

## THE FRONTIER

D. H. Cronin, Editor and Proprietor

Entered at the Postoffice at O'Neill, Nebraska as Second Class Matter.

**ADVERTISING RATES:**  
Display advertisements on Pages 4, 5 and 8 are charged for on a basis of 25 cents an inch (one column wide) per week; on Page 1 the charge is 40 cents an inch per week. Local advertisements, 10 cents per line first insertion, subsequent insertions 5 cents per line.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year, in Nebraska ————\$2.00  
One Year, outside Nebraska ———\$2.50

Every subscription is regarded as an open account. The names of subscribers will be instantly removed from our mailing list at expiration of time paid for, if publisher shall be notified; otherwise the subscription remains in force at the designated subscription price. Every subscriber must understand that these conditions are made a part of the contract between publisher and subscriber.

A great battle rages in most weekly newspaper offices perpetually and it is a fight of which the public has little or no knowledge. It is an attempt at getting news in to the office early, to have enough on hand Monday night to keep the Linotype operator busy the following day, then another hopeless quest for enough to keep him busy Wednesday. Material rolls in pretty fast Thursday or Friday. The public keeps in mind the press day and news is habitually offered just before time to go to press. Often there is an avalanche of material and always a gruelling fight to get in type in a few hours work that could and should be spread over half a week. It is highly appreciated by any newspaper to find either news or advertising in the office at the earliest possible moment.

### Economic Highlights

The end of 1933, so far as business is concerned, was characterized by marked improvement in some basic lines, smaller improvement in others, and retrogression in only a few. The business indices covering the year present a strange, confusing picture. When the summer upward surge started, in direct opposition to usual seasonal tendencies, it was hoped and believed that it would continue. An unlooked-for fall drop, which was also opposed to the seasonal experience of other years, followed. Gloom was deepest at that time. Then business started up again, and December was a good month. Early reports indicate that department store sales shot up beyond expectations. Commodity prices were strong. Consumers' goods industries, especially, were active. In brief, 1933 did not see the progress that was hoped for. The emergency relief measures have been something of a disappointment to even their creators. The Agricultural Adjustment Act has been particularly unsuccessful. But during the year a start toward recovery was made, and the public morale strengthened—a strengthening which has never been more evident than it is now, with 1934 opening.

Notes on business follow:  
**Commodity Prices**—In January the commodity price index stood at 61. By July, it had moved up to 68. The advance has continued without a major break.

**Domestic Trade**—Every effort of the Administration since March has been given to moving more goods into the hands of consumers. It has been moderately successful, in the face of definite consumer-opposition to higher prices. Of late, trade in urban areas has been less satisfactory than in the major agricultural centers. Most striking advances in sales have been made by mail-order houses.

**Employment**—Here is where the greatest achievement of the year has been made. Every month has witnessed definite advances in both workers employed and compensation received. Factory employment was 20 per cent higher this October than last—payrolls 33 and one-third per cent higher. In the non-manufacturing industries, employment gains were reported for 11 out of 16 industries reviewed. Only in the bituminous coal industry has there been a significant late drop, and that was largely due to labor difficulties, with attendant strikes and lockouts.

**Finance**—Generally speaking, excellent work has been done in strengthening the bank structure. Banks which were closed before the moratorium have been opened by the hundreds, millions in frozen assets have been thawed out. Excess reserves of Federal Reserve banks recently reached an unprecedented total of close to \$900,000,000. Government credit has been extraordinarily strong, with issues being sold out as soon as announced.

**Foreign Trade**—Lately United States foreign trade has expanded sharply both in volume and balance. Exports have increased over imports, leaving us with a sizeable balance of trade. The recognition of Russia, recently effected, is expected to produce a considerable inflation of our export business.

**Real Estate**—In October, for which complete figures have been issued, construction contracts awarded were with a single exception, the best for any month since November, 1931. The industry had a bad year, but improvement is setting in.

**Railroads**—1932 brought many railroads to the verge of bankruptcy, endangered others. In 1933, business was better, profits were up. Most encouraging of all to the railroad managements is the friendly attitude of the Administration.

**Utilities**—Here the experience was not as favorable as was hoped. Sale of power in many localities has risen. But profits have dwindled, due to tax and legislative policies which increased costs, made it impossible to meet them by raising the price of power to the public. Still another threat is government competition.

**Agriculture**—The farmer was cheered by the AAA when it was passed. Then he was drastically violently disappointed. Strikes and disorder followed. A few months ago agricultural income, when adjusted to living costs, was lower than ever. Now improvement has started in many fields, more optimism is evident in both Administration and farm circles.

**Lumber**—No important industry experienced so sharp an advance in prices as lumber—and none was more at sea over what to do with them. Generally speaking, the price advance was close to 50 per cent during the year. Orders have likewise been good for the most part—but not as good as was hoped. Cost of operation has materially risen.

**Steel**—Here is another industry which hit the top, bounced back to bottom, then started up again, during the year. Last summer it reached the best peak in a long time—then started steadily down. In the second week of November it was around 26 per cent of capacity. Heavy industries, which are the only important steel buyers, have been purchasing lightly.

### Excavation Shows Holt County Was Once The Home of Many Indians

By J. B. O'Sullivan

(In last week's paper, where it was stated, "than the measly 300,000 Indians in America when Columbus first trod the soil," should have been "in the part of America that became the United States." There were some 16,000,000 in Old Mexico at the time, the Spaniards reducing that number by 12,000,000.)

(Continued from last week.)

Professor Earl H. Barbour, University of Nebraska, stated recently there are more elephant remains in Nebraska than there are human burials. It is believed the number is above one million. Glaciers may have deeply buried many. Here near O'Neill, Harry Bowen, while drilling a well pulled a agatized tooth, about buffalo size from a point 40 feet below the surface. A river may have buried it. The rivers, including the Mississippi, at one time ran north and there once was a sea here extending from the arctic circle to the Gulf of Mexico. Things have changed. There is even record of several earthquakes here in Holt county and a few persons here who remember one, and it is reasonable to believe great upheavals have occurred which could have buried men and beasts by wholesale.

It would look like one of the most fascinating pursuits boys could engage in would be to explore the remains of homes of those who lived here many hundreds of years ago. It would be interesting work. Gathering such relics for a school collection certainly would not be wasting time. It is highly educational and would not get one in trouble. But be sure to obtain permission of land owners before making the dirt fly. Promise to fill and level the holes when the work is finished and you will be surprised how many owners will more than meet you half way.

Farmers are just as interested as you are in those who lived on their land so far back it makes one dizzy to realize it.

In digging out a home ruins, authorities suggest a trench be dug thru the center. Watch for signs of ashes and rock and bone materials. If these are found, widen the trench and when it is thoroughly explored, photograph the finds and the excavation and send the photo to the Nebraska Historical society at Lincoln.

If the home should be of Mound Builder making you may not find much, a few bone needles, an awl, perhaps a few arrowheads and maybe nothing. Now and then a piece of copper is found and a doll or other toy is not unusual.

Later dwellers often left several hundred artifacts in their homes. The Mound Builders invariably had a cache-hole exactly in the center of the room, deep down. Some of the later comers kept their spare belongings in a separate "wallow" hole, smaller and near the home.

At least part of the old homes here, and there are hundreds, many even within the corporate limits of O'Neill, were made by first digging out a cir-

cular pit from 12 to 18 feet wide and about four feet in depth. The later Pawnee at least always had their door exactly at the east side and where the prairie is undisturbed the footpath may be seen now. Several types of stone spades used in this excavating have been recovered here and one of them, a two-hander, weighs about 20 pounds. The one hand spades weigh about four or five pounds. With the spades was one of the finest hoe-heads ever found in Nebraska and an axe-head so crudely worked that one wonders why, and finds the only answer a mental question mark that may taunt one unceasingly.

The next move in constructing a residence was the setting up of four or more poles in the center, several feet apart according to the size of the excavation. Southeast of here, Pawnee homes were much larger, at least when the Panis republic was first found by explorers, running from 40 to 60 feet wide. Often several families lived in each with rush matting screen between sleeping quarters.

A fireplace was built to one side of the poles and of course the lower portions of the center poles were fire-proofed with heavy coatings of clay. Along the outside of this excavation shorter poles were placed. Each pole had a crocheted top and in these were placed "rafter" poles, from the outer rim to center.

The roof now was in shape to receive a heavy matting of brush, carefully placed. Next there was put on a layer of thin sod which kept out all save rain. Starting wide and tapering, was a wall of thick sod on the ground and reaching to the edge of the roof. Some of the workmen piled on any kind of earth now until the home resembled the winter residence of the muskrat.

To waterproof the roof, a heavy dark brown clay, a gumbo, found here, as any workman can tell you, unexpectedly in varying width and depth stratas, tough, hard and a fright to penetrate with modern pick and shovel, was placed over all on the roof, wet, smoothed and shaped to as steep an angle as the dweller thought necessary to keep him and his family from frequent soakings. Often the door was a buffalo robe. Some were split poles neatly sewn together with thongs. The floors are believed to have been made by mixing buffalo grease, wood ashes, perhaps a temper of fine sand or soapstone dust, spread and hammered until ready for the polishing stones. The women polished floors by rubbing stones over them and many of these stones, worn and discarded, have been recovered here.

The house now was ready for occupancy and thru the smokehole in the center of the roof curled the pale blue signal in the early prairies of Nebraska that Mr. So-and-so was at home to everyone but members of some tribe who would be delighted to give permanent, perpetual hair-cuts, to the entire family, free of charge. The tipis, or tepees, tents of the Indians, were used principally when they took their summer and winter buffalo hunts. Often these last months, and they are known to have traveled up to 1,000 miles hunting, killing, skinning, tanning hides and jerking the meat obtained.

The meat was cut in strips, hung in wind and sun until it was as hard as a piece of board. This could be buried and brought out and soaked for cooking at any time. Jerking meat now would be almost impossible because of certain flies which appeared here with the coming of the white races.

The so-called summer hunt was taken just after the women folks finished hoeing their corn for the last time. Corn was raised on fertile spots here and there and soldiers in Nebraska saw squaws walking from permanent lodges in villages at sunrise to as far as eight miles to do a days hoeing. The whites bought 12,000 bushels of corn at one time from a tribe near the Missouri river, so their production was on no small scale.

Ear corn was stored in bottle-shaped holes in the ground, the mouth neatly covered with earth and covered with grass until wandering tribes could not find the cereal. It is a fact the Delaware Indians, their home on the east coast, used to walk entirely across the United States, pillaging any village or subduing any band they encountered. There is record of their burning one Pawnee village in Nebraska after the whites arrived. Undoubtedly it

was the actions of such wandering bands of hoodlums that caused such hiding of stores and the practice of stealthy movements which were a part of an Indian's daily routine.

Here is a good place to state the Indian men were anything but lazy. Soldiers came to villages and saw women doing work such as scraping hides, making pottery, cutting wood and other tasks. The men, if any were about, were stretched out resting. The soldiers and explorers received a false impression. The truth was the men had been out fighting or hunting, had traveled on foot perhaps hundreds of miles, living on a handful of parched corn each 24 hours, sleeping in a bunch of grass, crawling in cacti-strewn wastes or burr-covered lands of some enemy tribe, out in cold rains and colder snows, Zero and inferno temperatures and when they did reach home, they naturally rested.

There have been enough stone materials gathered here alone to indicate the men were not lazy.

(Continued next week.)

### 1934 TIPS FOR DRIVERS

As 1933 ends, early reports indicate that there was an increase in motor vehicle fatalities and injuries over 1932 in spite of the fact that fewer cars were operating during the year. The last quarter was especially bad.

Predictions are that fatalities will approach 30,000 and injuries, 1,000,000. This is a record that certainly should not be repeated.

A set of New Year's resolutions for the motorist, prepared by the National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters, is a good starting point for a safe 1934:

1. Drive at speeds suited to traffic conditions; slowly, in the city, moderately on the open highway.
2. Use better judgment in passing. Wait until there is 500 feet of clear distance ahead before attempting to maneuver.
3. Slow down at intersections.
4. Obey traffic signals.
5. Watch out for pedestrians.

These are the five most neglected rules of the road. Obedience to them would have saved a majority of the lives and limbs lost during 1933. Remember them in 1934.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00—R. M. Sauer, superintendent. We use the best graded materials available. Our teachers are in training and receive some supervision.

Morning Worship 11:00—"Going Forward With God." A children's sermon will be preached.

Intermediate C. E. 6:45—Ralph Johnson, leader.

Evening Service 7:30—"A God Who Cares."

Our leaders insist that our present great need is spiritual. If this is true we cannot afford to neglect the church.

H. D. Johnson, Pastor.

### WHEAT ACREAGE AND THE CORN HOG CONTRACT

Nebraska farmers need not worry about their present wheat acreage in signing up the corn-hog contract, W. H. Brokaw, state administrator announced at Lincoln today. In agreeing to reduce corn and hogs in that contract they also agree not to increase the acreage planted to wheat in 1934 over that planted in either 1932 or 1933, whichever is larger.

Harold Hedges of the Nebraska college of agriculture, who is now working in Washington, cleared up the question for the Nebraska administration when he wrote, "Please note that the corn hog contract does not say 'planted for harvest in 1934.'"

Hedges referred to a statement in the corn-hog contract which reads, "The producers shall not increase on this farm in 1934 above 1932 or 1933, whichever is larger, the acreage planted to each crop for sale designated as a basic commodity in the Act—." Wheat is one of the basic commodities. The statement has worried hundreds of farmers who now have more wheat in the ground than they planted in 1932 or 1933. Some of these men had signed a wheat contract, which because of their rapid reduction in wheat acreage since 1928, gave them a right to sow more wheat this last fall than in the last two years.

Another ruling from Washington says that farmers who sign up and comply with the wheat contract need

not worry about their wheat acreage in signing the corn hog contract.

Farmers who have not signed a wheat contract can adjust the wheat acreage they plant during the next 12 months to the requirements of the corn-hog contract, if they sign it up and reduce corn acreage and hog numbers. The wheat acreage now in the ground was seeded in 1933 and does not affect the corn-hog agreement.

### Nebraska News Items

Messages from Washington have informed authorities that Harry L. Hopkins, federal emergency relief director, has allotted South Dakota \$500,000 for unemployment relief and Nebraska \$450,000 for unemployment relief and civil works service.

State Tax Commissioner W. H. Smith has warned Nebraska county officials that there is no assurance there are to be federal relief funds available to counties after next July 1. He has no information, he added, that additional CWA jobs are to be available after that date. He stressed the point that his warning be brought to the attention of county officials.

All those who hatched poultry to sell have been asked by Henry Walz, of Battle Creek, to attend a meeting to be held at Norfolk today. This meeting is for district No. 2 and includes the following counties: Brown, Boyd, Keya Paha, Boone, Antelope, Knox, Holt, Rock, Madison Platte, Pierce, Nance, Wayne, Cedar, Dixon, Colfax, Stanton, Cuming, Dakota, Thurston, Burt, Dodge and Washington. J. R. Reddit, state extension expert, is to speak. The hatcherymen's code is to be discussed.

Milton Bower, 21, of Ainsworth, was injured fatally by a motor car at Butler, Mo., while walking along the edge of a road with a young woman companion. They were on their way to a garage after their car had stalled near Joplin. The physician said the driver of the car which struck Bower was not held responsible, as visibility was poor because of falling rain. The driver turned his car quickly to avoid hitting Bower and his companion. The rear bumper of the car struck Bower and threw him off the road, causing concussion of the brain.

Alex Peil, 23, of Gering, was sentenced to one year in the reformatory by District Judge Carter, at Gering, after he pleaded guilty to running away after his motor car hit and fatally injured John McDaniel, of Clinton, Minn., near Gering on November 1st.

Arrested at Omaha last Friday night, Verlin Hardstock, 18, Fremont, has confessed to stealing 10 automobiles in Omaha and Fremont, police say. In Hardstock's possession when arrested was a car stolen from a resident of Fremont. Officers had located the car some hours earlier and had "planted" for the thief. When he came along and climbed in the car he was arrested. He confessed, according to officers, to taking five cars from Fremont, all for joyriding. Usually he would abandon a car stolen in Fremont in Omaha and steal one in Omaha to drive back home. He said he wanted the machines to "show off" to a girl friend in Omaha.

Near Creighton, while the William Thomasson family attended church, someone stole 100 jars of fruit from the cellar. Several farmers of north Nebraska say they have a home-made code in effect this winter which calls for some member of the family re-

maining at home every hour of the day and night.

A Stanton county farmer, Webster Olson, while shaping a saw on an emery wheel, lost his nose when the wheel exploded, a chunk severing the member. He was taken to a Norfolk hospital.

The Nebraska Farmers Union may have its own bank in the near future. President H. G. Kenney, of Omaha, of the Union, said last Saturday that the application of the union for a state bank charter will be proposed at the union convention in Omaha this week, and will receive strong support.

"Reorganize or liquidate" was the ultimatum served on 60 restricted state banks by Governor Bryan, last week. His remarks in the form of a statement dictated to reporters, did not apply to about 60 other banks likewise under restriction but with good prospects of new financing in their own communities or in the form of preferred stock purchases by the R. F. C. "The state banking department finds it necessary in order to protect the depositors as well as the stockholders," he said, "to require the banks on restricted basis to immediately put themselves in solvent and legal shape or the state will have to put receivers in charge and liquidate their assets." The banks have been under restriction since the bank holiday last March. About 130 others originally under restriction have made their finances sound since then and now are operating without restrictions, so that the total of unrestricted state banks in Nebraska now approximate 265.

Charles W. McDonald, 37, former convict, was sentenced to 12 years in the state penitentiary in Omaha last week for the abduction of Robert Walsh, Jr., of Omaha. McDonald said that his reason for taking the boy was that he intended to have him assist him in getting a position in the home of a prominent Omahan and then rob the home.

Three Lawrence farmers were injured, one seriously last Friday morning when the car in which they were riding skidded after hitting a pavement dip a mile and a half west of Lincoln and went over a ditch and crashed into a telephone pole. The four men were Henry Beucher, 73, who suffered two deep cuts in the scalp, shock and possibly a fractured skull and who lost considerable blood; Henry Brokeman who suffered a broken collar-bone; John Kersbach, 68, who suffered bruises.

When a fly wheel on a corn shredder exploded a part of it struck one leg of William Fosterman, Verdigris, with sufficient force to crush bone and flesh. The leg was amputated near the ankle at the Lynch hospital.

Bandits made bold by Jack Frost held up and kidnaped John J. Eesar, a butcher shop operator at Omaha in the daytime. Three men waited and as he got out of his automobile to open his shop for business in the morning, another automobile drew alongside. He was covered with a pistol and ordered into the machine. He was asked for money and he said he had none. He was then knocked to the ground with a pistol butt, and then struck on his head a second time. He was forced into a car, taken a mile and one of the bandits went thru his pockets, removing \$80. The men told Tesar they were the same men who failed at robbing him last Thanksgiving at his home.

**A BANK account is a financial lubricant that keeps the business moving smoothly and without friction.**

THE  
**O'NEILL NATIONAL BANK**

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits,  
\$125,000.00

This bank carries no indebtedness of officers or stockholders.

**A Cozy Home and a Lower Fuel Bill**  
if you use

**WADGE**  
LABELED COAL

Hot — Clean — Holds Fire — Low Ash

Produced by Victor-American Fuel Co., Denver

**Get WADGE From Your Coal Dealer**