

Fire Destroys Wanser Home

Blanche Graves, School Girl, Escorts Children To Safety

INMAN—Quick action and fast thinking by Blanche Graves, a Page high school student, Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock saved the lives of 3 small children when fire completely destroyed the 8-room Max Wanser frame farm home, 300 yards northeast of the junction of highways 275 and 20, 4 miles east of Inman.

Three volunteer fire departments — O'Neill, Orchard and Ewing—were called. However, there were no facilities available for fighting the fire. The Ewing department was the first to report to the scene.

Miss Graves, a junior at Page high, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Graves, of Page, discovered the fire in a northwest upstairs room near a chimney. She took the 3 Wanser children she was in charge of to the barn, wrapped them and made sure they were safe before she dashed to the highway to summon aid.

Passersby stopped and aided in removing most of the household furnishings. First to stop was a Sioux City-bound passenger bus. Passengers went to the burning Wanser home and in a few minutes a large crowd of neighbors gathered and many joined in saving of the furnishings.

Firemen said the blaze started near the chimney and said it may have been defective. Mr. and Mrs. Wanser and 5 other children were away at the time of the fire.

Wanser said most all of the furnishings were saved except those in an upstairs room and some of the children's clothing. Loss was partially covered by insurance.

The youngest daughter, Kay, is staying with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Wanser, at Page, for the present. The youngest son, Dickie, is staying with his cousins, Mr. and Mrs. John Walker, at Ewing. The other 6 children attend St. Mary's at O'Neill.

Mrs. Wanser and several of her children are staying at the home of her mother, Mrs. Bridget Carr, in O'Neill.

Mr. Wanser has purchased a frame 4-room house which he plans to move onto the place as a temporary measure.

He and his wife had gone to O'Neill to meet their children who were to be coming from school.

"Blanche did a wonderful job looking after our little children," Mrs. Wanser said.

Mrs. Wanser surmised the fire started in the attic.

Consumers Public Power district's new radio grid figured behind-the-scenes in the fire.

The log at O'Neill's station KAA-615, kept by Larry R. Johnson, shows a message received at 3:50 p. m. from Ed Rainey, a radio manufacturer representative who was tuned to KAA's FM frequency.

Rainey reported over his 2-way auto communications system that "a house is on fire at junction of highways 20 and 275. Will you report it?"

GRASSLAND MEET ATTENDED BY 250

Panel Members Stress Strict Grassland Management

STUART—Strict land management is the most important single factor in obtaining profits from grass. This was brought out Tuesday in a panel discussion that highlighted a day-long area grassland meeting here at which more than 250 farmers and ranchers from 8 counties attended.

The meeting was held in connection with the annual meeting of the Holt county Soil Conservation District at the city auditorium here.

Most panel discussion members agreed that farmers and ranchers could "sharply" cut the cost of raising livestock by properly conserving the grassland areas. It was brought out also that more attention and forethought should be paid when planting grass areas for the feeding of livestock. In addition, strict conservation methods should apply.

Ranchers and farmers represented Holt, Cherry, Brown, Boyd, Rock, Keya Paha, Garfield and Loup counties at the session.

The day-long meet got underway with the year-end report of the Holt Soil Conservation District. The report was given by Carl Lambert, treasurer of the board of directors.

Robert Hynes, representing St. Mary's academy, of O'Neill, was awarded first prize in the Holt boys' essay contest. Hynes' prize was \$7.50 cash. John Obermeier, of Stuart, took second prize of \$5 while Lewis Genereux, of St. Mary's, took the \$2.50 third prize. Prizes were awarded by the Stuart Community club and presented by Ora Yarges, of Stuart.

Seventeen men and a Stuart woman competed for the prizes in the grass and legume identification contest. Awarded first place by the O'Neill Production Credit association was George Mellor, of Atkinson. He scored 83 out of a possible 100 percent.

Marion D. Woods, of Long Pine, Harold Orr, of Ainsworth, and John J. Dvorak, of Atkinson, were second, third, and fourth place winners respectively.

Four door prizes for each man and women were distributed at various scheduled times throughout the day.

In the February 23 issue of The Frontier, nearly 12 pages were devoted to soil conservation methods and a preview of the area grassland day activities.

Mary A. Mlinar Dies Suddenly

ATKINSON—Mrs. Mary A. Mlinar, 78, wife of Fred Mlinar, died suddenly about 2:30 or 3 o'clock Wednesday morning, March 1, at her home in Atkinson. She had been up caring for her husband, who had been ill, and she was discovered dead later in the morning.

Funeral services are tentatively planned for 9:30 a. m. Saturday at St. Joseph's Catholic church with Rev. A. A. Lehman officiating. Burial will be in St. Joseph's cemetery.

The late Mrs. Mlinar, nee Mary A. Ziska, was born in Ringgold county, Iowa, on February 3, 1872, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Ziska. She came with her parents to Holt county and settled southwest of Atkinson.

Survivors include: husband; sons—August, of San Diego, Calif.; E. J., of Los Angeles, Calif.; William, of Chester, Pa.; Albert, of Van Nuys, Calif.; daughters—Sister Francis, Ursuline order, Granite City, Ill.; Miss Barbara Mlinar, teacher in Atkinson public school; Mrs. Duane (Valeria) Ulrich, of Stuart; sister—Mrs. Matilda Olsen, of Atkinson; brother—Fred Ziska, of Stuart; 16 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren.

JULIA RILEY, 79, DIES IN PORTLAND

Funeral Rites Saturday At Inman for Widow Of Elliott Riley

INMAN—Mrs. Julia Riley, 79, widow of the late Elliott Riley, died Monday morning, February 27, about 10 o'clock in Portland, Ore., at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Emmet Bartsch.

The late Mrs. Riley had been ill for several months but had been in failing health for several years.

Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the Methodist church at Inman. Body will reach O'Neill Friday morning. Burial will be at Inman.

Born in Illinois on January 5, 1871, she came to O'Neill when a young girl and went to school at O'Neill. She also taught in country schools in Holt county for several years.

Mrs. Riley was reared by her sister, Mrs. Lora Cress. Her mother died when she was a small girl. Her father, William Weingartner, was a tailor in O'Neill years ago.

Survivors include: son—Preston Riley, of San Diego, Calif.; daughters—Mrs. Mildred Alexander and Mrs. Bartsch, both of Portland sister—Mrs. Mayme Boheme, of Fremont; 9 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

Gilbert F. Benash Sale Tomorrow

Col. Wallace O'Connell will be the auctioneer Friday, March 3, when Gilbert F. Benash, who lives 6 miles north of O'Neill on highway 281, 1 mile east and 1 mile north, sells his personal property at public auction.

Included in the offering will be 54 head of cattle, including 23 milk cows; 3 head of horses; 7 brood sows; a full line of farm machinery; a 32-volt Delco light plant, and numerous miscellaneous articles.

Charles Crook, of O'Neill, will sell an improved city property on Saturday, March 11. Kieth Abart will be auctioneer.

Both sales have been listed on The Frontier sale calendar and have been handled through the "package" form of advertising.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Cecil Thomas Grenier, and Miss Kathleen Elaine McDerrott, both over 21, February 21.

Holt Man, 96, Never Ill a Single Day

Charles Allen Fauquier Remembers Abe Lincoln And Civil War

By a Staff Writer
Charles Allen Fauquier has packed lots of livin' into 96 years.

He remembers the day his father trudged off to fight for the North in the Civil war; he remembers the tragedy of Ford's theater when Abraham Lincoln was attacked by an assassin; he was in Nebraska when the "grandfather" of all blizzards struck—the April 13 storm, 1873.

He saw the Pawnee Indians limp home from a decisive battle at the hands of the Sioux; he remembers the local club of 1894. Mr. Fauquier knew O'Neill when it was an untamed, forlorn prairie town.

And he's never been ill a single day!

Mr. Fauquier observed his 96th birthday anniversary on February 6. "I'd have made a trip downtown except I can't see," he explained to a Frontier reporter. He is virtually blind and the reason is because when a lad of 6 he fell into a mortar box in which there was lime, and the injury became permanent. He has been unable to read for 15 years but has become a rabid radio fan and proudly states he is one of the best listeners to the "Voice of The Frontier."

It was on February 6, 1854, when Mr. Fauquier was born in Troy, O. At the age of 2 he moved with his parents and older brother to Keokuk, Ia., where he resided until 1872—when he was 18.

Keokuk was a turbulent Mississippi river town back in those days. It was from there his father, a plasterer by trade, joined the ranks of General Grant's Union army. A letter written home to his son, still perfectly legible, is one of Mr. Fauquier's prized possessions.



RED CROSS 'KICK-OFF'... A handful of American Red Cross workers Monday evening met at the Tom Tom for a "kick-off" dinner. The Holt County chapter's goal is 2-thousand-dollars. Left-to-right: J. W. Walter and Mrs. Walter, of Chambers; Mrs. C. V. Sullivan, of O'Neill, Holt secretary; Mrs. Guy O. Cole, of Emmet, county fund drive chairman; Mrs. Thomas Greene, of O'Neill; Miss Francis Rotherham and Mrs. James Pruden, Ewing

Join in Whirl of Colorful Mardi Gras

By MAUDE SILVERSTRAND
Special Correspondent
ATKINSON—Is your blood pressure up? Are you feeling low? Then, let's relax and take a whirl down to the Mardi Gras in good ol' New Orleans, La.

I took such a trip Tuesday—thanks to a vivid report from Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Chace and Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Wilson, who Sunday returned from New Orleans.

First, let's examine the origin of the world-famous Mardi Gras. Many years ago on the French Riviera the natives began this "Fat Tuesday" celebration. In fact, the words Mardi Gras are a French term meaning "Fat Tuesday" having to do with Shrove Tuesday, before Lent and Ash Wednesday. In those days a fatted calf led the procession or parade. It was festooned with garlands, and other decorations in keeping with joyous celebration and eating, before the time of Lent, which, of course, is a period of fasting and religious significance. At the close of the ceremonies the calf was barbecued and eaten by the revelers.

The custom was brought to this country by the French and is entwined in and comprises a great deal of the background of U. S. history. The normal population of New Orleans is around 600,000 but during this past celebration, the largest ever, it swelled to nearly a million.

All traffic in the business district and all shops and business places, except a few in the French Quarter of the city, are closed the last 3 days of the carnival. The shops are more specialized than they are in our part of the country but they do have many large and modern department stores. The antique shops are in this Quarter, which is the oldest part of the city. Antoine's, a very famous restaurant, is here and the Chaces and Wilsons had lunch in this "old world establishment." The place itself is a story book of romance and history. They visited the Henry Clay room and saw authentic letters written by Mr. Clay.

They went to Jackson Square, named after Andrew Jackson. The oldest church in the U. S., St. Louis Cathedral, is located on the square. The Cabildo, seat of the old Spanish government, the building in which the Louisiana purchase papers were signed, nestles close to the side of this cathedral. The papers are still there along with many other historical relics.

On the other 3 sides of the square they saw the oldest apartment building in the U. S., complete with iron grillwork, balconies, and all the savor of old New Orleans. These have been restored and are lived in by the wealthy people of the city who desire to keep their city authentic and to provide a setting for the fabulous and colorful carnival.

For a month preceding Ash Wednesday, the festivities begin with parties, balls, dinners and so on. The last week the tempo increases. On Sunday of the last week there were 9 parades, each group contending with the other for beauty and grandeur.

One of the ladies said the parade of the Kingdom of Zulu, the Negro section of the city, seemed to be the most colorful. Louis Armstrong, famous Negro band and orchestra leader, was King Zulu. The Duke and Duchess of Windsor were in the reviewing stand, but graciously took no part of the limelight from any of the royalty of the carnival. Most of the natives of New Orleans were in costume and masked the last day but the masks had to be removed at sundown to prevent skullduggery.

The final ball is a glorious, storybook affair, full of customs and traditions belonging only in the famous city of the South.

The Atkinson visitors took a ferryboat ride out through the harbor to view the skyline. They were fortunate enough to have friends who took care of the housing problem, which otherwise would have constituted a real obstacle.

They returned by way of Natchez and Hot Springs, Ark.

Mr. Fauquier remembers the grasshopper plague of 1894. "They were immigrants, those grasshoppers. I don't know where they came from or where they went, but they stripped us of everything we had. They covered the sun so all you could see of the sun was a little ring around the edge. "Immigrants, that's what they was. I've never seen them since." Mr. Fauquier remembers distinctly the day the Pawnee Indians made their way back to their reservation after a terrific beating at the hands of the Sioux.

They were a sad looking sight," he remembers. "We never had any trouble with the Indians in my family. Oh, once in a while a kinda dirty and little troublesome Indian would wander in, but they never gave us trouble." Mr. Fauquier took himself a bride at Central City in 1881. (Continued on page 4)

SERELDIA JOHNSON RITES AT ATKINSON

Prominent Emmet Woman Dies Here Thursday At Son's Home

Mrs. Seraldia E. Johnson, 81, prominent resident of the Emmet community for many years, died last Thursday, February 23, at the home of a son, Lowell Johnson, in O'Neill.

She had been in "poor health" a number of years, relatives said, but her condition had not been considered serious until a short time before her death. Two of her sons, Lowell, of O'Neill, and Sewell, of Emmet, were with her when she passed away.

Funeral services were held at 2 o'clock at the Sewell Johnson ranch home on Saturday afternoon and at 2:30 in the Methodist church in Atkinson with Rev. W. C. Birmingham officiating. Burial was in Wood Lawn cemetery.

The late Mrs. Johnson was born on October 14, 1868, to Ellen and Joseph Bixler, at Canton, O. At the age of 8 she moved with her parents to Nashville, Tenn., later moving to Forreston, Ill., where she received most of her education.

She finished her schooling at LeMars, Ia., where she taught several years and where she married Andrew Johnson, of LeMars, on August 21, 1888. They lived on a farm near there for 20 years.

The Johnsons became the parents of 11 children—3 sons and 8 daughters.

In 1907 Mr. and Mrs. Johnson moved their family to a ranch 3 miles west and 1 mile south of Emmet. After Mr. Johnson died on September 3, 1938, she continued to make her home on the ranch with her son, Sewell, and family, until last fall when she moved to O'Neill to be with Lowell and family through the winter.

She became a member of the Evangelical church at Forreston at an early age and joined the Methodist church at Emmet, in which she was an active and devout member until her death.

Survivors include: sons—Custer E. of Waverly; Sewell, of Emmet; Lowell, of O'Neill; daughters—Mrs. Matie Weller, of Atkinson; Mrs. Agnes Osborne, of Mitchell, S. D.; Mrs. Phania Friedrich Searles, of O'Neill; Mrs. Calcia Lech, of Norfolk; 26 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; brothers—Murray Bixler, of Minneapolis, Minn., and George Bixler, of Hugo, Colo.

Four children preceded her in death: Susan, 3-months-old; Phyllis, 3-years-old; Mrs. Ethel Beckwith, 20 (who died in 1914), and Mrs. Frances Searles, 47, (who died in 1947).

In 1938 the late Mr. and Mrs. Johnson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Palbearers were: Leon Beckwith and Guy Cole, of Emmet; Lee Osborne and Clarence Ernst, of O'Neill; Orchard Friedrich, of Spencer; Thomas Malloy, of Atkinson. Segers were in charge. A mixed quartette sang, consisting of Harry Snyder, Jean Humphrey, Elaine Humphrey and George Metzger with Bonnie Humphrey at the piano. Mrs. Grant Peacock, soloist, sang by special request.

Among out-of-town relatives and friends attending the funeral were: Murray Bixler and daughter, Edna, Mr. and Mrs. John Lange and daughters and Lester Bixler, all of Minneapolis, Minn.; Herbert and Joe Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Phillips, of Akron, Ia.; Henry Berkenpass, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Berkenpass, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Zoerick, of LeMars, Ia.; Mrs. Agnes Osborne and daughter, Lois, and son, Eugene, of Mitchell, S. D.; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Friedrich, of Omaha; Mr. and Mrs. Orchard Friedrich, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Friedrich, daughter, Darlene, and Carl Friedrich, of Spencer; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Waldo, of Amelia; Marie, Erna, and Arnold Zuehlke, Mr. and Mrs. Vernie Cooper and Dick Osborne, of Chambers, and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Johnson, of Waverly.

March District Court Session Postponed

The March district jury session, scheduled for March 6, has been postponed, according to Ira Moss, clerk of the district court. Lack of sufficient docket was the reason the jury number of cases on the court was not called, Moss explained.

Mrs. A. Marcellus Dies At Lincoln

Funeral services were held Monday at 2 p. m. at the Neligh Methodist church for Mrs. Alva Marcellus, 49, wife of a prominent O'Neill businessman. Rev. L. D. Jones officiated and burial was in the Neligh cemetery.

Mrs. Marcellus had been "seriously ill" in a Lincoln hospital for 3 weeks. She died in Lincoln Thursday morning, February 23, at 4 a. m.

Born April 26, 1900, at Neligh, she was graduated from the Neligh high school. Mrs. Marcellus was a member of the Methodist church and the Royal Neighbors of America.

Survivors include—widower; daughters—Jeannette Good, of Paramount, Calif.; June Good, Mrs. Nadyne Eymann and Mrs. Robert Van Vleck, all of Lincoln; 2 grandchildren; 2 sisters and 2 brothers.

Ground Work For Pavilion Begins

Clearing of debris and the digging of the footing in preparation for the physical construction of the new sales pavilion at the O'Neill Livestock Market was completed this week, according to J. Leo Moore, vice-president of the O'Neill Civic club, which owns the mart.

Moore said the new building will be larger, but on the same square type frame structure as the original structure, which fire destroyed on Saturday night, February 13.

The scales on the south side of the old building has been repaired. Civic club spokesmen thought it would be "another week, at least" before livestock sales could be resumed at the market. The Frontier this week does not have its usual round of Thursday Star Specials because a livestock sale will not be held.