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MRS. R. H. MILLS DIES MONDAY MORNING AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Was Among The Earliest Settlers Of Holt County, Having Resided Here Since 1882.

Mrs. R. H. Mills died at her home in this city last Monday morning, after an illness of several months, of cancer, at the age of 57 years, 7 months and 12 days. The funeral was held from the Presbyterian church Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, Rev. H. D. Johnson officiating, and the remains were laid to rest in Prospect Hill cemetery.

Clara Jane Sprague was born at Snyder, Illinois, on September 4, 1876. In 1882 the family moved to this county and settled in the north eastern part of the county, where she grew to womanhood. On December 31, 1895, she was united in marriage to Henry Rufus Mills and made her home in this city since that time. Mrs. Mills was the mother of three children, two of whom survive here, and three step-children, all of whom were present at the funeral, except Mrs. Ada Coffield, of Portland, Oregon. The children, who with her loving husband, are left to mourn the passing of a kind and indulgent mother are: Mrs. Oscar Pierson, Hudson, S. D.; Ralph R. Mills, of O'Neill; Ida Coffield, of Portland, Ore.; Jesse G. Mills, of Omaha, and Elsie Mills, of Berwyn, Nebr.

Mrs. Mills was a lovable woman and had a host of friends in this city and vicinity. Although she has been a sufferer from cancer for some time and had submitted to medical treatment at various points in an attempt to cure the disease, she bore her affliction without complaint, always being more concerned with the welfare and comfort of her loved ones than she was of herself. Her many friends tender the family their heartfelt condolences in their hour of sorrow.

EDUCATIONAL NOTES

The April Teachers' Examination will be held at Stuart, Atkinson, O'Neill and Ewing on Saturday, April 21st. This is the last examination to be held during the school year.

Grades are being recorded this week of the Eighth Grade examination. The grades as a whole show evidence of very good work done in the schools.

In visiting the various schools I find that music is being stressed in a number of them. Chambers has organized an orchestra with 22 members under the direction of Mr. Catlett. In Emmet, music and singing have been stressed and an orchestra has been organized and conducted by Miss Geraldine Harris. This is composed of both the grade and high school pupils.

The following reports of teachers hired have been received recently: Amelia—District 228—John Lamason, high school; Wilda Dieks, intermediate grades, and Zelma Waldo, primary grades.

Ewing Public School—Elija McCullough, superintendent; John A. Shimonok, Howard T. Zook, Elsie R. Chase, Grace M. Benjamin, Mrs. Pearl Borden, Josephine Retzloff, Alice Selah, Mrs. Myrtle Wood and Leona Pribil.

Stamp Club Meeting

Friday evening members of the O'Neill Stamp Club will meet at the Walter Stein residence to discuss stamp business. This club is flourishing and now has 15 members.

At the last meeting, Ray Toy, vice president of the club reported, Thomas Burgen, of Lincoln, attended and exhibited his stock case, old covers of around 1880 and he answered many questions propounded by other stamp admirers. The Friday evening meeting starts at 7:30 sharp.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Heitman left last Friday morning for Grand Forks, N. D., in response to a telegram announcing the sudden death of Mr. Heitman's father in that city. They expect to be gone a week or ten days. Phil Welch, assistant manager of the Gamble store, of Norfolk, arrived in the city last Friday afternoon and will have charge of the local store until Mr. Heitman returns.

Those here who have spaded grassed or weedy patches say they found no grasshopper pods. Some pods have been reported in the northern part of Holt county but the egg deposit there is said to be very light compared to other Nebraska and South Dakota counties.

A flock of purple grackles, large blackbirds, arrived here fresh from Dixie a few days ago. Most persons rates this bird a bad actor.

No Change In Rulings On Contracted Acres

There have been no changes in rulings relative to use of contracted acres, or land rented to the government, under the agricultural adjustment program, state corn-hog administrator W. H. Brokaw said today. The recent report relative to putting forage crops in so-called free acres was interpreted by some to mean that it was possible to use contracted acres for the production of forage or pasture crops without any restriction. "This is not true," Brokaw said, "contracted acres cannot be used for any harvested crops."

Asks Compensation For Death Of Bryan Simmons

A case in which compensation of \$15 a week for 300 weeks and \$12 thereafter which was heard by the state compensation commissioner filed by Alice Simmons, widow of Bryan Simmons, who was killed here about a year ago when he is alleged to have jumped off a freight train after, it was alleged, he had obtained employment with the inland construction company, then working near Atkinson, which was denied by the commissioner and then appealed to the Holt county district court, was submitted to Judge Dickson last Thursday afternoon.

Simmons was a son of Sheridan Simmons, well known scout and early settler, historian and long time citizen of Holt county. His son lay for about an hour on the railway right-of-way with part of his foot off from contact with train wheels. After several days of intense suffering, he died.

Former Holt Countyman Dies At Sioux City At The Age Of 104 Years

The following is taken from the Monday issue of the Sioux City Tribune and the subject mentioned and her husband were among the first homesteaders of Holt county, filing on a tree claim south of Inman. Mr. Ryan was a brother of the late Peter Ryan who lived for years on a ranch southeast of this city, near Inman, and later lived in this city for several years. Only the early settlers will remember Mr. and Mrs. Ryan, although they lived on their homestead about eight years.

Funeral services for Mrs. Ryan were held at the Immaculate Conception Catholic church at Sioux City Wednesday morning and burial was in the Calvary cemetery at O'Neill about 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Ryan never forgot the exhilarating tang of the boundless outdoors she experienced on her Holt county homestead, the extreme consideration of distant neighbors for one another, the winds, sand, fitting snows of hard winters nor the withering suns of bygone summers when sky was watched for a bit of a cloud to water sapling cottonwoods that should ward off the sun and the cruel zero. She wanted to enter her long sleep as near as she could to a bit of the old sod and asked that her remains be lowered "out in O'Neill's little town on the banks of the Elkhorn."

In the account of Mrs. Ryan's death the Tribune said:

"A broken hip suffered in a fall Friday the 13th cost the life of Sioux City's oldest resident, Mrs. Ann McDonald Ryan, 104, Sunday.

"One of the few who pass the century milestone, Mrs. Ryan was in robust health for her age until the time of the accident. She died in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Arthur Rogers, 2023 South Royce.

"Funeral services for the centenarian will be Wednesday in Immaculate Conception Catholic church. Burial will be in O'Neill, Nebraska.

"Although she has only two immediate survivors, Mrs. Rogers, and another daughter, Mrs. A. L. Curtis of Vancouver, B. C., who visited her last August 15, 1933, when the aged woman celebrated her 104 birthday, Mrs. Ryan has a host of friends, especially in Immaculate Conception church where she attended mass every Sunday. Her favorite pastime was piecing quilts and in the last ten years she presented 37 to be given away as prizes at bazaars sponsored by the church.

"She was a native of Castlebar, County Mayo, Ireland, and experienced the famine there years ago. She migrated to the United States when she was 34 years old, settling in Pennsylvania. She married a Castlebar youth she had known all her life at Scranton, Pa., and then moved to a tree claim 16 miles southeast of O'Neill, Nebr. They lived on the claim for eight years and then went to Omaha for fourteen years. In 1905 they came to Sioux City. Mr. Ryan died here in 1916 and

Mrs. Ryan went to live with her daughter, Mrs. Rogers.

"During the famine in Ireland Mrs. Ryan recalled in an interview with a Tribune reporter at the time of her 103 birthday, 'older folks pointed out it was a part of the prophecy of St. Columbkille. This saint, whose sound forecastings cost him his life, predicted the era when messages would be sent by sticks, ships would fly and dive under the sea.

"They always used to talk about this back in Ireland, then they would say, 'none of us would live to see that.' But I did! It was God's will." Mrs. Ryan told the reporter.

"In 1903 Mrs. Ryan received a questionnaire from John Hopkins university, a medical school, asking her about her life and to what she attributed her longevity.

"They wanted to know if I lie down in the day time,' she scoffed. 'I never lie down during the day. The Lord has been kind to me and has let me live to see all these wonderful changes.'

"Mrs. Ryan lived a routine life arising each morning at 7:15 a. m. and always going to bed between 9:30 and 10 p. m.

"Despite her long life Mrs. Ryan never lost interest in politics and current events. Her daughter read the paper to her daily after her eyesight began to fail. Although she drew no party lines, she voted for Roosevelt in 1932, and Al Smith in 1928.

"It took Mrs. Ryan six weeks and four days to cross the ocean. She was astounded when told of ships crossing in four days."

Mrs. Ann McDonald Ryan, 104, who died in Sioux City last Sunday, and whose remains were buried here Wednesday, is believed to have been the oldest person in the state of Iowa. Her death almost coincided with another very aged woman, and the strange thing about it is that their names are similar.

At Savannah, Georgia, death claimed Mrs. Belle Rhynes, 123 years of age. Mrs. Rhynes said she had smoked a pipe since she was 11 years old. She was born in Ireland. They kidded her about being old when she was 121, and she said: "I am as happy as a little pig in the sunshine, and they talk about me being old! Why, Uncle John Shell was 130 and he started out to get some wood to cook with when he fell dead in the yard."

The Mrs. Rhynes, of Savannah, was laid to rest last Monday but the day of her death is unknown here. Likely, she died about Friday, only several days before the death at Sioux City of the oldest Iowa whose remains were buried in O'Neill Wednesday. The Georgia woman claimed smoking not only did not hurt her health, but on the contrary she maintained it caused her to live as long as she did.

During her younger days Mrs. Rhynes was employed by a circus and she traveled extensively as a snake charmer and dancer. It is just possible she has been in O'Neill, not in a circus, but in traveling to see the country after her circus days were over. There are few towns she had not visited.

Administrative Ruling No. 12, Is Amended

"A new producer," as defined in Administrative ruling No. 12, if unable to obtain a hog base by transfer as permitted under this ruling, is permitted to have two litters in 1934, and hogs produced therefrom, and is permitted to buy up to two sows or gilts for the purpose of having such litters.

Meteor Easily Visible

A meteorite, described as large and in dazzling illumination as it passed through the strata above our atmosphere and was extinguished as it struck the atmosphere, was seen a few nights ago by several young persons of the Phoenix neighborhood. Those in the party were George Syffe, Jr., Carl Damer, Violet Neoma and Alma Syffe and Virginia Damer. The meteorite fell about 9:30 in the evening. The light was sharp shaped, the spectators reported.

Clyde Davidson, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Davidson, of Sioux City, owner of a fleet of trucks, his wife and children, are, according to friends here, preparing to leave for California for a months pleasurable trip. On the return trip, the report indicated, the family planned a visit here with relatives.

Wild hay is still moving out of this county but at a greatly diminished rate, most of it being private exchange in contrast to former governmental distribution to drought sections.

Six More Names Added To The List Of Those Asking For Nomination

On April 16 a petition was filed in the office of the county clerk, signed by twenty-five voters, asking that the name of William H. Decker, of Page, be placed upon the ballot as a candidate for the democratic nomination for representative from this district. A receipt for the filing fee was filed with the petition. Mr. Decker has until 30 days before election to file his acceptance.

John C. Gallagher has filed for re-nomination to the office of county clerk, subject to the action of the democratic voters at the primary next August.

Mrs. James Shorthill, of Emmet, has filed for the democratic nomination for the office of register of deeds.

Vivian Grant Curran, of Star, has filed for the nomination to the office of county superintendent.

Ether Cole Harris has filed for re-nomination to the office of register of deeds, subject to the action of the republican voters at the primary election next August.

Hy. F. Nightengale, of Atkinson, has joined the list of applicants for the position of supervisor of the Seventh district, by filing as a democratic candidate for the nomination.

O. S. Cooper, Agricultural Engineer, In O'Neill

O. S. Cooper, Agricultural Engineer, has been stationed in O'Neill for the balance of April. While here he will make a survey of the county in regard to the possibilities of extending electric service on rural lines. Anyone interested in this kind of service should get in touch with him at Conrad's cabin camp.

New Highway Surfacing Is Mistaken For A Lake

The high and wide new highway covering on No. 281 south of here is a sort of mirage for those who look at it from a half mile or more from the side. The surfacing is a white clay and it looks exactly like a great body of water. One hobo said to another:

"Lookie there, haymow, how about a swim?"

"Sure ting, on our return trip, mebbe."

"That's a highway," was volunteered by a native.

"Looks like it with a motor boat tossin' spray like that," one of them replied.

Automobiles rooling over the road causes white dust to rise and this looks like water spray and smoke.

Seven Awarded Letters At St. Mary's Academy

Amid hilarious cheering and bursts of applause, "Letter Day" was celebrated at St. Mary's on April 5th. A very appropriate and enjoyable program showing sincere gratitude was presented by the students as 1934's basketball team received their well-earned letters.

The first event on the program was a tribute from the cheering squad. This was followed by two songs to Alma Mater. Mary Lois Hamond addressed the boys, offering congratulations and appreciation, in the name of the student body, to the Team, to Father Leahy, and to Jerry Phalin.

Father Leahy presented sweaters to the following boys: Gene Gallagher, Bob Biglin, Hugh Ryan, Peter Price, Francis Soukup, Mike Hart, Claude Callen, and Bob McCarthy. Father Leahy commented on each player's work for the year, and expressed his appreciation for the excellent record St. Mary's team has made during the past season.

Gene Gallagher gave a few words of thanks to Father Leahy and Coach Phalin in the name of the team.

For a finale, the student sang "Aloha, Cardinals."

CARD OF THANKS.

We desire to express our sincere thanks to the many kind friends and neighbors for their sympathy and kindness extended and for the many beautiful offerings sent in our recent bereavement, the death of our beloved mother and grandmother.

David Bellar,
Chris Bellar
The Grandchildren.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to thank the many kind friends, neighbors and relatives for their generous assistance and acts of kindness during the illness, death and burial of our loved one; also for the beautiful floral offerings. Your kindness will never be forgotten.

Mrs. T. F. Donohoe and Sons.

Will Hold Grasshopper Control Meeting

A meeting will be held in the court house in O'Neill on April 27, at 8 p. m. At this meeting O. S. Bare, extension entomologist, will outline the program of grasshopper control for Holt county. Nebraska's quota of Federal funds is limited in amount and in order to receive this federal aid it will be necessary to meet the requirements of the government, which call for an intensive campaign at the most effective time. Everyone interested should make it a point to attend this meeting.

Texas Women Blame Nebraska For Sand

The Lubbock, Texas, chamber of commerce sent a letter to Professor E. E. Schramm, of the University of Nebraska, stating he should see sand is kept in Nebraska. A year ago, rich red alluvial soil of Texas was deposited in eastern Nebraska by a south wind and Nebraskans laughingly figured it enriched this state \$25,000,000. The sand storm the other day sort of returned the borrowing, like one neighbor borrowing, then returning a cup of sugar, a common stunt on the prairies in early days, it was alleged.

Women of Texas are huffy about the uneven exchange, a paper humorously commented, and they are having a high old time down there working the grit out of their homes.

Nebraska may file a special appearance in this case or even may plead entrapment. It may be proved the dust and sand which went south for the winter and spring originated in South Dakota. It may be proved Nebraska was not at home on days when the sand went south, that South Dakota told Montana she was going to play a dirty trick on Nebraska some time, that numerous grasshopper eggs on the sand in Texas indicates none save South Dakota could furnish such sand, and that the malicious, felonious, diabolical, immaterial, inconsequential, perpendicular, horizontal, lackadaisical, unconstitutional, premeditated, heartless, but not breathless, devastating, interstate, hurricane, originated, organized, incorporated, fumigated and stood up on its South Dakota legs, vaulted leaped, jumped and roared over and above covering Nebraska, and, wilfully, maliciously, feloniously, braggadociolously, breezily, betweenwhiles, beeswax, balony, bull-whackers, birdshot and branchiate boomerang, and did, ravish, rummage, revolutionize, renovate, regurgitate, re-pressively resuscitate the innocent and fair state of Texas and did, cheerfully and wickedly, throw kisses at Missouri and missed, hitting Texas and knocking that fair young flower entirely out of the box.

Hospital Notes

Mrs. John Eggar underwent a minor operation Saturday evening. She went home Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Carl Dahlstein is getting along very nicely at the present time.

Everett Michaelson, of Page, was operated on Monday morning for acute appendicitis.

Edith Baker underwent an operation Monday evening for acute appendicitis. She is convalescing nicely.

Harold Parks, of Page, was brought in on a stretcher Tuesday morning, seriously ill with pneumonia. At present he is doing as well as can be expected.

Mrs. Helmer Widtfeldt and son Helmar Morris, were dismissed from the hospital Saturday afternoon.

Charles Manson, who was injured Wednesday, was brought to the hospital Thursday noon, to have his injured knee treated.

Gertrude G. Graham, of this city, who has been doing demonstration work for the Staley Starch and Syrup company, out of Decatur, Ill., for the past six months, left Omaha last Sunday night for Los Angeles, California, where she will continue with her work on the Pacific coast for the summer and also visit her brother, Edward and sister, Mrs. C. C. Jackson. She expects to return by fall and again make her old territory, South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska.

Recently the dead bodies of a dog, hog and horse were found lying on top of the ground here and it is presumed those who did not bury the carcasses intended that coyotes or mountain lions should devour the remains. First news of the carcasses came by wireless.

Goldie Boyle and Maxine Posover, of Chambers, were here shopping Tuesday and visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Boyle.

MRS. MATTIE SCHMIDT IS DEAD; AN INVALID FOLLOWING A STROKE

Had Been A Resident Of Holt County Since 1886, Coming Here From Canada With Her Father.

Mrs. Mattie Schmidt, widow of Andrew Schmidt, died last Monday morning after being an invalid some weeks following a stroke. Mrs. Schmidt was 77 years, 7 months and 21 days old, having been born August 25, 1856, at Wesley, Ontario, Canada. There she grew to womanhood and married John Bellar on November 18, 1877.

Mrs. Schmidt died at the home of her sister here, Mrs. J. U. Yantzi, just across the street from her own home in east O'Neill.

The funeral of Mrs. Schmidt was held Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock with services in the Menonite church north of here and burial was in the cemetery of that church.

Some years following the death of her husband, Mrs. Bellar married Andrew Schmidt in June, 1914. To the first union there was born two children who survive their mother, Dave, of O'Neill, and Christ, of Wilson, Kansas. Other near relatives left to mourn are four sisters and two brothers.

Mrs. Andrew Schmidt was such an outstanding woman as is referred to as the salt of the earth. She came to Holt county in the year 1886 in company with her father, Christian Ernst, a famous carpenter who constructed most of the frame buildings in central Holt county. He threw himself into the upbuilding of his new land heart and soul and won a reputation for industry that had no equal in this county. The gaining of money was a secondary consideration.

It fell to the lot of Mrs. Schmidt to experience the rigors of life on the bleak prairies in its most adventurous and exciting phases. She often told of her husband's brother, Joe Bellar, losing his life in the great blizzard of 1888, while with team and wagon on his way to a neighboring place where he was to pay for a purchased hog. John Gordon, who barely saved his life by existing under an overturned wagon box in that storm, was at the Bellar funeral, swathed in bandages over his frost bites, she said.

Mrs. Schmidt told of her mother in Canada cutting off wool, shearing it, carding, spinning it taking it to a weaver and of making all the children's clothing, even underwear, suits, overcoats and all. She related often that we have things pretty soft now; that her father often sung or whistled as he walked off to work before daylight, as far as fifteen miles from his home.

For years there was no price at all on chicks, but eggs ranged in price from four to six cents per dozen and calico was cheap, six cents a yard, or a store dress could be purchased for fifty cents. Mrs. Andrew Schmidt saw the good old days bloom and fade and she was always happy and contented while her faith in better things for all never faltered.

There never was a better neighbor than Mrs. Schmidt. She loved prairie life and could tell interestingly of it all day long. Before the family of Christian E. Ernst came from Canada, he built a fine residence and walked five miles to work every day until it was completed. On the homestead, five miles northwest of O'Neill, when the family arrived, everything was complete, the house and everything to run it. All that had to be done was to start the kitchen fire and prepare a meal. Twenty-five bushels of potatoes reposed in the cellar, two fat hogs had been butchered, and it was found the head of the house had made tables, beds, chairs and even a potato masher, a slicer and a comb for the hair of the newcomers.

Mrs. Schmidt often told of the battles they fought to keep things moving on the homestead; snow tunnels dug to reach half famished livestock; all day trips to Emmet to get groceries and hard work garnering hay and even cornstalks for fuel. Yet, Mrs. Schmidt said she enjoyed it all. In Canada she had worked on 12 hour shifts in a woolen mill.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Blinco, of Yankton, S. D., arrived in the city last Sunday for a couple of days visit with old friends here. Albert Blinco was a resident of this city for many years, having been an employe of the Short Line, between here and Sioux City. At the time the road was taken over by the Burlington he remained with the Great Northern and is still in their employ, with headquarters at Yankton.