

Cattle Are Making Great Comeback

But Losses Continue to Mount as Result of March 7 Storm

It is the considered opinion of leading Holt county stockmen that cattle have made a remarkable comeback since March 7.

That was the date the livestock industry absorbed its worst setback in history, directly causing the death of several thousand head of cattle.

Now, more than 2 weeks following the Hurricane Blizzard, the death count continues to mount. Pneumonia is taking its toll among the blizzard-weakened animals.

It is impossible to ascertain a complete listing of losses by individual operators, but virtually every ranch—large and small—has recorded its dead.

Most of the deaths were caused by smothering when ice formed on the nostrils. Others perished in ponds, lakes and creeks that were open—the livestock being blinded by the driving snow and 100-mile-per-hour wind.

In the March 16 issue of The Frontier L. D. Putnam, well-known O'Neill stockman, was quoted as saying Holt losses would run "about 5 per cent."

A week later Putnam declined to revise his estimate, saying "5 per cent is running just about right."

The toll is considerably greater than at first thought. Most stockmen readily assert that losses as a result of the 24-hour storm will exceed by far the cumulative losses of last year during the now-famous Recurring Blizzards.

Holt stockmen saw their cattle visibly weakened from the March 7 belting. In fact, many were "down" in the snow and needed aid to get back on their feet. Shrinkage was alarming, but moderate weather during the past 2 weeks has helped recovery.

Rendering plants in the vicinity have been jammed to capacity processing. Most plants report a heavy backlog of calls to be made.

Bruce Covey, Ord rendering plant proprietor, said that Russell Jones lost 42 head on his ranch north of Burwell.

Storm stories continue to filter in from outlying communities.

Roy Worden, of near Swan Lake, had gone to the barn to look after his stock. The storm increased in fury while he was there and he became lost trying to get back to the house. He finally ran into a windbreak, followed it to the end, only to find he had gone the wrong way. Had he missed the windbreak he would have frozen to death.

Charley Peterson, well-known Atkinson rancher, was reported to have said his losses would fall short of 300 head.

Dewey C. Schaffer, O'Neill rancher, has indicated that his livestock losses will mount to well over 300.

Leslie Anderson, a farmer south of Clearwater, had to work fast to save his flock of 250 lambs during the blizzard. The snow froze over the lambs' heads in thick layers, completely blinding the animals. Each one had to be caught and the snow removed. Only 6 head of the entire flock were lost. Anderson also reported loss of a calf.

Earl Peterson and Floyd Arrowsmith, living near Bassett, have reported the loss of around 60 head from each of their herds.

Louis Meyer, who lives 5 miles east and 2 miles south of O'Neill, reported loss of 2 head out of a herd of 50.

James Gallagher, of Inman, reported loss of 13 head of cattle—first loss to wintry weather Gallagher Bros. have ever experienced.

Stuart Vicinity Scene Of Fox Hunt

STUART — About 40 foxes belonging to the Norris Coats farm decided to take a tour of the countryside after the big blow.

Snow had drifted into the pens on the Coats place, about 8 miles north of Stuart, making it a simple matter for the animals to walk to freedom over the tops of the drifts and fences.

Many of them were tame and some ventured into neighbors' yards. Some were killed before they had opportunity to turn savage.

The Coats fox farm, which has counted up to 150 pair, is located on the Naper road.

John Walker in Narrow Escape

EWING — John Walker, Ewing gravel pit operator, had a close call during the Hurricane Blizzard.

He left town and headed for the pit, a mile east of Ewing, to recover a tractor. This was about 10 o'clock in the morning.

When he was unheard from for several hours a group of men began a search. He was located okay and escorted back to town.

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LIVESTOCK SALES RESUME TODAY

Formal Opening of New Pavilion Set for March 30

Resuming of the livestock sales at the O'Neill Livestock Market will begin today (Thursday). Reconstruction of the new, enlarged sales pavilion this week moved into the final stages.

The 50- x 75-foot frame structure has been enclosed and the seats will all be installed for the sale today. Workmen have completed putting on sheeting, the roof and temporary wiring will be installed for this week's sale, according to the managers of the market, Verne and Leigh Reynoldson.

The Reynoldsons said the increased seating capacity will accommodate approximately 300 more people. The old pavilion's seating capacity was somewhere in the neighborhood of 650.

Other completed sections of the new sales pavilion include: scales, sorting alleys and sorting pens, and the sale ring.

Office, permanent wiring, siding and shingles, and some inside cement work will be completed in time for the formal opening of the new pavilion. The formal opening is scheduled for Thursday, March 30.

Workmen were given a 7-day setback in the rebuilding of the pavilion when the historic storm of March 7 paralyzed the O'Neill area.

Last regularly scheduled sale in the old pavilion was held on Thursday, February 16. The barn was destroyed by fire several hours after the close of a special sale of registered Herefords on Saturday, February 18. The special sale was sponsored by the Holt County Hereford Breeders' association.

Meanwhile, O'Neill merchants will herald the formal opening of the new pavilion a week from today with a citywide bargain day merchandising event. Probably a hundred prizes will be awarded at the livestock market. These prizes will be provided by business firms.

(Complete details will be published in the March 30 issue of The Frontier.)

WILTON HAYNE, PAGE MAN, DIES

Heart Attack Fatal To Holt County Pioneer

PAGE — Funeral services for Wilton Hayne, 73, a retired page blacksmith, were held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 19, at the Methodist church. Rev. T. O. Brownfield, church pastor, had charge of the service, assisted by Rev. Carl Rayburn, of Hildreth, formerly of Page. Burial was in the Page cemetery.

The late Mr. Hayne was stricken suddenly early Friday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Carl Nuss, of Wayne. Relatives said death was caused by a heart attack.

Pallbearers were Leonard Miller, Will Simmons, Lester Riege, LaVerne Van Connelt, Kenneth Braddock, Glen Stewart, Glen Harris and Verne Riege.

The singers were Mrs. Alton Braddock, Mrs. Ray Snell, Edgar Stauffer and Vernie Hunter, with Mrs. John Lamason as pianist.

Mrs. Will Simmons, Mrs. Robert Gray, Mrs. Kenneth Braddock and Mrs. Gerald Lamason had charge of floral offerings.

A son of the late George and Martha Jane Hayne, the late Mr. Hayne was born in Marshalltown, Ia., on January 10, 1877. With his parents he moved to Holt county during 1883.

On August 23, 1902, he married Minnie S. Fray, at O'Neill and to them 3 daughters were born. For a time during the early 1900's he was a member of the O'Neill police force.

In 1904 he went into the blacksmith business at Page and had been a continuous resident since.

Mr. Hayne was a member of the IOOF and of the Garfield AF&AM lodges.

When a young man he loved to play baseball and became quite efficient in this sport. He was a blacksmith in Page for 46 years and was mayor of the city for 4 years. He played in the band and was interested in all advancements in the community.

Survivors include: widow; daughters—Mrs. Venice Bressler and Mrs. Carl (Lillian) Nuss, both of Wayne; Mrs. Roy (Ida) Johnson, of O'Neill; 12 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; sister—Mrs. William Anderson, of Page; brother—Charles, of Los Angeles, Calif.

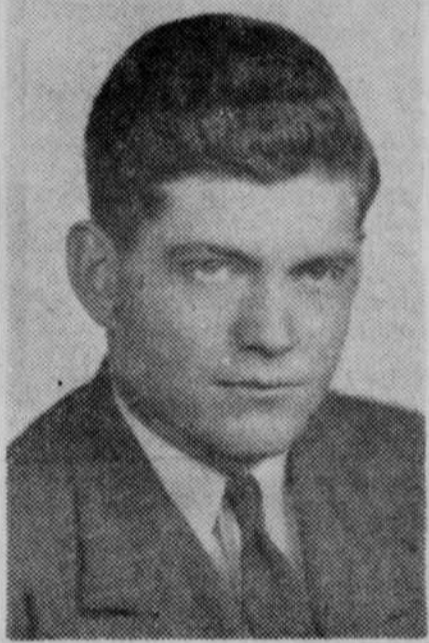
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PRICE: 7 CENTS



Leigh Reynoldson (above) and Verne Reynoldson . . . starting over. (Story at left).



FRED HITCHCOCKS MARRIED 50 YEARS

ATKINSON — Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hitchcock entertained scores of friends and well-wishers Tuesday afternoon, March 21, in an open-house observance of their golden wedding anniversary. They received their guests at the Stockman hotel, where they have an apartment.

Mr. Hitchcock and the former Mary Elizabeth Enbody were married on March 21, 1900, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lucien Enbody, south of Emmet.

They have made their home at Atkinson continuously. Mr. Hitchcock has practiced veterinary medicine and raised livestock. For about a year the Hitchcocks lived on a farm. He served several terms as a police officer for the town.

Regarding their health, Mr. Hitchcock is "just fine now," although he has had a series of operations for eye cataracts. Mrs. Hitchcock says her health "couldn't be better."

The couple has a daughter, Mrs. John W. (Hazel) Baab, who lives on a farm 1 1/2 mile east of Atkinson. There are 2 grandchildren—Mrs. Irvin Forbes, of Amelia, and Mrs. Charles Smith, of Osmond.

Mrs. Baab and Mrs. Henry Houten helped arrange Tuesday's open-house affair between 2 and 5 o'clock. Mrs. Houten, the former Emma Enbody, was also present at the wedding rite 50 years ago. Mrs. Houten is Mrs. Hitchcock's sister.

The Hitchcocks have attended the Methodist church.

BAD ROADS SLOW HOLT ASSESSORS

Many Have Not Yet Drawn Assessment Supplies Here

It can be said that the March 7 blizzard and the resultant snow-clogged roads have slowed the annual tax assessment process in Holt county.

L. G. Gillespie, Holt county assessor, said Monday that only three-fourths of his assistants have been able to draw their supplies. This means that one-fourth of the workers will be over 10 days late in getting underway. The assessment begins on March 10 and all personal property is assessed as of that date.

Gillespie spent Monday in Atkinson and Tuesday in Stuart assisting with business schedules. He was scheduled to be at Ewing Wednesday.

Every person having attained the age of 21 years, or over, must file an assessment return, according to Gillespie. This applies whether or not the person has any property.

Those between 21- and 50-years-old are subject to old age and poll tax or only old age, as the case may be.

Assistant assessors have been assigned to each precinct to contact the taxpayers and to make their assessment. However, the number of taxpayers to be contacted, the time remaining and the prevailing road conditions may not permit the assistants to contact all taxpayers.

"Therefore," Mr. Gillespie says, "if at all possible, contact your assessor and be assessed as early as possible, inasmuch as the law makes it the sole responsibility of the taxpayer to see that he is assessed by April 20."

Failure to be assessed makes the resident subject to special assessment and other penalties.

Business schedules should be filed by April 10, if possible, according to Gillespie. All schedules are subject to review by the state tax commissioner and his representatives for any valuation revisions.

Holt county's 1950 precinct assessors follow:

Antelope—L. Crumly; Atkinson—V. W. Kirkland; Atkinson two—Frank LaMunyan; Cleveland—Waldo Frost; Conley—B. Rickard; Chambers twp.—C. Dallegge; Chambers twp.—C.

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NIOBRARA GROUP IN SHOW, SALE

50 Head of Herefords Consigned to Butte Show & Sale

BUTTE — A livestock field day—and-judging contest and the fourth annual spring show and sale of the Niobrara Valley Hereford association will be here Friday and Saturday, March 24 and 25, highlighting activity in the new spring season.

The field day and the judging contest will be sponsored jointly by the Butte Community club and the Hereford association.

Field day will get underway at 9:30 a. m. Friday, March 24, at 9:30 a. m. Friday, March 24, (Continued on page 5)



O'Neill's new livestock market pavilion is taking shape . . . will be scene of first sale today (Thursday).—The Frontier Photo by John H. McCarville.

Plan Construction on St. Anthony's by July 1

Another Weekly Takes to Radio

Nebraska's third weekly newspaper has taken to the radio airwaves to supplement its news coverage in its field.

The newcomer is the Dakota County Star at South Sioux City, published by Paul Wagner. The Star is heard daily at 12:15 p.m. on radio station KCOM, Sioux City.

The Frontier was the first weekly in Nebraska to use radio. In January, the Blair Pilot-Tribune, published by Reed O'Hanlon, jr., linked itself with radio station KGFY, Fremont, for daily broadcasts.

MRS. BETSY ALM 91-YEARS-OLD

Married Here, She Knew Her Late Husband In Sweden

Mrs. Betsy Alm celebrated her 91st birthday anniversary Monday, March 13, at a family dinner.

Mrs. Alm, who was born in Sweden in 1859, lives with a daughter, Miss Clara Alm. Her other children are: Mrs. Harold (Alma) Rosenkrans, of Dorsey; Mrs. Herman (Elsie) Dimmitt, of north of Page; O. W. Alm, a psychology professor at Kansas State college, Manhattan, Kans.; and Arthur Alm, of O'Neill.

Betsy Peterson came to America in about 1885 and spent a year in Illinois before coming to Holt county. She married Swan Alm in O'Neill and has lived here since. She knew Mr. Alm in Sweden. He died in November, 1915.

All the children were born in Holt county on the old homestead, situated 20 miles northeast of O'Neill.

Mrs. Alm has had "good health," but recently has "not been too well."

O'Connells Go Home--by Auto

Timothy Joe Showered With Gifts from Well-Wishers Everywhere

Mrs. Wallace O'Connell and her famous son, Timothy Joseph, last Thursday were released from O'Neill hospital.

Mrs. O'Connell's return home was much less dramatic than the trip to the hospital.

It was about 11 o'clock on the morning of March 7 that the stork began hovering around the O'Connell household and it was thought time had come to get the expectant mother to the hospital. The historic March 7 blizzard had gained most of its momentum by the time Mr. O'Connell had hitched up a team and wagon, helped Mrs. O'Connell into the wagon, and set out for O'Neill, only 3 miles away.

The team bogged down about half-way. Mr. O'Connell had to abandon the scene and go for help.

Mrs. O'Connell stayed behind in the wagon huddling in

a corner under some blankets. The wind shrieked across the countryside, some times mounting up to 100-miles-per-hour.

Mr. O'Connell reached O'Neill but was exhausted. A rescue party was organized and finally, after being out in the unprecedented storm for 10 hours, Mrs. O'Connell was carried by litter into O'Neill hospital by a gallant band of rescuers. There, 4 hours later, Timothy Joseph arrived, weighing in at 7 pounds.

Hundreds of newspapers over the land carried pictures of the mother and her famous "blizzard boy." Their fame spread rapidly.

Even while they were still confined to the hospital, mail from well-wishers began to burden the postoffice. By Monday, nearly 300 letters, cards and packages had been received from well-wishers across the land.

Timothy Joe was showered with booties and blankets, rattles and panties. Mother came in for some gifts, too.

"Everybody forgets father," mused Mr. O'Connell.

Getting to and from the O'Connell place, 3 miles northwest of town, still is a horse-and-wagon proposition because of the snow. There is no road and the mother and her famous son were taken home through the fields by auto aided with tractor.

Most of the correspondence poured in from the sunny climes of Florida and California, and many letters came from the Dakotas.

Homemakers Coming Thursday, April 6

Fourth annual rural homemakers' county recognition luncheon and program will be held in O'Neill on Thursday, April 6, instead of April 16, as announced in last week's issue of The Frontier.

Recognition will be given to presidents of home extension clubs, county chairmen, officers and directors of the council of home extension clubs from Keya Paha, Boyd, Brown, Rock, Holt, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Cherry, Hooper, Thomas and Blaine counties.

REV. CRESS MOVING TO OHIO PARISH

Lutheran Pastor in O'Neill Over 2 1/2 Years to Leave April 16

Rev. Clyde O. Cress, Christ Lutheran church pastor here for more than 2 1/2 years, has accepted a call from a Missouri synod pastorate in Mayfield Heights, O., a suburb of Cleveland.

He will deliver his farewell sermon to Holt county parishioners on Sunday, April 16, and depart with his family later that day.

Pastor Cress's new parish is Our Saviour's Lutheran church in a newly-built suburb of Cleveland. The parish there is only 3-years-old and most of the dwellings have been built since World War II.

A congregational meeting was held Sunday at which time Pastor Cress was officially released to accept the Ohio call. Another meeting will be held Sunday, March 26, at which time the congregation will issue an invitation to applicants from Missouri synod seminaries at St. Louis and Springfield, Mo.

Reverend Cress came to O'Neill in August, 1947, from Concordia theological seminary at Springfield. He began serving Christ Lutheran parish at O'Neill and Immanuel Lutheran parish at Atkinson—his first pastorates.

Since his coming both parishes have prospered. The O'Neill congregation has purchased its church building and a parsonage. Number of communicants at O'Neill has swelled from 44 to 90; number of persons baptized but not confirmed has increased from 87 to 140. A like gain has been shown at Atkinson: 35 to 55 communicants, 64 to 90 others.

Christ Lutheran church had been idle and without a pastor for 18 months when Reverend Cress arrived.

Pastor Cress and Mrs. Cress have a son, Donald, 15-months-old.

The Lutheran clergyman expressed regret in leaving O'Neill but is enthusiastic about the "huge, new field at Mayfield Heights."

"I will be doing open mission work there," he explained, "and helping with an already planned construction program."

140 Piglets Born on Boyd County Farm

SPENCER—While the March 7 blizzard caused many losses among cattle, the high wind ushered in a bumper crop of pork chops at the Bert Johnson farm near here.

On the historic date 12 sows farrowed 140 piglets. Thus, there was considerably more excitement around the Johnson place than could be conjured up by a north wind.

In addition, a Brown Swiss dairy cow gave birth to a set of twin calves.

Rev. Wadsworth Visits

ATKINSON — Rev. D. L. Wadsworth, who has been located at Ipswich, S. D., for the past 4 years, arrived Friday for a visit with his father, George Wadsworth, at Atkinson, and with other relatives at Stuart and Atkinson.

Conference with Architect Planned Saturday In Denver

Construction of the 40-bed, 400-thousand-dollar St. Anthony's hospital in O'Neill is tentatively scheduled to begin on July 1.

This was revealed this week by James M. Corkle, hospital fund-raising chairman.

Mother Erica, head of the Sisters of St. Francis provincial mother house in Denver, Colo., advised Corkle this week that she and 2 superiors from other hospitals operated by the same Roman Catholic order, will confer in Denver Saturday with Frank N. McNutt, head of a well-known architectural firm there.

In April the same group will meet in O'Neill with federal authorities and final plans for the big medical center will be drafted. This meeting will take place during the course of the St. Mary's academy golden jubilee celebration.

Mother Erica advised Mr. Corkle that plans for St. Anthony's hospital have been "progressing satisfactorily."

She expressed hope that preliminary planning will be completed by May 1 and actual construction can begin by July 1.

Denver is the provincial headquarters for the Sisters of St. Francis, who own and operate a number of hospitals in the United States.

A year ago the hospital movement was revived here under the guidance of Mr. Corkle. By year's end the committee counted 115-thousand-dollar cash in Holt county banks. Federal government will participate in the construction of the class A hospital and the Sisters will assume "any reasonable indebtedness."

Site for the hospital is northwest of the academy.

The 115-thousand-dollar figure is exclusive of pledges for room memorials.

Frontier's Paid Circulation 3,266

A new high in paid circulation for any North-Nebraska newspaper west of Norfolk has been established by The Frontier.

Its paid circulation on the March 9 Blizzard Edition has reached the 3,266 mark—with more requests for extra copies still coming in. Last week's issue stated the March 9 circulation mark was 2,815.

Publisher Carroll ("Cal") Stewart explained that the demand for extra copies has been "unprecedented." The Frontier anticipated a heavy "run" and printed about 1,300 extras.

Meanwhile, a "run" has also been made on extra copies of the March 16 edition. Already 2,432 copies of that number have been sold.

The Frontier's normal circulation since the first of the year has been in excess of 2,100, with the gross distribution growing steadily.

12 Head of Cattle Wander into Creek

ORCHARD—Joe George has reported that 6 head of cattle belonging to him wandered into a creek during the March 1 storm and they died. Pete Cooper also lost 6 head in the same manner.