

# Holt R E A Lines Energized Today

### Informal Ceremony Set for Mrs. Alice Matthews Farm at 11 A.M.

Today marks a milestone in Holt county history. Current will surge through a portion of the county's rural electrification network.

The event will be marked by an informal switch-throwing ceremony at the Mrs. Alice Matthews farm, one mile northeast of O'Neill.

This is a long-awaited day for many rural Holt countyans as the lines are energized and electrical fixtures and appliances come to life in dozens of farm homes.

The Niobrara Valley Electric Membership corporation, which has its REA headquarters here, already has been serving Boyd county farms which have been energized for several months.

First Holt line to be energized will be the one extending north and east from the O'Neill substation.

### Honor Court To Be Held at O'Neill

Plans are being made for a district Boy Scout of honor to be held February 28 at the American Legion auditorium here. This was stated Tuesday by M. E. Jacobson, committee chairman for Scout troop 210, of O'Neill.

Scouts that will participate in the court of honor will be: To life Scout—Edward Tomlinson, Dale Strong, Paul and Fred Fetrow and Bill Malloy; to star Scout—Bill McElvain and Geo. Tomlinson; to first class Scout—Edward Gatz; to second class Scout—James Tomlinson, Donald Malloy, Richard Davis, Carroll Grenier, and John Bowen.

At a troop committee meeting held Monday, plans were readied for the construction of a log cabin at Ford's park for Scout activities. Noel Long, of O'Neill, is sketching plans for the cabin, Jacobson said.

The committee said that a registration fee of \$20 must be paid by parents of Scouts if parents plan to send a Scout to the national jamboree that will be held at Valley Forge, Pa., in July. The Chamber of Commerce, the sponsoring organization, plans to send one Scout, all expenses paid, on the excursion.

Simonson post 93 of the American Legion, indicated to the troop committee it would sponsor an Explorer Scout troop.

Meanwhile, the Scout troop, in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce, will hold on March 8 a fun fair.

### Volunteer Firemen Summoned 3 Times

O'Neill volunteer fire department during the past 7 days has answered three calls to extinguish fires.

Wednesday, February 2, at 9:45 p. m. a milk house on the Clarence Donohoe place, 8 miles north, caught afire from an overheated stove. The Donohoe children were going to bed when they looked out of the window to see the milk house in flames. Firemen estimated \$25 damage.

Thursday, February 3, at 12:15 p. m. the roof at the O'Neill hospital caught afire after a chimney had burned out. There was little damage, firemen reported.

Friday, February 4, at 5:10 p. m. a tractor on the Corkle turkey farm, 3 1/2 miles east of O'Neill, caught afire when the operator was filling the starting motor of a tractor with gas. Some of the gas spilled on the battery of the tractor, which ignited the gas. Fluid sprayed the front tires, which were destroyed.

## ANGUS BULLS AVERAGE \$507

### Overflow Crowd Gathers Here Tuesday for Show and Sale

An overflow crowd of livestockmen, ranchers, and farmers thronged to the O'Neill Livestock Market for the fourth annual show and sale of the Holt County Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' association.

Some of the world's best Black Angus were on show and sale. As many as four states and all parts of Nebraska were represented at the sale. Ray Siders, sale manager, said Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Colorado and Iowa cattlemen attended.

Sixty-five lots were offered, including 45 bulls and 20 females. Ten of the females entered were 1-1/2 exclusive purchase by 4-H club members and Future Farmers of America members. Free first service is made available to the purchasers of the club heifers.

Spokesmen for the association said that the 45 bulls brought an average of \$507 while the 20 females brought an average of \$243. Ed Thorin was auctioneer.

Will Sitz, of Denver, formerly of near Atkinson, showed the grand champion bull, Eve's Lad. The loving cup that was to have been awarded was not presented to Sitz. The association previous to the show and sale had voted cup eligibility to the owner of the grand champion bull only if the bull was bred by an exhibitor or bought in dam by an exhibitor.

Sitz's grand champ sold to E. J. Revell and sons, of Star, for \$1,060.

However, the grand champion was topped in price by Blue Ribbon of Lennonwood 8th. It sold for \$1,210 to Danny and Billy Putnam, of O'Neill. The consignor was Howard Pitzer, of Ericson.

The reserve champion bull, Bandolier Belmar of Holt 24th, consigned by Harry E. Ressel and sons, of O'Neill, sold for \$890 to John Shald, of Stuart.

The champion female, Steel Creek Pamela, brought \$395. It was sold to H. J. Cox, of Mullen, and it was consigned by Ray Siders, of O'Neill.

The reserve champion female, consigned by Siders, brought \$350. It was Steel Creek Karama 9th and was sold to Danny Putnam, of O'Neill.

The Frontier handled in "package" form most of the association's advertising. The package included radio, newspaper advertising and two-color catalogs describing the offerings.

Sale Manager Siders declared following the sale that "the association was well pleased with the attendance at the sale and the prices the Angus brought."

### Presbyterian Choir To Dorsey Church

The youth choir of First Presbyterian church, of O'Neill, will present a concert of sacred music at the Dorsey Presbyterian church on Sunday, February 12, beginning at 2:30 p. m.

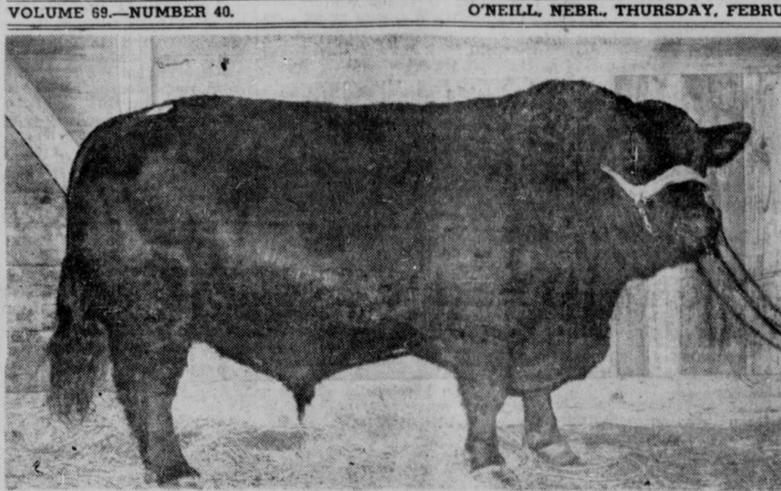
Mrs. Ralph G. Gerber is choir director and Mrs. John Harbottle is accompanist.

Reverend Gerber, church pastor, said an O'Neill concert will be presented soon.

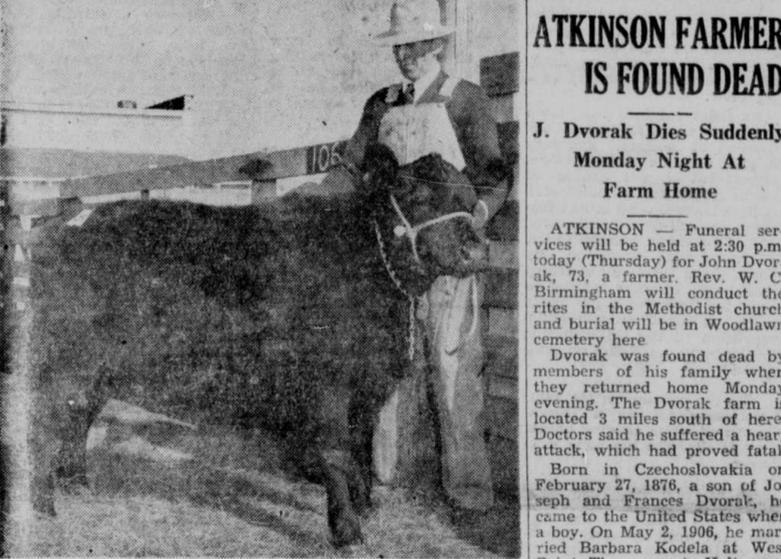
### MARRIAGE LICENSES

Raymond R. Walnofer, 25, of Stuart, and Miss Bessie Heien Peter, 19, of O'Neill, February 1.

Frontier for printing.



This is Eve's Lad, grand champion of the Holt County Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' show and sale held Tuesday. Will Sitz was owner. Eve's Lad sold to E. J. Revell & Son for \$1,060.



Ray Siders, of O'Neill, exhibits the grand champion Angus female—Steel Creek Pamela, a heifer calf. Frontier Photos.

## 'Grandma' Summers Turns 90-Years-Old

By a Staff Writer

Mrs. Isabelle Summers became 90-years-old on Monday, February 6.

The day was a quiet one for the frail, silver-haired little lady who makes her home with her son, Frank Summers, on O'Neill's southeast outskirts.

Mrs. Summers received a number of well-wishing friends and relatives, she opened an arm full of congratulatory cards and letters and she reminisced.

Her maiden name was Isabelle Cruickshank and she was born in the town of Turloff in Northern Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

"I came from a good family," she declared. "My father was a banker in Turloff, one uncle was a doctor, and another uncle was a steamship captain."

"My doctor uncle later went to Africa as a medical missionary and the steamship captain was the first to command a ship through the Suez canal," she proudly explained.

ed with a keenness for detail that belies her age.

Her parents came to America—Omaha, to be exact—three years before they sent for their eldest daughter, Isabella, who had stayed on in Scotland with her grandparents.

In 1876 she set sail alone from the port of Glasgow on her North Atlantic voyage that was to require three weeks. Landing in New York, she continued on to Omaha.

Another uncle, also a Cruickshank, had been a successful dry goods merchant in Omaha and was partly responsible for the move for his brother and his family.

Isabella finished her schooling in Omaha.

ATKINSON—Mrs. Margartha Friedt Martens, 88, a resident of Holt county since 1884, died at her home here Tuesday. She suffered a fall about a month ago and had been bedfast since.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p. m. Friday from the chapel of the Seger funeral home here. Rev. W. C. Birmingham will officiate and burial will be in Woodlawn cemetery here.

Mrs. Martens is the widow of the late Fred Martens, well-known Holt county rancher, who died March 22, 1945. They had retired from the ranch some 25 years prior to Mr. Martens' death and moved to Atkinson.

The late Mrs. Martens was born in Brachen, Germany, on November 3, 1861, a daughter of Hans and Katharina Friedt. She came to the United States in 1879.

Among the survivors are: sons—Robert and Alfred, of Atkinson; and a daughter—Mrs. Cole, of Atkinson.

Pallbearers will be: I. R. Dickerson, Lloyd McDowell, Ralton Jarvis, Earl Collins, Carl Smith, all of Atkinson and Guy Cole, of Emmet.

Polio Fund In County Hits \$4,030—Mrs. Ralph Brown, Holt county director for the March of Dimes fund-raising campaign said last Wednesday that \$4,030 had been turned in thus far on the campaign which ended January 31.

## ATKINSON FARMER IS FOUND DEAD

### J. Dvorak Dies Suddenly Monday Night At Farm Home

ATKINSON — Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p. m. today (Thursday) for John Dvorak, 73, a farmer. Rev. W. C. Birmingham will conduct the rites in the Methodist church and burial will be in Woodlawn cemetery here.

Dvorak was found dead by members of his family when they returned home Monday evening. The Dvorak farm is located 3 miles south of here. Doctors said he suffered a heart attack, which had proved fatal.

Born in Czechoslovakia on February 27, 1876, a son of Joseph and Frances Dvorak, he came to the United States when a boy. On May 2, 1906, he married Barbara Kodela at West Point. They came to Holt county in 1911 and have resided here since.

A farmer most of his life, Mr. Dvorak would have been 74-years-old February 27, 1950.

He was a member of the ZCBJ lodge.

Wednesday noon the body was taken to his home where it rested in state until the funeral services.

Survivors include: Widow, sons—Rudy, John J. and Frank, all of Atkinson; William, of Los Angeles, Calif.; daughters—Mrs. Joseph (Anna) Sladek; Mrs. Alfred (Mary) Havranek and Mrs. Robert (Helen) Clitford, all of Atkinson; brothers—Frank, William and Thomas, all of Verdigris; and one sister—Mrs. Frank Veck, also of Verdigris.

## Aged Holt Pioneer Dies After Fall

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## William J. Biglin Rites Here Tuesday

### Prominent Funeral Director Dies Sunday Following Extended Illness

William J. ("Bill") Biglin, 59, widely-known O'Neill funeral director and furniture dealer, died Sunday at 1:10 p. m. at his home. He had suffered an illness that was extended over a period of about 2 1/2 years, although he had been active until recent months.

Requiem high Mass was said at 10 a. m. Tuesday in St. Patrick's Catholic church with Very Rev. Timothy O'Sullivan, church pastor, officiating. Burial was in Calvary cemetery with Rev. Edward Carpenter, of Cherokee, Ia., administering the rites.

All business firms in O'Neill were closed during the funeral. Father O'Sullivan took occasion to mention that the "immense congregation that has come to pay respects to Mr. Biglin is a sign of the esteem in which he was held in the church and in the community."



William J. Biglin... member of a pioneer firm. (See story at right and editorial entitled, "Bill Biglin.")

## A Native Son Is Called

LINCOLN — Word was flashed over the wire to Monday that, after a lingering illness, Billy Biglin had found release from the remorseless ravages of physical suffering in death.

The Western Union called me to the telephone as the import of the message struck inner emotions all I could do was replace the receiver and turn away. Another friend to live now only in memory's cherished caravan of the loved and lost.

It is 5 years ago this February that William met the incoming train on the North Western and took charge of the body of Mrs. Saunders and that day saw her laid to rest on Prospect Hill.

The last personal contact we had was June, 1949, when we traveled north where Mr. Biglin looked over things on his farm and planned for the summer. We talked of things that day that touched the deeper wellsprings of life and I got a new insight into a warm-hearted, generous and sympathetic nature.

Cheerful, a wholesome sense of humor, he also had his serious thoughts; charitable for the follies of fellow wayfarers and ready to help any in need.

In his death the community has lost a native son whose life scattered sunshine along the way. He was loved as a friend, esteemed as a citizen, honored as a patriot and looked upon as one of the Creator's noble characters.

Goodbye, Billy. —ROMAINE SAUNDERS.

Rev. Ralph Gerber spent Tuesday and Wednesday at Kearney attending a "Faith and Life" seminar for Presbyterian pastors.

Father O'Sullivan commented that the late Mr. Biglin "was a great friend of all the clergy; he helped them immeasurably at all times."

William James Biglin was born on August 12, 1890, a son of the late Owen F. Biglin and Margaret McCann Biglin.

He attended and graduated from O'Neill high school in 1910. He was active in school activities and was a member of one of O'Neill high's earliest football teams.

The late Mr. Biglin was inducted into the army shortly before World War I hostilities ended.

He attended the University of Nebraska medical college at Omaha where he prepared for his profession as a mortician.

His grandfather, John McCann, had founded a pioneer mortuary firm here in 1879. Later the firm became known as O. F. Biglin & Sons. Besides furniture and undertaking, the firm also handled farm implements and the late William J. Biglin was active in all phases.

In 1938 the firm was redesigned Biglin Bros., William J. and Frank J., brothers, having entered into partnership.

The farm implement line was dropped and the Biglins served a wide territory in the funeral directing and furniture fields.

On January 25, 1920, the late Mr. Biglin and Mary I. Waters, of Jackson, were married. They became the parents of four children: sons—William J. jr., and David, both deceased; daughters—Rose Mary and Ruth Ann.

All members of Mr. Biglin's immediate family were near him when he died. A lifelong friend, Hugh E. Coyne, had visited with him shortly before death came.

Mr. Biglin's illness had taken him to Rochester, Minn., and Sioux City hospitals on successive occasions. He was conscious until the end.

He was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic church, Knights of Columbus, Chamber of Commerce, American Legion and Country club.

Survivors include: Widow—Mary; daughters—Mrs. Donald (Aunt Ann) Berg, of Rapid City, S. D., and Mrs. John F. (Rose Mary) Carroll, of O'Neill; brothers—Frank J. and Ambrose, both of O'Neill; sisters—Mrs. F. N. (Irene) Cronin, of O'Neill; Sister M. Eugene, of St. Monica's home, Sioux City; Miss Genevieve Biglin, of O'Neill; Sister M. Calixta, of St. Patrick's school, Imogene, Ia.; granddaughter—Barbara Berg.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sons—David, who died in infancy, and William J. jr., who was killed in action in Europe during World War II; brother—John.

Among out-of-town clergy here for the rites were: Rev. Edward Carpenter, of Cherokee, Ia., Mrs. Biglin's cousin; Rev. Richard Parr, of Battle Creek; Rev. Peter Burke, of Ewing, and Rev. Barry, of Long Pine.

Among out-of-town relatives and friends present were: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hughes and Mrs. Mary Kent, all of Norfolk; Mrs. and Mrs. Joseph Hughes, of Battle Creek; Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Carroll, of Spencer, Ia.; Dr. and Mrs. V. E. Berg, of Sioux Falls, S. D.; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cranny, Miss Mary Bennett.

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THESPIANS INITIATE

The O'Neill school chapter of the Thespians, held initiation for 11 new members Wednesday evening at the public school. G. R. Nicholas, dramatic instructor, presided at the affair.

## 158 Attend Angus Breeders' Banquet

One hundred and fifty-eight persons gathered at the American Legion auditorium Monday night for the first annual Holt County Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' association banquet.

James W. Rooney was toastmaster. He recalled the beginning of registered cattle breeding in Holt county, pointing out that Harry J. Ressel, then of Chambers, was the only registered breeder in 1931.

He borrowed from Chuck Appagar's "Voice of The Frontier" program in bringing the registered cattle picture up-to-date. Rooney explained that on Monday morning's "Voice" Appagar told his listeners that "some of the world's best bulls" would be sold in the Aberdeen-Angus sale the following day in O'Neill. This provoked an enthusiastic response from the audience, composed of Angus breeders, their families, Holt County Hereford breeders and their families, and other guests.

The "world's best" theme was carried on throughout the banquet.

Rooney explained that the Angus breeding had risen to a fine degree of excellency with

the introduction of the Bandolier strain.

Ray Siders, of O'Neill, president of the Angus association, issued the welcoming remarks and expressed hope that the banquet — on the eve before the show and sale—could become an annual affair. He explained that "Angus men are anxious to produce better sires and better foundation females as a matter of economic policy in the region." He attributed much of the success along this line to the 4-H club and Future Farmers of America training and leadership the agricultural people are receiving.

Floyd Whitaker, of Chambers, president of the Holt County Hereford Breeders' association, responded in behalf of the guests. He expressed appreciation for the invitation to dine with the Angus people, and thanked the Chamber of Commerce of O'Neill for inaugurating the silver loving cup competition for both Angus and Hereford shows.

Mr. Whitaker reflected on the pioneer days—less than a score of years ago—when

breeders had the idea that heavy, "box car" type of beef was the kind to raise. "Then we turned to baby beeves," he continued, "and now we're swinging back to the heavier animals."

The O'Neill high school mixed quartette, accompanied on the piano by Miss Rosemary Vondracek, sang three selections, "I Passed by Her Window," the novelty, "Tradinuk," and "Country Style." Voices were those of Lois Harmon, Phyllis Harder, John Bowen and Claude Cole.

Dwayne Booth, Ted Lindberg and Edward Bridges, played a cornet trio. They also are O'Neill high pupils.

Karen Garwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Garwood, of Atkinson, sang two selections. She was accompanied by her mother, Misses Vondracek and Esther Kinner were heard in two piano duets, "Hungarian Dance" and "Spanish Dance."

Rooney introduced the following breeders who were to sell the "world's best Angus

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ISABELLE SUMMERS

ing in Omaha and her father chanced to buy a farm from another Scotsman in Washington county, near DeSota, South of Blair. Isabella took a job teaching in the Summers school, Northwest of Blair. It was there she met Miles Summers, and they were married on February 18, 1883 at DeSota.

They settled on a Washington county farm.

Miles Summers, his wife and three boys made their way to Holt county, arriving on May 10, 1892, and settled on a farm 6 miles Northeast of Page.

"We were lord of all we surveyed." That's the way Mrs. Summers described their arduous breeders who were to sell the "world's best Angus

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