

# THE FRONTIER

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Gov. Val Peterson (at "Voice of The Frontier" microphone) urged "untiring effort" by people of the Niobrara Basin to develop plan into reality. At Governor Peterson's right are A. A. Batson, of Denver, Colo., regional director of the bureau of reclamation, and James W. Rooney, secretary of the O'Neill Chamber of Commerce.—The Frontier Photo & Engraving.

## Basin Report 'Now Ready'

### Big Irrigation Plan Goes to Denver; Reelect Officers

The highlight of the 5th annual meeting of the Niobrara Basin Development association was the announcement by Clyde E. Burdick, area engineer for the bureau of reclamation, that his preliminary report has been completed and is "now ready for submission to the regional office at Denver."

In effect, this means that Burdick's 5-year project of research, surveying and compilation of data has been finished and is ready now for approval by federal and state agencies.

Burdick's recommendations include irrigation of approximately 46,000 acres in the Ainsworth unit, 66,000 acres in the O'Neill unit (extending from Atkinson to a point about 10 miles east of O'Neill), 5,750 acres near Springfield, 6,450 acres at Boiling Springs (southwest of Cody), 6,000 acres adjacent to the present Mirage Flats project, 3,150 acres at Lavaca flats (12 miles south-east of Gordon), 9,000 acres east of Butte (Ponca creek project), and 700 acres along Keya Paba creek (below Antelope creek).

The entire scheme will call for construction of dams, reservoirs and canals.

The dams will produce a vast amount of electric energy, which will leave a merchantable surplus after irrigation requirements are allowed.

A. A. Batson, a native Nebraskan who now heads the regional office of the bureau of reclamation at Denver, administering reclamation affairs in several states on the eastern side of the continental divide, traced the steps ahead to translate Burdick's plan into action in bringing irrigation to the valley.

Batson, speaking at the business session held Monday afternoon in the district courtroom here, told 75 members that Burdick's report would be in his Denver office until about January 1, 1952.

(Continued on page 8.)

### Motor Court Brings \$60,000

ATKINSON—The Ellenwood motor court, of Atkinson, which was sold last week for \$60,000, will be operated by Mr. and Mrs. Herb Stech, of Sundance, Wyo. The court, consisting of 15 units as well as a residence, has been operated by the Ellenwoods since 1938.

Mrs. Stech is the former Winifred Zink, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Zink, of Stuart.

The Ellenwoods, after a vacation in the south, will continue to operate their Aberdeen-Angus cattle business.

### Name 14 for Army Induction October 1

The Holt county selective service board Wednesday announced the names of Holt men who are to be inducted into the armed forces on October 1.

They are:  
From Stuart—Jess R. Colson, Donald C. Bernt, Thomas W. Kaup, James R. Davis, Charles L. Mulford.

From Page—Donald J. Prill, From Chambers—Leonard L. Svatos, Robert R. Sanderson, Raymond J. Walter, Earl E. David.

From Atkinson—Gary H. Kokes and Leo L. Laible.

From Ewing—Leo J. Hawk.

From O'Neill—Harlan E. Petersen.

### Union Store Will Reopen Today

R. G. Shelhamer, of Shelhamer Foods, announced Wednesday, the Union store, near the postoffice, would reopen today (Thursday).

The store has been closed for several weeks for redecoration.

### Called to Wisconsin By Father's Illness

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Ray were called Sunday to Blue River, Wis., as his father, William Ray, was very ill following a serious operation.

## STANTON MAN NEW LEGION LEADER

### Bob Swanson Elected at District II Meet in Atkinson

ATKINSON—Bob Swanson, of Stanton, Monday was elected new commander of district II, Nebraska department of the American Legion. He succeeds Stanley Huffman, of Elgin.

The annual district II meeting was well attended.

Among those on the Legion program were: Department Commander Pete Marchetti, of Omaha; National Committeeman John Curtis, of Lincoln; Huffman, and Alex Frickel, commander of Farley-Tushla post.

The district II auxiliary held sessions simultaneously at the Methodist church.

Mrs. Pehr Wagner, of Norfolk, district auxiliary president, and Mrs. George Skokan, of Niobrara, district vice-president, were unanimously reelected.

A joint Legion-auxiliary parade through the business district preceded the barbeque and evening's entertainment at the Crystal ballroom. The evening's program included a home-talent show. Mrs. B. H. Wilson, Atkinson Auxiliary president, and her committee helped arrange the program.

The auxiliary program included a memorial rite conducted by the county presidents with Mrs. K. C. Boulier, of Atkinson, as pianist; Mrs. L. F. Griffin, of Atkinson, vocal soloist, and Mrs. Charles Fowle, of Norfolk, reader.

Mrs. Florence Soost, of Bloomfield, department education of orphans chairman, reported on the awarding of 18 nurses' scholarships the past year. These are made available through the unit contributions to the little red school house fund. She expressed the regret of the department that more scholarships were not available since there were 86 applicants for the 18 which had been awarded.

At the close of her address on the "Auxiliary's Plans for the Education of the Serviceman's Child," the assemblage of district II voted to award a nurse scholarship of \$200 to a qualified applicant from district II as a project of its own for 1952.

The newly-elected department president, Mrs. Dorothy Hastings, of Grant, presented the principal address, using the convention theme, "For God and For Country."

Delegates attending the auxiliary convention from Simonson unit 93 included: Mrs. Axel Borg, unit president; Mrs. H. D. Gildersleeve, unit secretary; Mrs. Virgil Laursen, unit vice-president; Mrs. John Stuffsberger, Mrs. John Davidson, Mrs. Dean Streeter, Mrs. Fred Appleby, Mrs. Robert Cole and Mrs. Guy Cole.

Unit President Borg served as chairman of the convention resolutions committee.

Bloomfield was chosen by the Legion as the host city for the 1952 convention.

(Continued on page 8.)

### BROTHERS-IN-LAW MEET

An auto mishap on Saturday evening at the corner of 2nd and West Douglas streets involved brothers-in-law. Involved in the accident were Lawrence Murray and Don Moier, Moier's late model car received minor damages. No one was hurt.

### Soldier on Furlough Is Honored

EWING—Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schroeder and family were hosts at a family gathering at their home on Sunday, September 9, honoring their son, Pvt. Bernard Schroeder, who was home on furlough. A fried chicken dinner was served at noon.

Next day Private Schroeder left for New Jersey.

### Suffers 'Mild Case' of Paralysis

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Gilg returned Tuesday evening from Council Bluffs, Ia., where they had visited with Mr. and Mrs. Dan Gilg. Danny, small son of the Dan Gilgs, is in Mercy hospital with a mild case of polio.

There is only a slight paralysis in the right shoulder. He is "improving."

### Tours New England

EWING—Mrs. Maude Brion, of Ewing this week is touring Canada and the New England states with a group which is being sponsored by radio station WOW, Omaha. Monday she was asked in Detroit, Mich., how she liked Detroit. Mrs. Brion replied: "Oh, Detroit is all right, but I like Ewing better."



Old robes—dusted off... front row: Mrs. A. E. Bowen, Mrs. H. L. Lindberg, Mrs. H. E. Asher, Mrs. Bennett Sanders, Mrs. Earl Ralya, Mrs. J. D. Osenbaugh, Mrs. C. W. Porter, Mrs. J. L. Sherbahn and Mrs. Clarence Hansen; rear—C. W. Porter and A. E. Bowen.—The Frontier Photo & Engraving.

## Star 53 Years Sees Robes Worn Again

(Other pictures on page 9.)

Mrs. Seth Noble, who 53 years ago was initiated into the Order of the Eastern Star at Plankinton, S. D., was honored last Thursday evening by Symphony chapter 316.

The O'Neill woman, widow of a longtime lumberman here, was surprised when a special 50-year anniversary ceremony was enacted by members of Symphony chapter.

The lodge robes that were used became a member were brought at Plankinton when Mrs. Noble here for the affair and were worn by the Symphony "initiation team."

Mrs. Noble holds the distinction of belonging to the Star longer than any other member.

She was presented a white Bible and bouquet of flowers. Mrs. Nemo, of Atkinson, as pianist; Mrs. S. J. Weekes, of Omaha, also a member of Symphony chapter, was unable to be present to receive her 50-year pin.

## W. J. Stafford, 65, Scottsbluff, Dies

W. J. Stafford, 65, a prominent Scottsbluff banker, died shortly before midnight Monday night. Stafford, who had been president of the Scotts Bluff national bank since 1944, moved to Scottsbluff in 1918. He was formerly associated with a bank at Norfolk.

Survivors include his wife, the former Dorothy Tessman, of O'Neill; a daughter, Mary Jo, at home; his mother, Mrs. Mary E. Stafford; 3 brothers and a sister, who reside in Los Angeles, Calif.

## Geis 3d Alternate Admits Appointment

Weldon ("Don") Petersen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Petersen, has been named 3d alternate in Nebraska for the next entrance class at the U.S. naval academy, Annapolis, Md.

Petersen, a 1951 O'Neill high school graduate, last week enrolled at Kemper academy, Booneville, Mo.

## Attend Rites for Navy Flyer

EWING—Mr. and Mrs. Sis Ebbsgaard, of Ewing, returned on Monday, September 10, from Pittsburg, Pa., after attending funeral services for Donald Tate, who was a grand-nephew. He was killed on a routine flight from Jacksonville, Fla. He was a veteran of World War II and is survived by his widow and a 3-months-old child.

## Schedule of School Lease Sales in Holt County

Hour	Date	Description	Sec. Twp. Rg.	Lessee	Address
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 12—SW 1/4		16-30-16	Joy Greenfield, Stuart	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 12—SE 1/4		16-30-16	Vernon Heyne, Stuart	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 12—E 1/2 SW 1/4		16-29-13	Walter Welsh, Emmet	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 12—SW 1/4 SW 1/4		16-29-13	Wm. O'Connor, Emmet	
1:30 p.m.	Oct. 12—E 1/2 SW 1/4, SW 1/4 SE 1/4		36-31-12	Leo Burival, O'Neill	
1:30 p.m.	Oct. 12—NW 1/4 NE 1/4		36-31-12	John Claussen, O'Neill	
1:30 p.m.	Oct. 12—NE 1/4 NE 1/4		36-31-12	John Claussen, O'Neill	
1:30 p.m.	Oct. 12—SW 1/4, S 1/2 SE 1/4		36-25-11	Roy & Ross Rees, Ewing	
1:30 p.m.	Oct. 12—N 1/2, N 1/2 SE 1/4		36-25-11	Roy & Ross Rees, Ewing	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 13—NE 1/4 NE 1/4, SW 1/4 NE 1/4, NE 1/4 NW 1/4		18-25	Howard Daniels, Ewing	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 13—NW 1/4 NE 1/4, SE 1/4 NE 1/4		18-25	Howard Daniels, Ewing	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 13—N 1/2 SW 1/4, SW 1/4 SW 1/4		16-25	Fred Forslund, Ewing	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 13—All		16-28-12	D. C. Schaffer, O'Neill	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 15—SW 1/4		36-32-10	Edw. Carson, Redbird	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 15—NW 1/4		36-32-10	C. L. & W. L. Brady, Dorsey	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 15—All		16-29	Hester Edmiston, Middlebranch, & Lydia Backers, North Platte	
9:30 a.m.	Oct. 15—All		16 32 14	Edna Hendricks, Atkinson	
1:30 p.m.	Oct. 15—NE 1/4 SE 1/4		36-27	Nellie Connor, Ewing	
1:30 p.m.	Oct. 15—SW 1/2		36-27	Francis Tomjack, Ewing	
1:30 p.m.	Oct. 15—S 1/2 SE 1/4		36-27	Geo. Montgomery, Ewing	
1:30 p.m.	Oct. 15—NW 1/4 SE 1/4		36-27	Howard Montgomery, Ewing	

## Lessees Will Fight



Rev. Ralph Gerber... O'Neill his first pastorate. O'Neill Photo Co.; The Frontier Engraving. (Story at right)

## Pastor Accepts Lexington Call

The pastor of First Presbyterian church here since June, 1948, Rev. Ralph Gerber, has accepted a call from First Presbyterian church at Lexington and will begin his pastorate there in mid-October.

The transfer became official Monday when the Niobrara Presbyterian severed pastor-congregational relations here, effective next month.

Earlier Reverend Gerber had appeared at Lexington, the Lexington church issued a call and the joint congregations of O'Neill, Kellar and Bethany Presbyterian churches voted to release him.

Ordained in May, 1948, upon graduation from McCormick seminary, Chicago, Ill., Reverend Gerber's first pastorate was at O'Neill. Mrs. Gerber has been choir director during their stay here.

The Gerbers have 3 children: Timothy, 4; Rebecca, 2, and Kathy, 1.

Besides serving First Presbyterian church, Reverend Gerber has also been assigned to Bethany church, near Ewing, and Kellar church, near Chambers.

The Gerbers came to O'Neill from Elkhart, Ind. No successor has been named to serve the 3 Holt churches.

## Polio Strikes 2d Time in Family

Mrs. Everett Gorgen, of Ewing and Sunday was taken to a hospital where her illness was pronounced polio. She was immediately removed to the new County hospital in Omaha.

Mrs. Gorgen is a sister of Laurence Urban, who is employed at Davidsons. They have a younger brother, Harland, now 16, who had polio about 4 years ago.

"Voice of The Frontier" . . . Mon., Wed., Sat., WJAG, 9:45 a.m. 780 on your dial.

Frontier for printing!

## Holt People Are Indignant Over Sale Policy

Holt county state school land leaseholders met Wednesday at the courthouse annex and voiced loud indignation over the manner in which the state is proceeding with the sale of leases in Nebraska.

About 150 leaseholders reelected Ira C. Watson, of Inman, as president of the Holt organization; James W. Rooney, of O'Neill, secretary-treasurer; Guy F. Cole, of Emmet, director.

New directors named were Dr. H. L. Bennett, of O'Neill; Floyd Whitaker, of Chambers, and John Dick, of O'Neill.

The hat was passed and in no time at all over a thousand dollars was raised to help finance a legal battle in cooperation with other associations to restrain the state in the sales.

The fuss was started recently when the Nebraska supreme court held as unconstitutional the statute which gave the current lessee the absolute right to renew the lease at the expiration of the old term. The statute in question was amended by the 1947 Nebraska legislature.

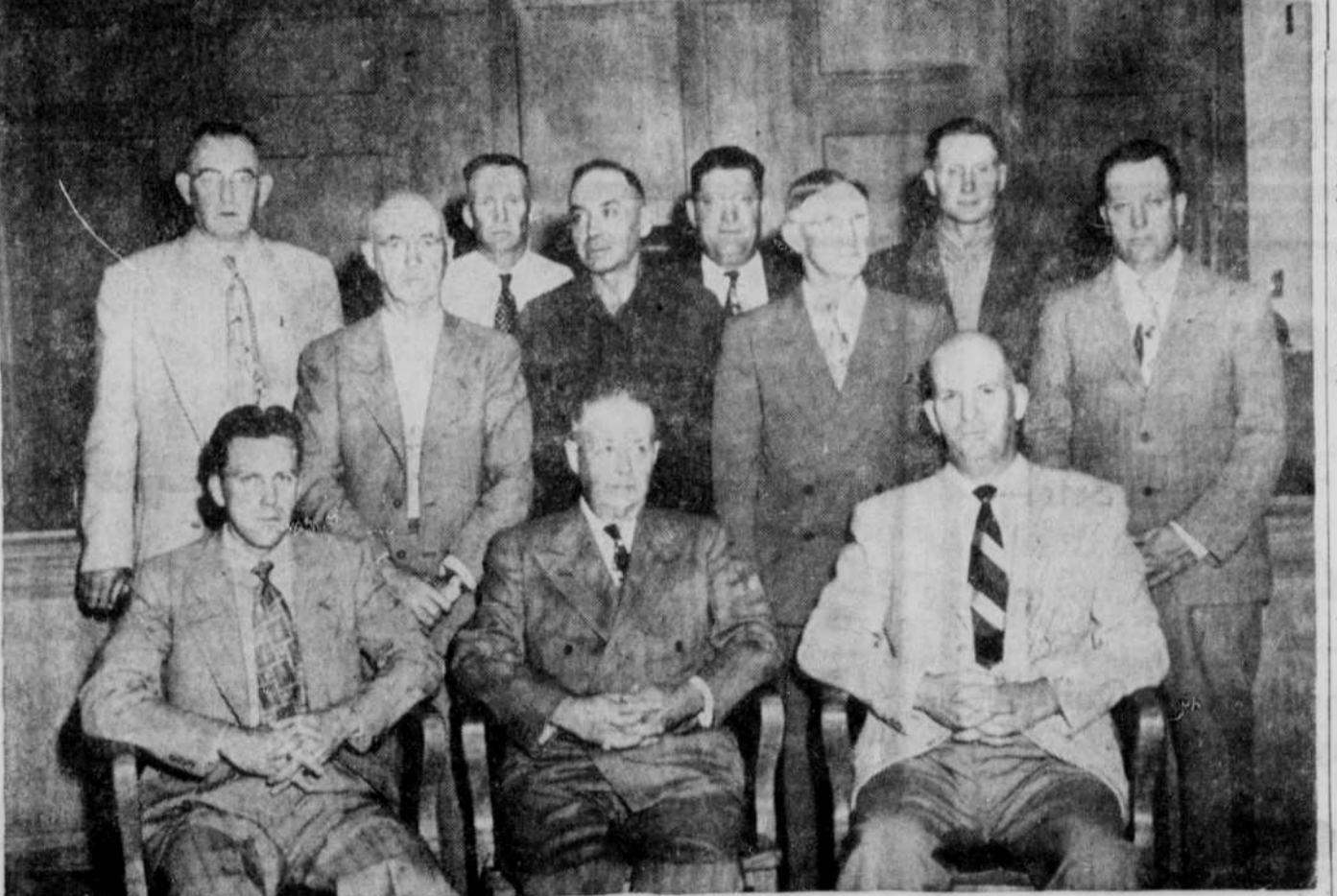
Sales of school land leases in the county are scheduled for October 12, 13 and 15 (see table elsewhere on this page and an official legal notice on page 7).

Apparently the lease sales are being scheduled all over the state immediately. Auctions already have been staged in some panhandle counties.

Wednesday's meeting primarily was of an organizational nature, but leaseholders pulled no punches in voicing their views of the state's methods.

One hundred ninety-two Holt leases renewed since 1948 will be offered for sale, as well as about 15 others that are older. The 192 are 12-year agreements.

Most lessees are disturbed because the agreements with the state are proving to be worthless. Many have told The Frontier they would offer no opposition if the leases were allowed to run their (Continued on page 4)



These officers and directors will conduct the affairs of the Niobrara Basin Development association during the new year: Seated—Vern P. Lindholm, of Ainsworth, secretary-treasurer (beginning fourth term); E. A. House, of Ainsworth, president (beginning fifth term), and Lyle P. Dierks, of Ewing, vice-president (beginning third term). Second row—John Jameson, of Bassett; John F. Dick, of O'Neill; Mr. Carlson, of Winner, S. D., and Duane Cook, of Springfield. Third row—James W. Rooney, of O'Neill; David Johnson, of Walnut; J. J. Jacot, of Verdigre, and Walter Ries, of Atkinson.—The Frontier Photo & Engraving.