

Record Farm Income Reaped from Fair Yield

1 1/2 Billion Dollar Figure Is 45% Over 1946, Howard Declares

Nebraska farmers reaped an all-time dollar harvest in 1947 from a yield which was only average, and the outlook for 1948 appears equally firm. This was stated Monday by Rufus M. Howard, director of agriculture, in his annual report.

Production of corn and some minor crops was disappointing, he said, but this was offset by a nearly record wheat crop and a highly favorable condition for livestock.

In terms of dollars, the 1947 farm income of \$1,250,000,000 was nearly 45 percent greater than in 1946.

Also record for U. S. Farm income for the United States for 1947 is estimated to reach the record figure of \$30,000,000,000 which is 18 percent above the income for 1946. The fact that Nebraska farm income has increased far above that of the average for the nation can be attributed to the high prices received for livestock by Nebraska farmers and ranches, Howard declared.

Approximately 75 percent of the Nebraska farm income is received from the sale of livestock and livestock products. Prospects are favorable that the livestock industry will continue on a profitable basis for the next year.

Cattle numbers for the United States have been reduced from 81,000,000 head in 1943 to 76,000,000 at the close of 1947. On January 1, 1947, 3,832,000 cattle were counted on Nebraska farms and ranches. Indications at present point to a slight reduction in the number of cattle in the state as compared to a year ago.

Other favorable factors for a profitable year for Nebraska livestock producers and feeders include the high level of meat consumption and a seven percent reduction in the numbers of livestock in feed lots as compared to a year ago.

The embargo on the importation of cattle from Mexico due to the foot and mouth disease outbreak will continue indefinitely. About 700,000 head of cattle ordinarily have been imported annually into the United States from Mexico, the state's agricultural chief continued.

There was a total hog production increase during 1947 of two per cent, while fall pig crop output was six per cent greater than in 1946.

Farmers are viewing their improved economy soundly and with few of the illusions that marked the post-war activity of 1920. Land values in Nebraska, for instance, have increased only eight percent over 1946.

Despite the narrow land value increase, the average per acre price today is some 86 percent greater than the 1935-39 average and 30 percent below the 1920 inflationary peak. There is strong evidence of a cautious, well-thought approach to farm investments and farm expansion.

Corn Down 33 Percent The state's foremost crop, corn, fell 33 percent below 1946 production. But the harvest of 143,130,000 bushels came onto an improved market, and at \$2.35 a bushel the dollar value almost matched the 1946 income. Corn husked for grain in 1947 is estimated at 139,460,000 bushels.

Corn in irrigated areas kept a high production pace of 525 bushels. In non-irrigated areas, production dropped to 19 bushels an acre.

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Townsend Entertain 100 at Open House

PAGE—Mr. and Mrs. Clinton A. Townsend, who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Christmas day, entertained 100 visitors Sunday at open-house.

Mrs. Frank (Helen) Chmeler of Norfolk, their daughter, and Mrs. June Town end, their daughter-in-law, received the guests. Their four granddaughters, Patricia Townsend, Bonnie Cherrie and Julia Chmeler, served refreshments.

The Townsends received a number of gifts.

Relatives from a distance attending were: Alva Town end, their son, and his family, of Omaha; Mrs. Chmeler and her family, of Norfolk; Mr. and Mrs. Angus Palmer, and Mr. and Mrs. Gene Palmer and twin daughters, also of Norfolk.

STREET LIGHTS OUT IN 9 TOWNS

Frozen Rivers Reduce Power Supply for Consumers

Ice in the rivers which feed the network of hydro-electric plants in Nebraska forced Consumers Public Power district to restrict street lighting in many cities and towns in the state.

Street lighting in the O'Neill district is without street lighting between 5 and 8 p. m., according to L. C. Whiting, district manager. The curtailment is only temporary, he added.

Power officials, however, have seen a curtailment of service coming because of the mounting power demands throughout the state.

Mr. Walling said that the users in the O'Neill area served by the O'Neill headquarter s had been "very cooperative" in conserving power up until Christmas in response to requests for voluntary curtailment. He said that the voluntary curtailment had been "very apparent" at the headquarters here. However, since Christmas the users have "back-slided a little." This, in addition to the ice difficulty at the hydro plants, forced the street lighting conservation measure.

Meanwhile, the diesel auxiliary plant at O'Neill is operating beyond its normal capacity to help meet the demand.

Other towns affected by the 5 to 8 p. m. street-lighting blackout are: Neligh, Valentine, Ainsworth, Bassett, Atkinson, Creighton, Hartington and Ponca.

37 Kin Gather at G. H. Grimes Home

CHAMBERS—Thirty-seven relatives gathered at the G. H. Grimes home Friday for a social evening. Those present, besides Mr. and Mrs. Grimes, were: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brittel of Vancouver, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hamilton and three children, of Monmouth, Ill.; Dr. Loren Coppac, of Omaha; Mr. and Mrs. Clair Grimes, M.; and Mrs. T. E. Newhouse and Kathryn, Charles Grimes and sons, Gerald and Bruce; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Grimes and Bonnie; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coolidge and Kenneth; Mr. and Mrs. Glen Grimes and family; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Grimes and family; Jim Grimes and Mrs. Lois Adams. Refreshments of ice cream and cake were served.

THE FRONTIER

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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PRICE 7 CENTS

STUDENTS HURT IN AUTO CRASH

Francis Flood and Janice Jarman in Hospital; Auto in Ditch

Two persons were seriously injured, three others escaped serious injury, and a Ford automobile belonging to C. J. Gatz, of O'Neill, was badly damaged about 6:30 p. m. Monday on a highway two miles east of Chambers.

The machine was conveying a load of St. Mary's academy basketball players to Inman by way of Chambers, where Miss Janice Jarman joined the group, when it is believed to have struck loose gravel before going into a ditch and striking a tree.

Francis Flood suffered a broken leg and Miss Jarman received a broken collarbone, head injuries and lacerated legs. Pat McNichols, the driver, and Pat Hickey and Jack Gatz, other occupants, were uninjured. Gatz was the only occupant not scratched.

The Chambers marshal and a passerby from Ord took the injured to Chambers where Dr. J. W. Gill gave them medical care. Flood and Jarman were admitted later that evening at the O'Neill hospital where their condition is described as "good." Flood is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed N. Flood, of O'Neill, and Miss Jarman is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Jarman, of Chambers.

The left front side of the vehicle was badly damaged.

AG SERVICES PLAN JOINT MEETINGS

Plans are being made for joint annual meetings of the Holt county extension service and the Holt soil conservation district to be held in O'Neill on Friday, January 16. The meeting will be open to the public, and further details are to be announced.

Recreation Training Sessions Scheduled

ATKINSON—Ted H. Alexander, state rural youth leader, will conduct the recreation sessions here January 9. Representatives of organized groups in Holt and surrounding counties will attend. These groups include rural youth units, 4-H clubs, project clubs, Girl and Boy Scouts organizations and others.

County Agent A. Neil Dawes and Home Agent Catherine Kirwan will assist.

Memphis Nuns Here—Visiting her brother, J. L. Moore and his wife was Sister E. Ther Marie, of Memphis, Tenn. She was accompanied by Sister Gertrude Ann. They arrived December 20 and were here during the holidays. Sister E. Ther Marie is librarian at Siena college in Memphis. Sister Gertrude Ann is head of the commercial department at St. Agnes academy in Memphis.

The nuns, who belong to the Dominican order, resided at St. Mary's convent during their stay in O'Neill.

Miss La Veta Lehn spent Christmas with her mother, Mrs. May Lehn, in Wahoo.

IT'S A \$64 QUESTION

Who'll Be the First 1948 Baby?

The \$64 question making the rounds is: Who'll be Holt county's first 1948 baby?

The first arrival in the New Year will be showcased with gifts that will immediately place him (or her) in an enviable light among the other new-borns. Eight O'Neill stores, in cooperation with The Frontier, are standing by as a self-appointed reception committee for the first-borne within the Holt county boundaries after midnight December 31.

Gifts for the lucky tot will include: an electric bottle warmer, and vaporizer from Gillespie's; an enameled bath tub from the Jonas Furniture Exchange; a baby jumper-swing from the Midwest Furniture Appliance company; a 10-karat gold baby ring from the McIntosh Jewelry; a surprise package and two pairs of last-year baby pants from Bowen's; Ben Franklin store; a pair of Red Goo e children's shoes from McCaville's; a comfy Chatham blanket from Brown-McDonald's; two dozen of those mighty essential diapers from Gambles, and just or good measure, a baby's subscription to The Frontier.

Of course, it doesn't cost a

cent to enter, but all entries must be postmarked or be in the Frontier office by 6 p. m. Monday, January 5. Parents whose baby can qualify should write or phone the First Baby Contest Editor, The Frontier, O'Neill, giving the following information: baby's full name, sex, date and hour of birth, parents' full names and address, physician's name and address.

The winner last year was Kathleen Wanser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Max Wanser, of Inman.

Winners of the 1948 contest will be announced in the January 8 issue of The Frontier.

EX-AMELIA PAIR MARRIED 50 YEARS

P. E. Fisher and Wife to Hold Open-House New Year's Day

AMELIA—Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Fisher, of Arlington, Wash., formerly residents of the Amelia community, are celebrating their golden wedding anniversary today (Thursday). The observance will include an open-house affair in the afternoon on New Year's day.

Unfortunately, however, only one of their four children living in the Midwest is able to be present for the celebration. Rol and Fisher, whose home is in Kansas, is in Arlington.

The Fishers' other children are: Mrs. William Thompson and Paul Fisher, both of Amelia; Merton Fisher, of Bonsteel, S. D.; Amos Fisher, of Sedro Woolley, Wash.; and Miss Martha Fisher, of Seattle, Wash.

The children living in Washington were expected to be present.

The honored couple was to have attended a watch night service at their church on New Year's eve.

HOLIDAY RUSH BREAKS RECORDS

Postmaster Agnes E. Sullivan declared Wednesday that the 1947 holiday season had seen all records broken at the postoffice here in the volume of mail handled.

Mrs. Sullivan stated that the exact volume of business had not been determined. She was certain that considerably more Christmas mail was handled than a year ago, which was the previous record.

Escape Uninjured in Crash Near Lynch

LYNCH—A head-on automobile collision about 6 p. m. Friday about a mile southwest of Lynch involved vehicles owned by Harry Mulhair, of Omaha, who was enroute to Spencer, and Vincent Weber, of Butte, who was enroute to Lynch to visit his wife in the hospital here.

Occupants of both machines escaped uninjured, but both cars were badly damaged.



SEEKS REELECTION

Gov. Val Peterson, completing his first term as governor of Nebraska, expects to file for reelection sometime after January 9, he announced last week. Mr. Peterson said he would not consider filing until after a year in office. A former editor and publisher of the Elgin Review, Mr. Peterson is well-known in the O'Neill area.

Moves and Entertains During Christmas Week

CELIA—Mrs. Duke Hoffman is a good manager. Last week she helped move their personal belongings from the Elvon Chase ranch to the D. W. Allard farm. They will make their home there the coming year. Mrs. George Syffe jr., assisted.

Mrs. Hoffman not only moved Christmas week but entertained the members of her family for Christmas dinner.

Guests included: Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Frickel jr., and the family; Ed Hoffman, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Frickel and family; Mr. and Mrs. George Syffe jr., and family; and Alex and Herman Frickel.

Return to Coast—Mrs. A. Z. Drew and Mrs. Gladys Peterson have returned to their home in Hollywood, Calif., after spending three weeks at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Cowperthwaite.

Sergeant Petranek Here—Mr. and Mrs. Paul Shierk entertained Mrs. Shierk's brother, S-Sgt. P. E. Petranek, of Ft. Riley, Kans., during the holidays. S-Sgt. Petranek expects to depart Saturday.

O'NEILL FARMER HEART VICTIM

Edward J. Matthews, 53, Dies in Hospital After Few Hours' Illness

Funeral services were held at 10 a. m. Saturday in St. Patrick's Catholic church here for Edward J. Matthews, 53, lifelong O'Neill resident who died at 3:30 a. m. on December 24 in the O'Neill hospital. He had been admitted at the hospital only a few hours earlier, having become ill in downtown O'Neill.

A heart affliction was given as the cause of his death.

Rev. Cyril J. Werner officiated at the funeral rites and burial was in Calvary cemetery. The pallbearers were: Harry Schacht, H. E. Coyne, O'will, Mor w. Hugo Holtz, Harry Donohoe and William Farley.

The late Mr. Matthews was born at O'Neill on August 5, 1894, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Matthews.

On March 28, 1922 he was married to Alice O. Bain. They became the parents of two children, Beverly and Robert, both O'Neill.

Survivors, besides the widow and two children, include: Six brothers—Mi hael Matthews, of Isabella, S. D.; Thomas, James and Leo Matthews, all of O'Neill; Bernard Matthews, of Lincoln; Peter Matthews, of Knoxville, Ia.; four sisters—Mrs. Rose Shoemaker, of Winner, S. D.; Mrs. M. A. Crilley, of Rapid City, S. D.; Mrs. F. C. Hill, of Gordon; and Mrs. A. T. Williams, of Hot Springs, S. D.

The late Mr. Matthews was a well-known O'Neill farmer, who resided a mile northeast of the city. In addition to farming he also moved buildings.

MERCURY DROPS NEAR ZERO MARK

The mercury dropped near the zero mark early Wednesday. The weather man was obliged to record a 3-degree reading—the coldest of the season—before wrapping up the 1947 weather books and storing them away.

The week's summary follows:

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
December 24	35	25	
December 25	40	25	
December 26	40	25	
December 27	51	25	
December 28	45	20	
December 29	37	20	
December 30	38	13	
December 31	20	3	.02

Ray Disterhaupt Fined on Hunting Charge

Ray Disterhaupt, of Atkinson, appeared before County Judge Louis R. Reimer Friday on a complaint brought by Sam Graspick state deputy conservation officer. Disterhaupt was charged with shooting pheasants, one cock and one hen, out of season.

Graspick said that Disterhaupt had the birds in his possession. The defendant was charged \$10 and costs and was further ordered to pay to the state \$10 as "liquidated damages."

Marriage Licenses

Lester E. Wood, 20, of Page, and Donna M. Rotherham, 18, of Ewing, on December 24.

(Continued on page 4.)

27 Violent Deaths Make the Biggest Headlines During the Year 1947

(For the 1947 news in pictures see page 3.)

A wave of violent deaths in which more than 27 persons lost their lives made the biggest news in Holt county during 1947. Most of the violent deaths were caused by accidents which ranged from airplane and auto-air crashes to a scalding, a smothering, an electrocution, a drowning and a variety of other tragedies.

Second biggest single news topic of the year was the July floods, in which the Elkhorn river and its tributaries reached unprecedented heights and caused considerable damage in the valleys.

Donna Mae Fuhrer, the 14-year-old O'Neill polio victim, rated the third biggest news topic of the year. She passed her eighth grade examinations and received her diploma. Ted Malone, famous radio network commentator-philosopher, saluted her in a nationwide broadcast, and as a result she was flooded with letters and publicity and her name has become a household word.

Eerie "ghosts" were seen along Eagle creek, reviving old legend. "Ghosts" are seen in mid-air believed caused by automobile headlights.

Among the violent deaths, listed chronologically, and their causes are: Aubrey Kreiter, 13, of Agra, Okla., native of Ewing, accidentally shot through head with .22-rifle; Joseph Vandernick, 22, of Ewing, crushed under a vehicle he was repairing; Robert Werning, 18, and Robert Dozier, 17, both of Elgin, killed in an airplane crash; James O. Adams, 18, of Chambers, died in auto mishap near Wayne; Earl Scott, 45, of Ft. Laramie, Wyo., formerly of Page, burned in Wyoming gas accident; Frank W. Prewitz, 44, of Amelia, auto accident at Stuart; Gerald Fallon, 31, of O'Neill, struck by lightning in a field; Robert A. Golden, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Parnell Golden, of Omaha, killed in air crash near Stockton, Calif.; Pat Wetthlauffer, 3, of Page, died of scald burns; M. S. Forrest Maple, 25, of Orchard, explosion of gas water heater; Roy A. Carson, 40, of Burning, formerly of Middlebranch, smothered by grain in a Martland elevator; Raymond E. Calvert, 70, of O'Neill, suicide; John F. Schmit, 21, of O'Neill, electrocution while working on a high tension power line; Gerald F. Harrington, 55, of Los Angeles, Calif., formerly of O'Neill, injured fatally in street car accident; D. Duwayne Okover, 24, of Columbus, drowning victim at Spencer dam; Warren James Sobotka, 5, of Inman, suffered fatal burns in farm accident; Leonard Herman, 61, of Greeley, formerly of Page and O'Neill, fatally injured when his auto struck loose gravel near Columbus; Morris McNally, 22, of Long Pine, fatally injured in auto accident near Stuart; B. J. Showwell, 60, of Grand Island, formerly of O'Neill, auto accident near Aida; Arthur A. Jungsmaier, 28, of O'Neill, Kathleen A. Mark, 21, of Atchison, and Zeno Cole, 23, of Emmet, all fatally injured in airplane crash near Emmet; Donald R. Mitchell, 21, and Duwayne Hoef, 20, both of Clearwater, and Kenneth Hoef, 20, of Fremont, fatally injured in

auto-train crash at Valley; Mrs. Louis R. Jones, 53, nee Lauretta Murray, of O'Neill, injured fatally in street accident at Miles City, Mont.

Deaths of persons, especially pioneers, is always important news. The aggregate lineage of all obituaries would no doubt make the biggest single topic of 1947 or any other year. Many of the deaths are noted in the month in which they occurred in the chronology that follows:

JANUARY

New Year's day was a birthless affair. But on January 2 the stork worked overtime in O'Neill and by 8 p. m. had deposited three babies in the O'Neill hospital. Kathleen Wanser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Max Wanser, of Inman, won The Frontier's first baby contest, arriving at 4 a. m. on January 2. Gov.-Elect Val Peterson and his wife were honored at an inaugural ball at Lincoln. The 1946 state farm income totaled more than \$52 million dollars, an all-time high. Twenty-five lessees and real estate owners in West O'Neill have petitioned the city council for street lighting, a alley and street improvements. The legend of eerie "ghosts" along the Eagle creek have been revived. Automobile headlines, in the mist which drifts in from the valley, are believed the cause. Displaced West coast workers are beginning to return. Two new county officers, William W. Griffin, county attorney, and Albert W. Stern, district court supervisor, have assumed their posts. Ed J. Matousek of the Seventh district, was renominated chairman. Two fires, both of undetermined origin, inflicted damage exceeding \$20,000 during a midnight 24-hour period. The losses were suffered by the H. E. Coyne hardware and the Union grocery store. Bank deposits in the county hit the \$5-million mark, a record high. Ex-Gov.

Dwight Griswold lunched here enroute to his new post as military government "secretary of the interior" in Germany. Butch, a screw-tailed female bulldog, has adopted four motherless pups at the I. E. McNeil farm near Clearwater. Deaths: Leroy T. French, 84, of Page; Edward M. Shaw, sr., 68, of Orchard; Mrs. F. L. Carey, 61, of O'Neill; Joseph McNichols, 63, of O'Neill; Henry J. Wayman, 83, of O'Neill; Thomas F. Gallagher, 69, of O'Neill; Mrs. Mary Diana Slack, 75, of Dorav; Clarence P. Conger, 79, of Inman; Andrew Springer, 77, of O'Neill.

FEBRUARY

The O'Neill region, along with the rest of the middlewest, was swept by the winter's worst storm with the coming of February. Traffic was paralyzed. A cash sale wave moved in February 7. Miss Ruth Harris, daughter of Mr. E. ether Cole Harris, sailed February 15 for China to begin a five-year term as a Methodist missionary. St. Joseph's academy of Atkinson, defeated O'Neill high 29-17 in the finals of the annual county basketball tournament. Inman defeated Orchard 25-22, in the finals of the Elkhorn valley conference meet. O'Neill's new bus terminal opened February 15. Lloyd Hammond's appeal for a parole from the state penitentiary was deferred. He is serving a 25-year sentence in connection with the slaying of Fred J. Sexsmith of O'Neill, on November 20, 1922. Rev. Cyril J. Werner, a native of Clearwater, succeeds Rev. B. J. Lison, an assistant pastor at St. Patrick's Catholic church here. Rev. J. C. McManis, St. Patrick's pastor, celebrated his golden birthday in the cathedral in a golden sacerdotal solemn mass March 4. Scores of visitors in lining ways along were here for the event. Death: Mrs. Clara Ellen B. Hill, 81, of Chambers; Robert R. Mullen, 69, of Aida; Tom, formerly of O'Neill; Mrs. Edna D. Egan, 82, of Chambers;

William Gumb, 86, of Chambers; Lee Callhins, 55, of Ewing; Mrs. Pete Brown, 69, of Chambers; Mrs. Olive Pendergast, 75, of O'Neill; John H. Dille, 69, of Winner, S. D., formerly of O'Neill and Spencer; Mrs. Viola M. Scarles, 75, of Sioux City, formerly of Merk; James Colman, 75, of Inman; Ralph L. Bauman, 49, of O'Neill.

MARCH

Mrs. William Menish observed her 98th birthday anniversary, taking time out from her everyday household duties. The Midwest Furniture and Appliance company opened in West O'Neill. Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Hicks, of O'Neill, observed their 55th wedding anniversary. A wave of sickness, ranging from common colds to influenza and occasional cases of pneumonia, cut deeply into school attendance. Five coyotes were encircled during a coyote hunt near Phoenix, but all escaped. St. Joseph's won the state class C cage title. Deaths: Dennis H. Cronin, 73, of O'Neill, veteran editor-publisher legislator, and leader died in a Sioux City hospital; Joseph U. Yantzi, 82, of O'Neill; Mrs. Clarence (Continued on page 4.)

