

U of N Chancellor Will Speak Here

Dr. R. G. Gustavson Will Address Ag Meeting

The chancellor of the University of Nebraska, Dr. R. G. Gustavson, will be the principal speaker at the combined annual meeting of the Holt county Soil Conservation District and Holt county extension service on Monday, March 5. The affair will be held at the American Legion auditorium.

Program follows:
12:45-1:15 p.m.—Registration (only those registered by 1:15 eligible for door prizes).
1:00 p.m.—Music by O'Neill high school.

1:30 p.m.—Reports of Soil Conservation District and extension service by pictures; election of two extension board members.
2:00 p.m.—Special music by Inman 4-H club.

2:05 p.m.—Announcements, introductions, door prizes.
2:10 p.m.—Special selection by O'Neill 4-H club.

2:15 p.m.—George Round, director of public relations, University of Nebraska.

2:30 p.m.—Dr. R. G. Gustavson, chancellor of the University of Nebraska, who will discuss agriculture.

3:30 p.m.—Discussion.
3:45 p.m.—Coffee and doughnuts.

These two agencies have combined to present their annual year-end reports of activities.

The afternoon's program is planned to interest townspeople as well as rural people.

Both the Chamber of Commerce and the Lions club here have pledged full support to the joint meeting which is expected to attract a capacity crowd.

The O'Neill high school and 4-H club groups will furnish music for part of the program.

Door prizes will be given to the two lucky ladies and to two men. Free coffee and doughnuts will be served at the close of the program.

High school students of both O'Neill schools will have an opportunity to hear Chancellor Gustavson at a short convocation arranged at the public school auditorium.

The extension service will conduct an election to fill the expired terms of Mrs. O. A. Hammerberg, of Atkinson, who represents supervisor district 7, and Ora Yarges, of Stuart, who represents supervisor district 6.

The nominating committee has nominated Mrs. O. A. Hammerberg and Mrs. J. B. Mellor, of Atkinson, for district 7, and Ora Yarges and Edwin Engler, both of Stuart, for district 6. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

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Chancellor Gustavson varied background. (Story at left)

MILITARY FUNERAL FOR SLAYMAKER

Rites in Atkinson Sunday for Veteran of World War I

ATKINSON—Military funeral services were held for Edward C. Slaymaker on Sunday, February 25, who died at his home in Atkinson on Thursday, February 22.

He had been in ill health for several years.

Mr. Slaymaker was a World War I veteran and had been a patient at the veterans hospital at Lincoln and at the veterans hospital in Sioux Falls, S. D. He also had been treated at the Mayo hospital at Rochester, Minn.

Survivors include: Widow—Amy; son—Darrol; daughters—Mrs. Dick Doolittle, of Amelia; Mrs. Robert Cabbage, of California; and Jerry, of Atkinson; four grandchildren.

The church was unable to accommodate the overflow crowd gathering for the rites.

Pillsbury Plane Stopped to Refuel

Three Minneapolis, Minn., men of Stuart, stopped briefly at Municipal airport last Thursday to refuel their Ryan Navion 4-passenger plane. Later that day, near Paxton, their plane plunged to the ground in misty weather and killed the occupants.

Dead were:
EDMUND P. PILLSBURY, 31.
ALFRED D. LINDLEY, 47.
DEXTER L. ANDREWS, 38.

The pilot, Pillsbury, identified as vice-president of the Pillsbury Flour mill, apparently tried to reach a small landing field.

Lindley, an attorney, sportsman and politician, and Andrews, director of a merchandise wholesale firm, were killed instantly. Pillsbury died in the Sutherland hospital.

Lindley is survived by his wife and two children; Andrews is survived by his wife and three children; Pillsbury is survived by his wife and three children.

Lindley had planned to go on to Sun Valley, Ida., for Olympic ski team selections.

The plane crashed into a tree. Wing icing was blamed for the crash.

The plane, a four-place, single-engine craft, was identified as Pillsbury's.

Gordon O. Harper, manager of Municipal airport here, told civil aeronautics authorities he tried to persuade the airmen from continuing. They also had lunch here.

The plane was loaded with skiing equipment, Harper said.

P. V. Hickey spent the weekend in Omaha.

Gustavson Is Known As a Scientist

Known internationally as a scientist and as one of the outstanding educators of the midwest, Dr. Ruben G. Gustavson has been chancellor of the University of Nebraska since September, 1946. Immediately prior to his association with the University of Nebraska, Doctor Gustavson was vice-president and dean of faculties at the University of Chicago.

Born in Denver, Colo., April 6, 1892, he received his bachelor of arts and master of arts degrees from the University of Denver (Continued on page 4)

Kin Was Pilot of Ill-Fated Plane

Howard Campbell, of Sioux City, who was the pilot of the ill-fated two-engine Cessna which crashed near Decatur Saturday, was a cousin of Frank Summers. All five persons aboard were killed. Three were servicemen from Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., going home on furlough.

Bodies were found Sunday evening, when volunteers waded through fog, rain and mud to find the missing plane, which had been spotted by a search party from the air.

Holt County Fair Dates Are Fixed

CHAMBERS—The 1951 Holt county fair dates have been set. The exposition this year will begin on Wednesday, August 29 and continue through Saturday, September 1.

There will be little conflict this year with the Antelope county fair at Neligh. The Antelope fair will be closing as entry and judging gets underway at Chambers.

President Vern Sageser and Secretary Edwin Wink met recently with Antelope fair officials to work out the dates.

Fern Ritts Appears; Case Is Continued

Mrs. Fern Ritts, of O'Neill, appeared before District Judge D. R. Mounts on Wednesday on a larceny charge growing out of an incident last fall.

The case was continued until next week by Judge Mounts. Mrs. Ritts is free on \$1,000 bond.

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MELVIN KURTZ HEART VICTIM

Collapses While Viewing Television Show at Home

A 46-year-old former O'Neill man, Melvin Kurtz, of Pasadena, Calif., collapsed Sunday evening, February 25, at his home while viewing a television program.

Mrs. Kurtz, the former Eva Spangler, summoned a neighbor, who was a physician, and an emergency police squad. But efforts to save his life were futile.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, March 3, at 2 p.m. at Biglin Bros. funeral chapel and at 2:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian church. Rev. Ralph Gerber, church pastor, and Rev. Wayne Hall, pastor of the Assembly of God, will officiate. Burial will be in Prospect Hill cemetery.

The body was to have reached O'Neill early today (Thursday) with the widow accompanying the remains.

Melvin Kurtz was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kurtz, of O'Neill. He was born in Iowa and came to O'Neill at the age of 16. On July 25, 1931, he married Eva Spangler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Awalt Spangler.

For a number of years he worked in O'Neill garages and 12 years ago moved to California.

He was in partnership with his brother, Andrew, in the garage business in Pasadena.

Survivors include: Widow—Eva; parents—Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kurtz, of O'Neill; brothers—Andrew, of Pasadena, Calif., and Clifton, of Kansas City, Kans.; sisters—Mrs. Jack (Doris) Harvey, of Salina, Kans.; Mrs. Robert (Charlotte) Larson, of O'Neill; Mrs. Daniel (Ladonna) Snyder, of O'Neill; Mrs. Charles (Bonnie) Cooper, of O'Neill, and Mrs. Hal (Marie) Bauhler, of California.

Pallbearers chosen are Wilmar Hoyer, of Washington; Virgil Ott, of California; J. E. Davis James Holsclaw, William Hansen and Edward M. Gallagher, all of O'Neill.

The church was unable to accommodate the overflow crowd gathering for the rites.

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Holt Bulls Grab Bassett Honors

BASSETT—The North-Central Nebraska Hereford association held its 20th annual spring sale Saturday, February 24, at Bassett.

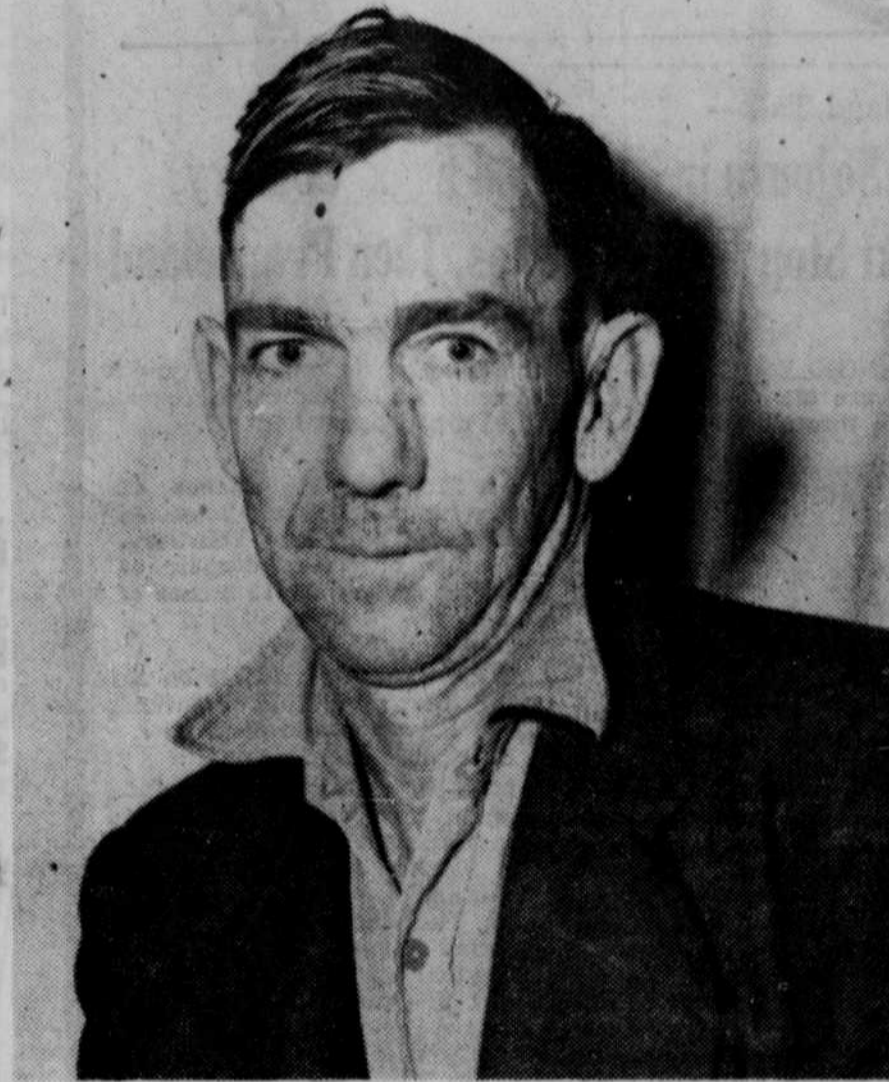
The 42 bulls sold averaged \$832. The grand champion bull was exhibited by H. A. and Robert E. Van Horn, of Page. He was VH Onward Aster 16th, an October 16, 1949, calf, son of Battle B. Aster 10th and Domestic Lamplighter 17th. He sold for \$2,000 to Wilford Leach, of Johnston.

Reserve champion was exhibited by Henry Wood, of Ewing. He was HW North Star 1st, calving April 22, 1949, grandson of WHR Ruling Star 43d, and a Baron Blanchard. He was purchased by William Gudgel, of Johnston, for \$1,500.

The second highest selling bull was KTO Lad 3d, a grandson of Domino Lad 14th and Careys Domino 20th. Consigned by F. E. Wentworth, of Mills, he was purchased by Louis Hall, of Bassett, for \$1,525.

Benton Marshall, of Crawford, was judge of the show in the morning. The cattle were later offered for sale to a large crowd.

3 Holt Men Captured; Confess Bold Robberies



Clearwater's Night Watchman Darrell Hoffman (above) was credited with capturing the three burglars who had made a series of robberies in northeast Nebraska.—The Frontier Photo by John H. McCarville.



Part of the loot taken from the C. H. Brainard store and the Farmer's clothing and grocery store at Oakdale is shown above. This loot was found in their car after the Roberts brothers—Gene and Richard—and Dale Hines were captured while robbing the Contois Motor company at Clearwater.—The Frontier Photo by John H. McCarville.

Youthful Roberts Brothers and Dale Hines Admit Bank, Postoffice, Other Burglaries

By a Staff Writer
A trio of fledgling Holt county criminals are in custody at the Antelope county jail. They have confessed to a series of bold, amateurish robberies which included the Emmet State Bank, two postoffices, three liquor stores and a variety of other stores.

Being held and awaiting prosecution are:
GENE W. ROBERTS, 25, of O'Neill, and his brother, RICHARD DALLAS ROBERTS, 22, of O'Neill; DALE HINES, 20, of Inman.

The capture of the three burglars, who embarked on a reckless crime route only a few months ago, was a unique chapter in law enforcement annals. Their confessions, brought about by alert police work on the part of Sgt. Jack Knudsen, of the state safety patrol criminal investigation bureau, and Holt County Sheriff Leo S. Tomjack, were equally dramatic.

Trio Lighthearted After Confessions

By CAL STEWART Editor, The Frontier

NELIGH—A cold, wet rain was drenching the square, red brick Antelope county jail.

Inside a cell were three Holt county men whose ambitious and skyrocketing road to criminal fame had suddenly come to a close.

Gene W. Roberts, 25, and his kid brother, Richard D., 22, both of O'Neill, and Dale Hines, 20, of Inman, were behind those cold bars.

It was late at night—several hours after they had signed confessions and admitted robbing no less than two postoffices, one bank, three liquor stores and a variety of other establishments in northeast Nebraska.

There was lightheartedness inside that cell block. No penitence, as nearly as I could determine, they had told everything. It was all over except for the formalities of the courts.

They cracked wise and they laughed. They hummed and they got off an occasional bit of humor. But it was all an obvious attempt to buoy morale.

Things had been going rather smoothly. The job at Emmet, where they chose the Christmas holidays as the time to loot the bank and postoffice, had proved especially interesting. Lots of publicity.

The cream was used on the floor to help neutralize the tear gas because it was handy—in John Conard's store. Water, they thought, would have done just as well.

Liquor stores—three of them—were easy. Packaged liquor runs into money in a hurry. Easy to peddle, too.

Those neckties taken from an Oakdale store were pretty.

"One of those I'd like to keep," piped Hines.

"You won't need it where you're going," chirped one of the Roberts.

The elder of the Roberts—Gene—had established a good war record. He enlisted in the (Continued on page 4)

JAY C. WEFSO, 59, STUART, SUCCUMBS

Krotter Employe for 33 Years Dies Here; Funeral Not Set

Jay C. Wefso, 59, a resident of Stuart who had been employed by the Wm. Krotter company for 33 years, died at 1 a.m. Wednesday, February 28, at O'Neill hospital.

He was brought to the hospital here late Sunday.

The body is at Biglin Bros. funeral home pending completion pending funeral arrangements.

Survivors include: Widow—the former Alice Schaffer; brothers—Robert Wefso, of Rushville; William Wefso, of Atkinson, Holt county assessor; sisters—Mrs. Charles Burke, of Bassett; Mr. Francis Stuart, of Stuart; Mrs. G. Lester Anderson, of Riverside, Conn., and Mrs. J. P. Brown, of O'Neill.

Legion Will Sponsor Free Dance—

A free dance for inductees, re-servists and service men already in uniform will be sponsored Saturday, March 3, by Simonson post 93 of the American Legion. Entertainment will be held at the Legion club.

End of the trail for the Roberts brothers and Hines came about 2:15 a.m. on Saturday, February 24. Darrell Hoffman, Clearwater's night marshal, heard a foreign noise in the neighborhood of the Contois Motor company while making his rounds.

He investigated and found one of the Roberts men and Hines making their way from the workshop into the office. At the moment he first spotted them they were pulling open a door with the aid of a flashlight.

One of the party, believed by Hoffman to have been Richard Roberts, stayed in the car away from the building. There were empty firearms in the car.

Hoffman waited for the inside duo to emerge from a door and ordered them to surrender.

Without any resistance, he marched them off to the Clearwater town jail where he locked them up. Meanwhile, the third member was still awaiting his companions at the car.

Hoffman anticipated trouble there so he hurriedly aroused a Clearwater citizen, Donald Maurer, to aid him.

They approached the burglars' vehicle in another car, got out and took Richard Roberts without a struggle. He was placed in jail alongside his companions and later transferred to the Antelope county jail at Neligh.

Their vehicle was filled almost to capacity with loot that had been stolen earlier that night from the C. H. Brainard store and Farmer's clothing and grocery store at Oakdale.

Later Saturday the Holt men waived a preliminary hearing in Antelope county court and were bound over to district. A hearing is scheduled today (Thursday).

Hoffman, who is partially crippled, goes on duty at Clearwater about 11 p.m.

When Sgt. Jack Knudsen, of the state safety patrol's criminal bureau of investigation, learned that the three had been arrested he said he felt that this would "clear up a lot of things."

After the Roberts brothers and Hines had been taken to Neligh they were subjected to considerable questioning by both Antelope and Holt county authorities.

The three were insisting that the Oakdale-Clearwater project (in which they were caught) was the first.

Knudsen thought otherwise.

On Tuesday, Knudsen and Holt County Sheriff Leo Tomjack went to Neligh, took young Hines out of the cell in company with Hines's mother and father. He confessed.

Then the eldest Roberts, not knowing that Hines already had told his story, broke down and told the authorities he was ready to sign a statement.

Several statements were prepared and finally a statement was drawn that all three readily signed.

Collective time in questioning amounted to not more than 30 minutes, Tomjack said.

Their statement specifically admitted breaking and entering the following firms during the past 10 weeks:

Emmet State Bank, Emmet. Emmet postoffice, Emmet. Hadar postoffice, Hadar. Marcellus Implement Co., O'Neill.

Dankert Service Station, Chambers.

An Ainsworth liquor store. A Butte liquor store.

A Butte hardware store. A Newport liquor store.

C. H. Brainard and Farmer's stores at Oakdale.

(Continued on page 4)



WORK NIGHT... Friday, February 23, was one in a series of work nights at the Church of Christ, Sixth and Grant streets, where parishoners gather regularly to complete their new church, which was erected last fall. Most of the work has been done by members. Sanding the

pews (left-to-right) are: Mrs. Norris George, Mrs. A. C. Utterback, Mrs. Floyd Long, Mrs. Howard Manson (in dark sweater) and Mrs. Vernon Tietfort. In background is A. C. Utterback, of Clearwater, church pastor.—The Frontier Photo.

Christina Dierks, Atkinson, Dies

ATKINSON—Funeral services were held for Mrs. Christina Dierks at the Presbyterian church in Atkinson on Tuesday, February 27.

Mrs. Dierks was born on September 26, 1863, and died at her home in Atkinson Sunday, February 25. Her husband died many years ago.

Survivors include: Daughters—Anna Tooker, of San Pedro, Calif.; Tena Skidmore, of Lincoln; Margaret Clausen, of Atkinson; sons—Bill, of Scottsbluff; Henry and Clouse, both of Atkinson; 22 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Dierks had been residing with her son, Clouse.

2d Annual Soil Conservation Issue

This week marks the Frontier's second annual Soil Conservation issue. Conservation news may be found in all 3 sections.