

# THE FRONTIER

## SMALL DOSES PAST AND PRESENT

By Romaine Saunders  
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Housewives are at their wit's end for the grease to fry a potato. What's the matter with baking it?

Synthetic legs, crutches, straps, belts and tubes displayed by the dealers in surgical supplies is a gruesome reminder of a living harvest from the world's battle fronts.

War is over, about a million will never come back, "defense workers" are scattered across the country and nobody can find a house to live in—where they think they want to live. And there are a lot of empty houses in the rural communities of Nebraska.

If it so develops that the Red Cross has tossed nearly a half million dollars to the A. F. L. and C. I. O. in the past three years there are a lot of people out on the hinterland who will feel that they are through with the Red Cross.

Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets. I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. . . . Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments and shall teach men so, shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven.—From the "Sermon on the Mount."

Secretary Schwellenbach has about as much success on the labor front as did Madame Perkins. Citizens like to have, are entitled to have, officials whose capacity measures up to the job they are expected to do. Is not Washington overrun with little men, men who have neither the courage nor the capacity to deal with the strife between industry and labor?

Maybe the boy has the solution to life's vexations. Let him get sight of a football and the mere obligation of a family mission he has been sent on becomes a secondary consideration, it can wait or be wholly cast aside. He will get his hands on that football. That is the urge, pleasure, fun, hang the work. "Life is real, life is earnest" is the philosophy of grown man, boys take it lightly.

Salt Lake City denies it pays its dog catcher \$10,000 a year and their best teachers \$2,700. Maybe any fellow who can rid a community of its surplus canine population is worth ten grand. The dog catcher works 365 days for his, the teacher 287 days of about six hours each. Maybe they are underpaid, so are country editors. Some things we do for the "good of humanity." And if we find financial reward the only incentive to our job the job can be only drudgery.

This is ventured at great risk—the risk of incurring the displeasure of the membership of the Women's Clubs. Much of their study now is devoted to "whole meal salad." Salad—what a travesty on our heritage from our New England and Pennsylvania cooks! Salad—a mysterious mixture of indigestibles and cold potatoes that would stop the works of a brass monkey. Salad, maybe it's something for lady's fingers to toy with, deluding themselves into a belief that their men think they are getting a meal. No offense meant, sister; neither shall I be frightened at a responsive chorus, "Phoo, what does that smarty know about proper diet?" Shall I tell you?

Billions have gone in to the whirlwind of war's devastating years—years of bloodshed and heartaches and now is there to be continued even greater war preparations, a system of universal military training, military sentiments to predominate? That is the focal point to which trends are leading. The billions put into this business would better go for building permanent roads

Fletcher Gorman, of Chicago, stopped in town long enough to see what local printers thought about installing an offset press—Greek, of course to you—but the old town is of considerable importance when a firm in the great city thinks we are ready for such equipment here.

### BRIEFLY STATED

Miss Grace Suchy came up from Omaha to spend a few days at the home of her mother last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Peter received word from their son, Pvt. Frank F. Peter that he is now stationed in Manila.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Harris, Jr., and Miss Betty Harris came over from Sioux City Friday and visited with their mother, Mrs. Esther Cole Harris until Sunday.

They have the right idea over in South Dakota respecting freedom of the road. A car from over the border in town the other day flaunted flaming red license plates of 1942 issue. Where would a Nebraskan get with a three-year-old license tag at the tail light?

County Agent Dawes is spending the week in Lincoln, where the county agents from over the state are in session with the heads of the State Department of Agriculture in the annual gathering for the promotion of agricultural interests.

Office girls had a holiday Monday the 12th to celebrate the 11th. It was a great day for some of them, two weeks' washing to do, the household put to rights, patching and the like. Besides holding "down town" jobs keeping the industrial activities of the city from stagnation many of the lady workers keep their home and family functioning normally.

Indian Summer some call it. Grand Nebraska autumn sunshine is good enough. It had a brief interruption by a "spit" of snow last week and a good rain Monday of this week. The moisture has put at rest with some the fear of prairie fires though with clear skies and bright sunshine grass will yet burn. However, frosty mornings, damp earth and green meadows in the blue grass belt south and southwest sections of the county fire hazards are reduced materially. We have learned of no destructive fires in the county during the warm October days, reputed to have been the driest in the memory of those whose experiences did not reach back to the really dry time of 1894.

That would permit the producers of life's necessities to get their stuff to the cities' mighty eaters at less cost, at less risk. The cattle and hay country of Nebraska needs roads, needs them more than it needs electric lines strung across the prairies. And these too, are desirable. Clay and gravel highways are wholly inadequate for the heavy traffic and at this season, the season of the movement of stock and hay, efforts are made to improve them only to render them nearly impassable. Billions for devastation, maybe a few dollars to spare to give the fellows out on the land a decent system of roads.

The body of a 21-year-old discharged soldier was sent to his mother in Kentucky last week from a Nebraska town. He had met a violent death when the car in which he was said to be speeding with two women companions "going home from a dance," left the highway, careened, plunged in the air, rolled over again and again. It was four in the morning. After a night of revelry on a dance floor, away on the wings of the wind in a speeding car with the pale hand of death at the wheel. A night of excitement, of revelry, and human nerves are not a match for dangers of the highway. And the mother down there in Kentucky with a bleeding heart will lay her soldier boy away the victim of an avoidable tragedy.

## Can't Blame the Strikes for This

Strikes do not account for everything. That is, strikes on the labor end of industry. The big boys of industry are on a strike, too. According to local lumber dealers the mills have shut down while their yards for hundreds of rods are jammed with logs and will make no more shipments until in January when operations will be resumed.

Income tax is back of this shut dawn, lumber dealers say. The mills made a pile of money in 1945 and after piling up all the expense items that can be dug out of the brush they still have a big wad to pay income tax on and are shutting off further income by discontinuing production.

A promise, or a hope at least, looking toward Washington is for a lower schedule of taxation for 1946. With this rainbow of promise now glowing on the horizon "big business"—and nothing much bigger than the sawlog—now rests on cushioned ease to resume the intake of income when the tax gatherers moral reform becomes an assured fact.

O'Neill is on the waiting list for building materials for houses and buildings and lumber dealers here are sanguine over prospects for the rap of hammers and rasp of saws maybe about the fragrant and blooming month of May. One local yard has been advised that a car of lumber long ago due in the railroad yards here will not be shipped by the sawmill men until January 2. The lumber situation locally has become much worse since the end of hostilities that was absorbing much of the lumber output.

## Daughters Gather In New Members at Banquet

Sunday afternoon November 4, 1945, the Catholic Daughters of O'Neill, Nebraska, received into their Court twenty-two new members and reinstatements, as follows:

Shelia Barrett, Inez Benson, Catherine Cuddy, Thelma Cronk, Betty Flood, Marjorie Hansen, Genevieve Flood, Grace Gilham, Jennie Green, Mary Kivett, Helen McNichols, Helen Regal, Eileen Sullivan, Isabelle Moore, Lois Saidon, Genevieve Sauser, Catherine Warnke, Anna Pribil, Alice McCaffrey, Mary Pruss, Frances Rotherham, Ellen Sullivan. At 6:30 p. m. a lovely banquet was served by the Sisters of St. Mary's Academy. Our lovely to, simistris of the evening was Mrs. Doris Tomlinson. The musical program was sponsored by the students of St. Mary's. Among the interesting speakers of the evening were: Msgr. J. G. McNamara, Father John O'Brien, Father Peter Burke, and Father R. J. Lisco. Out of town guests present were: Mr. and Mrs. Owens, Mrs. Long, Mrs. Warren and Mrs. Carberry, all of Norfolk, Neb.

## A Birthday Surprise

Mrs. Elizabeth Jones was surprised by a group of friends on her birthday Friday evening. Those present included, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Shaw and family, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Price and Eddie, Mr. and Mrs. Arch Densberger, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Geidel and family, Tillie, Elsie, Louis and George Peter, Estel Thomas and Leo Jareske. The evening was spent playing cards. Arch and Ruth Densberger won high score, Mrs. Albert Geidel and Louis Peter won low score. The hostess was presented with a lovely gift from all present. After a delicious lunch was served all went home, after congratulating the hostess and wishing her many more happy birthdays and all agreeing that they had spent a very pleasant evening.

Prof. Ira George was a bus passenger to Stuart Tuesday to give of his large talent to the school boys and girls in their musical training.

Power machinery doing the work in field and meadow; airplanes and automobiles "riding the range;" Nebraska farms and ranches still have nine and a quarter million dollars in horse and mule flesh, according to the findings and valuations of the assessors last April.

### BRIEFLY STATED

Mattie Soukup spent Friday in Sioux City, Iowa, on business.

Harry Smith, of Brunswick, is visiting relatives in the city this week.

Miss Bonnie Reimers left Thursday morning for California, where she will spend the winter.

A. B. Connell, of the local employment office, went to Norfolk today to attend a two-day meeting of the U. S. Employment Service officials.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Dailey, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Smithland and Mr. and Mrs. Emmet Thompson were guests at the Leo Smith home at Page last Sunday.

Former Supervisor John Steinhauer, of Stuart, was looking after business at the court house Tuesday and visiting his many old time friends in the city.

Miss Marjorie Cronin left Thursday morning for Santa Barbara, Cal. She will spend some time there with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Butts.

Clarence Shaw, a long time friend of The Frontier from out southwest, made us a visit Tuesday, joining others in adding to the season's editorial prosperity.

Mrs. Virginia Gilman of this city has received word that her husband, Pvt. Lloyd Gilman, is stationed at Kokura, Japan. Mrs. Gilman is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Dailey of Inman.

Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Harty and son, Tom, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Cronin and J. D. Cronin spent Sunday in Grand Island. While there they visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton E. Cronin and attended the football game between Grand Island and St. Mary's of O'Neill.

W. A. Thompson, one of the substantial ranchers of Wyoming precinct, was in the city Tuesday, ordering The Frontier sent to him at Amelia. Mr. Thompson is one of a family of very early pioneers, his father, who attained the remarkable age of 100, being among the very first in the Inman valley and later developing a ranch near Swan lake. W. A. has found his life's interests interwoven with the southwest prairie land where he operates one of its desirable ranches.

An enjoyable social function enlivened the staid precincts of the Odd Fellow's hall Tuesday evening when the Rebekahs and Odd Fellows to the number of three score came together for an evening's mental relaxation. C. B. Jewett, Grand Master of the order and Mrs. Jewett, past president of the Rebekahs, were in attendance from Norfolk as guests of honor. Mr. Jewett made an informal talk as did also Mrs. Jewett. Musical numbers were enjoyed, and the evening passed in social contact until 11:30.

Introduced to a full house by Master James Bridges, President of the Youths Fellowship, Lt. Col. Frank A. Welder, recently retired as a chaplain in the army, gave an interesting talk to the young people of the Methodist Church Sunday evening. It was a young peoples' meeting but age was no bar and old and young from the O'Neill church groups and from nearby towns came to listen with rapt attention to the Col.'s story of experiences on the blood-stained battle ground in the islands of the far South Pacific, the reaction of soldiers to war's horrors and their interest in the mission work of the various churches among the islanders. At the close of the formal address the interested crowd kept the Colonel talking informally and answering questions for another hour.

## Taxing Agency Out for Reform

More than a score of men and women representing the taxing agencies of five north Nebraska counties, equipped with pencil and pad, sat at the long table in the assembly room at the court house Tuesday afternoon to absorb all information possible at County Assessor Gillespie's and State Tax Commissioner Armstrong's party.

Mr. Armstrong discussed at some length and at many angles the many-angled taxation headache, from which it was gathered that there is definite dissatisfaction with the present system and equally definite movements on foot to work out changes. He pointed out what he feels is an inequality between the tax burden carried by real estate and that of personal property, the real estate carrying about two-thirds of the tax load. Something like 70% of bank deposits he said escaped assessment. Some properties are assessed too high, some too low, and the efforts of officials charged with the duty of administering the tax laws must be to remedy the inequality.

Meetings are being held throughout the state by the tax commissioner and also the legislative committee of seven members to work out recommendations for changes in the tax laws. Some would do away with this and substitute that, add here and take away there, and from the days of the Caesars until now and ever will be not an entirely satisfactory tax setup. In the mean time we will have our schools, our roads and bridges, our fine public buildings and paved streets, our parks and play grounds, our universities and libraries.

Land assessments and sale prices by precincts in Holt county covering a period of sixteen years was gone into with the somewhat complicated result of a proposal to slice up the county into 40-acre tracts making something like 23,000 separate parcels of land, classify these as hay, range or farm lands and average them all up with the rest of the state. This proposal is not looked upon with favor, though it is recognized that land assessments are not just what they should be. Some tracts have been sold the past sixteen years for less than the assessed valuation placed upon them.

If you are a tax doctor come on with your chest or remedies.

## Study Haying Methods

Val Kuska, Agricultural Agent for the Burlington railroad, and F. J. Chase, of the Rural Economics Department of the Agricultural College, spent two days with the County Agent in studying having operations and methods in the county, with respect to the State Pasture-Forage-Livestock program.

Mr. Kuska and Mr. Chase are members of the State PFL committee and were checking the farms of Lawrence Skrdla of Stuart, and Harvey Tompkins of Inman. These two farms were chosen by the PFL Committee to represent Holt county in the hay making contest which is sponsored by the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the extension service. Mr. Kuska stated that he is very much interested in this area and in methods that are being used in the different forms of agriculture. Mr. Kuska was also interested in the tree planting that have been made in Holt county and as a railway agricultural agent, stated that he could almost tell what kind of an area he was in by the trees that had been planted in that area. Commenting on Holt county, he stated he certainly was favorably impressed with the people, livestock and crops. Many questions were asked of the County Agent, relative to the use of the land and the feasibility of hay and beef production in Holt county. He expressed his opinion to the agent that if more people could see this sandhill area, they would have a much better understanding as to the conditions and

type of agriculture in which it is engaged.

The second day in the county was spent visiting farmers in the county and studying their types of farming enterprises and their plans for the future. Mr. Chase was primarily interested in this phase of the work, and is hoping to gain some valuable information from Holt county. Farms and ranches visited in Holt county were those of Ray Siders, O'Neill; M. B. Higgins, Atkinson; Robert Clifford, Atkinson. Mr. Kuska, when asked by the agent what his ideas were regarding the livestock industry in the future, replied that he would like to see more livestock produced and fed in this area and possibly less hay shipped out. He did not mean dry lot feeding, such as is done in the eastern part of the state.

Results of the hay making contest will be published at a later date and will be climaxed at the State PFL finish-up meeting at Omaha on November 29.

## Court Convenes for Graham Trial

As we close our forms Thursday afternoon closing arguments by attorneys are being made. From being a commonplace in the judicial history of the county a jury trial seems to be a novelty. When the case of the State against Graham was called for organization and trial in a long lonesome court room Tuesday the cold benches in the spectators quarters were warmed by a full house. The south section was preempted by students from the two schools whose instructors pilot them in to see the workings of the district court.

Milton I. Graham, of Belleville, Kansas, is on trial for the death of John J. Hynes whose injuries sustained in a bus and truck collision near Inman proved fatal. Graham was the driver of the truck.

County Attorney Julius D. Cronin begun the action on behalf of the state but has withdrawn and the prosecution is in the hands of Irwin A. Jones from the attorney general's office in Lincoln. The defendant is represented by William W. Griffin of O'Neill and N. J. Ward and Fred Swoyer, both of Belleville.

The following are serving as jurors: Charles Dallage, Irwin Parsons, Charles Lofquest, William Derickson, L. W. Ulrich, Herbert Rouse, Lawrence Dobrovolev, Blain Garwood, A. G. Pritchett, Vern Sageser, Ed Sterns and John Werner. The three ladies in the first call, Mrs. John Protivinsky, Miss Alma Syffe and Mrs. Vera Anson, were excused from serving.

The taking of testimony from a long list of witnesses was under way when court convened Wednesday morning.

Mrs. C. V. Suuivan is up from Omaha visiting at the home of her mother-in-law, Mrs. Agnes Sullivan.

T. W. Knoell and daughter, Gretchen, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Knoell and son were in Lynch Friday on business.

Mrs. P. J. O'Donnell came up from Sioux City last Saturday and spent the week-end with relatives and friends here.

Mrs. C. V. Sullivan is up from at the game/residents' commendation from the spectators at the game, who admitted it was a "real" Prep Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Willson drove to Grand Island last Sunday and witnessed the football game between St. Mary's of O'Neill and St. Mary's of Grand Island.

Andrew Clark, who was raised in Grattan township and has been a resident thereof all his life, has added his name to the list now on file with the county clerk for appointment to fill the supervisor vacancy in the Third district.

Mrs. Ellen Brock and daughter, Donna, of Colorado Springs, Col., and Mrs. Lornea Arnold, of Venonour, Washington arrived in the city Tuesday for a few days visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Steskal. Joe and Dennis Steskal are brothers of Mrs. Brock and Mrs. Arnold.

## Many Come to O'Neill's Party

They came a "thousand strong." The call to the banquet, to the show sent across the prairie-land by the Commercial Club through the medium of the newspapers brought them in by the hundreds. The vast school auditorium seated a sea of men from the grass and plow lands interspersed with city dwellers. It was a men's affair though the gentler sex can never be quite eliminated. They put charm, the touch of quality and art to an entertainment program.

By 7 o'clock last evening Prof. George's school band struck the drums and blew the horns to the tune of a march and the evening's fun was on for the mob assembled. A half hour of band selections closed with the national air when the house arose and stood in silent respect. Then followed a few vocal selections by the McNichols, Hickey and Flood trio of female voices, who were well received.

Reminiscent of the vaudeville stage of another generation, a set of juvenile twins, Don and Devon, midget radio stars, with Dwala Graves, piano artist, did dancing and singing to the delight of the audience. Jess Blaggett baffled a fascinated mob with his tricks of legerdemain and boldly called himself a magician. Nobody could deny it. Gene Laffler, program director for WJAX over at Yankton, added a touch of comedy and Lam and Martha from the same studio injected additional comedy into the program's finish.

Prizes were awarded to the one coming in from the farthest out, to the oldest man in the audience and to the soldier with the longest term of service abroad. These went to a resident of the Dorsey neighborhood living out the greatest distance, to the senior Mr. French of Page and a soldier from Brunswick who had been 39 months over there.

The banquet was spread at 10 o'clock for the hungry but highly entertained guests. And this humble pilgrim had forgone supper expecting to be seated at the groaning banquet board at 6:30.

## Marriage Licenses

Eugene Wolfe and Mary E. Flood, both of O'Neill.

Edward Leopold Schneider and Lauretta Mary Kaup, both of Stuart.

Sylvester J. Kramer and Frances J. Kaup, both of Stuart.

Mrs. Ray Noble, Bonnie and Pvt. Raymond Noble drove to Grand Island Monday afternoon to meet Seaman First Class Joseph H. Noble, who is just back from overseas and has a month leave. Raymond returned to Ft. Riley Tuesday night after a ten day visit with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Noble and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Willson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lohaus and Miss Alma Wallace were among the O'Neill residents who witnessed the football game at Grand Island last Sunday, when St. Mary's put up a gallant fight against the number one six man team in the state. No resident of this city, who follows the games looked for St. Mary's of O'Neill to win this contest, in fact many were afraid that our local boys would be unable to score, but, after the contest was over, Grand Island was happy that they won for the local boys threw a real scare into the member of the number one team.

## SHOLES-HOPKINS

In a double ring ceremony Thursday, November 8, at 2:00 p. m., at the Methodist Church in Inman, Miss Marjorie Sholes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Sholes became the bride of Pvt. Dean Hopkins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hopkins, Rev. E. B. Marcey performing the ceremony.

The bride wore a fushia suit and hat; the groom was in Army uniform, also the bride's uncle, Pfc. Jim Sholes, who gave the bride away. The attendants were Gene Hopkins, brother of the groom and Mary Lou Sholes, cousin of the bride.

A reception for relatives and close friends was held at the bride's home. At the expiration of Pvt. Hopkins' furlough he will report to Fort Riley for assignment and Mrs. Hopkins plans on going with him there.