## Heavy Run at Sale Ring

Report of Atkinson Livestock Market Tuesday, August 25th.  
Hogs: 1150 head. A broad outlet for all kinds at a very good price. Light weight pigs were more popular with the buyers than any time this summer. The bulk of the feeding pigs were taken by Iowa buyers with one load going to Illinois. Best fat hogs sold at 10.75 and 10.90; heavy hogs at 10 to 10.50; fat sows at 8.75 to 9.50; thin sows at 7.25 to 8.50; best heavy pigs at 8.50 to 10.00; medium weights at 7.00 to 8.50; light-weight at 6.50 to 7.00.

Cattle: Receipts 1190 head. In spite of the heavy run for this early in the season, the market ruled firm throughout on all stocker and feeder steers as well as calves and feeding heifers. Cows ruled generally 25 to 35 cents a hundred lower than a week ago. Competition was keen from the start and a good steady market resulted with the close strong. Iowa buyers took fully 75% of all the cattle with a few going to eastern Nebraska. Choice cows sold up to 5.00 with the best heavy heifers selling up to 5.50. Most good cows sold at 4.00 to 4.50; cutters in a range of 3.25 to 3.85; canners at 2.50 to 3.00; best heavy steers at 5.00 to 5.50; yearling steers at 5.00 to 6.00 with plainer kinds down to 3.75; yearling heifers at 4.50 to 5.35 with some on the stocker order at 3.25 to 4.00; best steer calves at 5.75 to 6.50; heifer calves at 5.00 to 5.50. Bulls at 4.00 to 4.85. Milk cows at 30 to 45.00 a head; cows and calves at 42.50.

## COMING BACK TO HAUNT HIM



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## Killed in Accident

D. H. Claussen received a message Wednesday from Mrs. Loren Richardson, of Spearman, Texas, announcing that her husband, Loren Richardson, had been killed in an auto wreck near that city on Monday night. The funeral was held Wednesday afternoon, interment at Spearman, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, the latter formerly Gladys Arnold, were former residents of this city, Mr. Richardson being engaged in the automobile business here for several years with the firm of Arbutnot & Richardson. They left here about six years ago and have been living in Texas for the past three or four years. Mr. Richardson was about 45 years of age.

Early they learn the way of their elders. Kneecap high to a grasshopper and not over 5, he asked the ice man for a bit of ice as that functionary presided somewhat arrogantly at the steering wheel while he awaited the helper who was conveying a cake of ice to a customer. "Haven't anyice," was snapped at the boy. But the boy, young as he was, had seen some experience. He peeked in the rear of the low-slung truck, lifted the covering and found a bit of ice to suck on.

P. J. and James McManus, Chas. McKenna and Henry Grady took a day out last week to look over the country to the south. Their first stop was at Chambers, then on west to Amelia where each imbibed freely from the famous flowing wells and on around by Atkinson back home. James returned Sunday to Chicago still filled with wonder and amazement at the development, growth of timber and countless stacks of hay through that section of the county.

A new deal politician advised us the other day that it wasn't good policy to change horses in the middle of the stream and the only stream we could think of was a stream of federal money.

## IS DROUTH DAMAGED CORN WORTH SAVING?

With utilization of drouth damaged corn the farm topic of the week, many were the Holt county farmers who were inclined to hesitate cutting the stunted corn which not so many months ago looked like a potential "bumper" crop. The cost of getting it into the silo is too great, many thought.

Experimental data from the Nebraska college of agriculture received by Agricultural Agent F. M. Reece, and experience of scores of local farmers, however, divulged that probably most of the corn is worth cutting although shorter than that which is usually ensiled. Not only does "fair" silage make good live stock feed but it is probably going to be quite valuable as a feed.

Costs of cutting the corn and getting it into the silo are varying throughout the state. One Seward county farmer hiring all labor, tractor and ensilage cutter reported costs of \$1.00 per ton. He furnished his own binder. Use of field cutters increases the cost per ton. Even at a cost of as high as \$2 to \$3 per ton apparently is not excessive in view of the value per ton of the feed. If a farmer has to pay \$20.00 per ton for alfalfa, silage is worth \$8.00 per ton with \$45.00 per ton being paid for cottonseed to supplement silage. If alfalfa costs \$25.00 per ton, the silage on a comparable feed basis is worth \$11.50 per ton.

Those whose lives are untouched in any other way by anything saving of religion were given an opportunity last evening of listening to a sermon by a strange but vigorous street preacher who held the attention at the bank corner for an hour or so. The late Col. D. A. Doyle advised to always listen to the man with a message.

Deputy Sheriff Bergstrom left Monday noon for Wichita, Kansas, to take into custody John Carl, involved in this county in alleged theft of cream. He consented to come here without requisition.

## BRIEFLY STATED

Abe Saunto was a Sioux City visitor the first of the week. He is arranging to make his home there, the boys having taken over the store here.

Mrs. Rose Shoemaker, of Winner, S. D., left for home last Friday after a visit of several days at the home of her mother, Mrs. Catherine Matthews and with other relatives and friends here.

Charles Slattery is down from Wyoming to look after some interests here. The drouth hit him intensely and he disposed of all stock on the place, as many others had to do for lack of feed.

The Misses Virginia and Jennie Lou Dwyer returned to their home at Omaha Monday after a two week's visit here, the guest of their aunt, Mrs. Hugh Coyne. Miss Vern Coyne returned with them.

Bert Powell had a sale Saturday of furniture and other items. Tuesday he and family started west to try their fortune in Oregon. Bert has been a resident of the county all of his 48 years but decided to try his luck elsewhere.

Mary Luber was before the board of insanity Monday and adjudged a subject for the hospital at Norfolk. The institution being full at present the patient was given into the custody of the sheriff, who took the patient to Council Bluffs.

Smoke of a prairie fire with a blistering sun Monday drew the attention of many citizens toward the southwest. It was reported later the fire was at the Peterson ranch down in Fairview precinct and that thirty stacks of hay were burned.

A shrill fire alarm before daylight Saturday morning aroused the firemen from their beds to rush to the rear of the Harty Laundry where a coal house containing a car of coal had caught fire. By diligent work for a few hours the fire was put out.

Last Friday night fire destroyed the barn at James Soukup's place northeast of town, the old John J. Kelly farm. Supposed to have been struck by lightning. A cow, some harness and hay and feed went with the barn. Lightning started a fire in the pasture and the neighborhood gathered to put it out. Rain set in and they all started for shelter when the barn burst into flame. A colt was also killed in a pasture on a farm nearby. The rain is said to have amounted to about one inch in that locality and much heavier farther out to the northeast. At O'Neill .15 of an inch fell.

The boxes of supplies for the 186 school districts in the county were made up Tuesday at the superintendent's office and stored in the school exhibit building for the teachers to secure as wanted.

## Downeys See Gov. Landon

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Downey were down at Grand Island and took in the great public reception for Governor Landon upon his stop there during his trip across Nebraska. Mr. Downey says it was no boisterous hurrah but an impressive gathering of a crowd of splendid looking citizens with an apparent interest in and desire to know the best thing to be done to restore life to a normal plane in troubled America.

A number of speakers were on the program. Mr. Landon was the main attraction and as his train came to a stop he was escorted at once to the platform. Mr. Downey was favorably impressed with the Kansas governor, he appearing to be a shrewd man of business with an inticing combination of the happy mental make up and a kindly attitude toward all.

They encountered some hard going on the return trip, running into a severe storm near Spalding that held them up for a time.

Martin Stanton had a sale of his personal property last Monday afternoon and this afternoon the family will leave for Hollywood, California, where they will make their future home, providing things turn out as planned. Mr. and Mrs. Stanton have been residents of this vicinity practically all their life and they have many friends in this section who wish their happiness and prosperity in their new home. The Frontier will visit them each week and keep them posted on events in this section.

Attorney T. D. Mounts, of Atkinson, accompanied by an aged civil war veteran, Mr. Patterson, of Tonquah, Oklahoma, were in the city Friday. Mr. Patterson is in his 89th year, an interesting gentleman to talk with. He served as a spy in the Union army in the civil war, which entailed many hazardous experiences. He wore the badges of military honors bestowed from Grand Army days until the present.

Miss Ava Clare Donohoe, who had been visiting her aunts, the Misses Anna and Agnes Donohoe, for several days, left yesterday morning for her home at Bonesteel, S. D. Miss Donohoe had just returned from a visit at the home of her brother, Dr. Edmund Donohoe, at Fort Dubois, Pa.,

## Hospital Notes

Mrs. Gladys Green, of Chambers, went home last Friday.

Miss Frances Sands went home last Monday.

Mrs. Martin Stanton was in the hospital a few days this week for medical treatment and rest.

Ray Patras, 3-year-old son of Amos Patras entered the hospital Monday afternoon for medical treatment.

Irecenia Mullen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mullen, had her tonsils removed Tuesday. She went home the same evening.

Earl Hatton jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hatton of Chambers, underwent a minor operation Tuesday. He returned home the following day.

## September 1 Set Apart As Booster Day

On Tuesday, September 1, 1936, the citizens of O'Neill and those of the thriving village of Chambers, will join in a boosting trip to the surrounding towns, advertising the O'Neill Free Day and the Chambers Fair which will be held in Chambers on the 8, 9, 10 and 11 of September.

The Chambers Boosters, who will consist of at least 25 cars, will be in the city at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning to join with the O'Neill bunch and start on the trip. The Combination of Boosters will be headed by the O'Neill High School band and will leave here shortly after 8 a. m., and head west, managed and controlled by members of the committee of free day boosters. The first stop will be at Emmet then Atkinson and Stuart and back to O'Neill and then on to Inman, Page, Ewing, Clearwater, Neligh, Elgin and then on to Chambers, where the combined tourists will entertain the citizens of our southern city and then on home.

The managers of the local celebration are anxious to have as many cars in the Booster trip as possible, and we should have at least 50 or more cars, filled with good O'Neill Boosters. Any of our citizens who will furnish their cars and go on the trip are urged to get in touch with Mayor Kersbrook of J. P. Protivinsky and let them know how many you can accommodate in your car and the number of people who will be with you, so they can get an idea of how many people will go on the trip. Let us make this a real Booster Trip, so get together, join hands and it will be a real success and the Chambers-O'Neill Booster Trip will long be remembered as the outstanding event in the year 1936.

## O'NEILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

School will open Monday, September 7, 1936, as announced in The Frontier two weeks ago.

Registration of students in the O'Neill district will be on Thursday, September 3, 1936. Please be registered on time in order that others from out of the district may register.

Registration of students from out of the district will be Friday and Saturday, September 4 and 5.

There are quite a large number of people from out of the district, who wish to send their children to school in O'Neill, but they need to find places to board and room. A few folks want places where their children can work for their board and room.

The farm crop has been cut short and any way that we can help locate these young folks without too great an expense will be appreciated.

O'Neill folks who will have rooms or will provide room and board please call, Roy W. Carroll, Superintendent of schools.

In district court Monday in an action of Mary Ruth Kreger vs. Edwin Ruthman Kreger Judge Dickson committed defendant to jail until such time as he comes across with \$20 covering alimony payments for July and August. The parties were divorced June 27 last and Mrs. Kreger allowed \$10 per month alimony toward the support of two children. The court found this order had not been complied with by Kreger and had him committed to jail.

The assistance committee met at the court house Monday. On the 15th of the month, the date of the last pension and assistance payments, there were 260 old age pensions paid in this county totaling \$4,002.78 and 36 dependent children received \$929, a total for this county of \$4,931.78 under the so-called assistance act.

Miss Mayme McManus was taken seriously ill last Friday and was very low for several days but is reported somewhat improved.

Mrs. J. Roblyer, of Atkinson, accompanied by Mrs. Hitchcock, were in the city yesterday.