

THE FRONTIER

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Prairie Land Talk—

O'Neill and Atkinson Discuss the Belt but Chambers Folks Have the Hay!

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

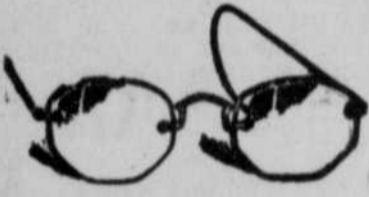
LINCOLN — The first homestead entry in America is said to have been for 160 acres in Gage county, Nebraska, the homesteader being Daniel Freeman, a soldier on the Indian lookout in the 1860's. But the idea of free homesteads was of ancient origin. Joshua established the first public land office in 1444 B.C. Twelve counties or colonies were laid out in the land now known as the Near East, a county appointed to each of the 12 Hebrew tribes. These counties or colonies were divided into what amounted to homesteads and allotted to families.

Under the U. S. homestead acts, the homesteader pays a fee when he makes claim to a homestead and another fee when he "proves up." So it is not altogether "free." Joshua exacted no filing or proving up fees. The family allotment was perpetual.

There is land now available in Alaska for homestead entry. Six months residence is required to obtain government patent to 160 acres.

Four years residence was the requirement in the sod house homestead days in Nebraska. A large section of Nebraska a half century ago was opened to a full section of 640 acres for homestead entry.

The U. S. reclamation bureau has plans for boring through the Rockies at the continental divide to bring water from the west slope to the east to wet 322,000 acres.



DR. GILDERSLEEVE, O.D.
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O'NEILL, NEBR.
Eyes Examined - Glasses Fitted

A wave of righteous indignation has swept over the patriots up at Valentine. It had been carried about on that deadly tongue of gossip that the county seat of Nebraska's largest county was also the seat of communist designs on our American heritage of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Of course, Valentine didn't get excited when 2-gun guys shot up the town, soldiers from Ft. Niobrara came in and painted the city and the free-and-easy dames walked into the saloons and swung a foot to the top of the bar, but to say they have a hornet's nest of reds is going too far. That the worthy citizens of the metropolis of that great cattle empire have turned to saintly ways will be surprising as well as gratifying to old-timers who knew the town as she once was.

While O'Neill and Atkinson debate which end of the belt is whose, Chambers folks can tell the world they have the hay.

The red earth of the Southland makes of its rivers streams of blood. The red waters gurgle beneath the bridges like a gory flood, and are anything but inviting in which to take a plunge. Eastern Nebraska has a river called the Blue. It should be Mud. The Platte and the Loup and the Elkhorn and the Niobrara flow a clean tide over the sands that seem to say, Jump in; the water's fine. But watch your step if you can't swim. One of the first things pioneer kids learned was to float upon the water and dive to the bottom, keep away from the poison ivy and beat the other fellows to tying shirts into knots.

A young man who earns a livelihood by risking his neck met with disaster participating in an airplane show in town the other day. Riding on the hood of a fast moving automobile his trick was to grasp a rope ladder let down from an airplane flying low, climb the ladder to the plane. A slip up in detail and the stunt performer was on the pavement and drawn along for a distance by the automobile. The hospital had another "traffic accident" to nurse back to his life's precarious activities as a stunt showman. As the ancient Romans got their thrill

out of the sufferings of victims in the arena, so we moderns thrill over a nitwit risking his neck in a fool performance.

Some of the fellows up at Emmet keep alive the spirit of the pioneers, who eschewed meetings and resolutions and delegations and went at the job and did it when something needed to be done. Down Lincoln way patriots have been gathering in meetings and beating the air over flood control for the past 2 or 3 years. Groups gathered at these meetings come with a collection of confused ideas of what "ought to be done" and nothing is done. There are times when streams are flooded and the water responding to the law of gravity seeks an outlet. If you are in the path of that outlet your feet will get wet if nothing worse. August 11 saw the latest flood and erosion control confab at the capital city and what will be the result in actual shovel work will be watched with interest.

Mr. Truman hopes to see "forward looking" men sent to congress from Missouri valley states. Maybe what congress needs is some backward looking fellows who see us drifting from the early moorings and have the courage and ability to head the government back to old paths.

The cattle industry continues to be the target for the tax fixers at the state house. If this industry is made to suffer from excessive tax burdens something should be done about it that will arouse the state to an understanding that will bring results. The gents making up the state board of equalization may not know a Shorthorn from a Hereford but they no doubt have a sense of fairness if all the facts are known. Nebraska cannot afford to tax one of its greatest sources of wealth to death.

The sword will not wipe out communism. Ideas are not to be crushed that way. When Christianity "turned the world upside down" pagan Rome burned its adherents at the stake and threw them to the wild beasts. When Christianity came into control and split into factions they too lighted the fires of doom for opposing ideas. The ideas lived to spread the world around. Communistic error can be overwhelmed with the clarion voice of liberty and truth, not by the bugle call to battle.

Prairie land lies serene and fresh under a blue sky, endless miles of verdure beautifying the landscape. Southern and eastern skies spread in sombre gray across the hot land. The green of earth and the blue of the heavens make for nature's picture in Nebraska unrivaled throughout the land.

The atom bomb is said to be obsolete. A biological product wipes out all living and an army may move in 12 hours later and take over, it requiring but that length of time for the new death dealing substance to oxidize and disappear.

Census takers last year reported 25,619,000 males under 19 years of age.

Lightning Strikes Alfalfa Stack, Stuart

STUART — Lightning struck and burned a stack of alfalfa hay on the Ben Kaup place just south of Stuart during the rainstorm on Sunday afternoon. The heavy rainfall prevented further damage.

Other Stuart News

Mrs. Ruby Jones and daughter, Joan, of Madrid, Ia., visited last week with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Zink. Mrs. Jones is a sister of Mrs. Zink.

Mrs. Alice Christenson and sons, of Boston, Mass., visited with Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Kruger from Wednesday, August 8, to Monday. Mrs. Christenson and Mrs. Krueger are sisters.

Mr. and Mrs. George Elwell, of Beatrice, and Mrs. Hester Timmons and son, Miles, visited over the weekend, August 11, with Mr. and Mrs. Art Runnels and Mrs. Elvira Smith. Mrs. Elwell and Mrs. Timmons are sisters of Mrs. Runnels and Mrs. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Slaymaker and family and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Keidel and Dick were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Zink.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McMullen, of Omaha and Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Engler enjoyed a trip in the Black Hills and Badlands from Monday, August 6, to Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Kettlehut and Ruth Ann, of Bennett, Mrs. Sena Johnson and daughter, Mrs. Carrie Jensen, of Palmyra, returned to their homes on Thursday, August 9. They have been visiting at the Clarence Johnson home and with other relatives and friends. Mrs. Johnson is Clarence Johnson's mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mulford, son, William, and daughter, Laura, left for Rogersville, Mo., Thursday evening where they attended the wedding of their son, Linden Mulford, to Miss Loretta Berry on Sunday, August 12.

Mrs. Blanche Mollohan, of Bellville, Ill., came on Saturday, August 11, to visit Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Coffman. Mrs. Mollohan is a sister of Mrs. Coffman.

Mrs. Sena Johnson and daughter, Mrs. Carrie Jensen, of Palmyra, called at the Berlin Mitchell home on Tuesday, August 7.

Mrs. Lena Ruther and son, Lawrence, returned to their home in Springview on Friday, August 10. They have been visiting with Mrs. Frances Roberts.

Mrs. Harvey Kettlehut, of Bennett, called at the Gilman Davis home on Tuesday, August 7.

Mrs. R. A. Coffman and Mrs. Frances Roberts spent Thursday, August 9, visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Luther Jackson in Atkinson. B. H. Coffman and son, Henry, Miss Dorothy Webb and Miss Edna Thomas, of Kansas City, visited with Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Coffman the past week. B. H. Coffman is a brother of R. A. Coffman.

Mrs. Estella Bachman is visiting with her daughter, Mrs. C. F. Gillette at Chambers.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Brainard and family, of Naper, and Miss Janice Timmerman, of Sutton, visited with Mrs. Edith Atkinson on Friday, August 10.

R. A. Coffman and Walter Gill went to Kansas City on Tuesday,

August 7.

Mrs. B. J. Jensen's sister, Margaret, returned to her home in New Orleans, La., on Thursday, August 9.

Krieter Now With Photo Unit

Attached to the navy's only aircraft carrier - type photographic squadron is V. F. Krieter, aviation machinist's mate, third class, USN, of Redbird. Krieter entered the navy May 17, 1948, and received his recruit training at the naval training center, San Diego, Calif.

The squadron, based at San Di-

ego with composite squadron 61, whose primary mission is aerial reconnaissance, is responsible for much of this work being done in the Korean area, flying from various aircraft carriers to record information of the battle areas.

Gonderinger Home Scene of Gathering

ATKINSON—A family reunion was held Sunday at the Charles Gonderinger home. It was to have been held on the lawn of the hostesses, Mrs. Mary Weber and Miss Anna Coufal.

Among those attending were: Miss Rose Coufal, of Pueblo,

Colo.; Mrs. Julia Groeger, of Stanton; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Groeger and son, of Gregory, S. D.; Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gonderinger and family, Peter and Quentin Ramold and Mr. and Mrs. Norman Gonderinger and family and Miss Kathryn McCarthy, of O'Neill.

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