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Reverend Samuel Lee and family . . . David, 14, Mrs. Lee and Jonneth Anne, 5 . . . they came to O'Neill from the northern-most settlement on the North American continent.



—The Frontier Engraving  
Eskimo women helped Reverend Lee construct the new church . . . all materials came from Seattle, several thousand miles away.

## Lees Enjoyed Life in Eskimo Colony

### Fuel Oil Freezes at 53 Below in Arctic

(By a Staff Writer)

We Nebraskans make a big ado about the weather — it's too hot or too cold.

This so-called rigorous Nebraska weather is mild stuff for Rev. Samuel Lee, Mrs. Lee and their 2 children, David, 14, and Jonneth Anne, 5.

They recently came to O'Neill from the northern-most settlement on the North American continent—from the land of the midnight sun, from a tiny village on the Arctic ocean where eerie winds blow.

Fifty-three degrees below zero was the low mark on the thermometer during the Lees' 5-year residency at Barrow, Alaska, 10 miles from the historic Point Barrow.

In summer? Well, the all-time record high temperature at Barrow is a sizzling 70 degrees but the Lees, native Nebraskans, learned to regard 40 degrees as a comfortable midsummer afternoon.

Reverend Lee is the new pastor at First Presbyterian church here and will also serve Bethany Presbyterian and Kellar Presbyterian in the rural Ewing and Chambers localities.

The Lees, frankly, fell in love with the land of the Eskimos and its native people as Christian missionary workers in an Arctic outpost. A nostalgic glow fills their faces when they recall the "gorgeous sun."

"Usually between 10:30 p.m. and 3 a.m. in summer the midnight sun wears a beautiful rosy fringe. Even the natives, accustomed to it as they are, frequently arise and take a walk on the flat beaches to admire the scene," explains Reverend Lee.

Barrow is a settlement of one thousand natives and about 30 white folks. The Point was explored by whites in 1889.

Today it is a romantic Arctic outpost where natives are slowly outgrowing their traditional hunting, trapping and fishing occupations and selling out to Uncle Sam's exploitation of the Point as a weather station, geodetic survey headquarters, navy base (the Arctic is open only a few weeks out of the year) and trading post. Even during the few years the Lees were there they saw the primitive colony give way to Uncle Sam's plans.

The story of how the Lees were beckoned to Barrow speaks the missionary spirit of the young Presbyterian minister and his wife.

Samuel Lee was born and reared at Dawson. He went to York college. There he met Byrdine Wilcox, of York, who was born at McCool Junction, near York.



The Lees in their Arctic dress . . . Reverend Lee, David, Mrs. Lee; foreground—Jonneth Anne and her doll.

Mr. Lee graduated, entered Omaha Presbyterian ministry, was ordained at Emerson, Ia., his first pastorate.

Then came a few years at Horton and Huron, Kans. Besides serving 2 churches Reverend Lee found time to do mission work with the Kickapoo Indians on their Kansas reservation. His keen interest and success with the Indians attracted the attention of the Presbyterian national board of missions.

A few weeks later the young Nebraska minister, his very helpful wife and their son, then 8-years-old, boarded a vessel at Seattle, Wash., and soon were churning northward into the realm of icebergs and whales.

Except for a few weeks in summer when the ocean is navigable the only method of getting into and out of Barrow is by air, usually from Fairbanks, which is 700 miles to the south.

Barrow is an exclusive Presbyterian mission field—exclusive by gentlemen's committee agreement among the churches. Until settlements grow and one denomination no longer can care for the spiritual needs other churches stay out.

Reverend Lee's religious program revolved around a rectangular frame church, a non-insulated building with a crude potbelied stove in the middle. The Lee home was always a focal point, too—one evening a week was open-house and following Sunday evening church service whites and natives alike would gravitate to the Lee home.

Natives, the Lees say, observe few health habits. When meat is plentiful they eat all they can. They're not entirely unfamiliar with baths, but water is scarce. They are their own worst enemies as carriers of diseases and many families have at least one case of tuberculosis. No one is isolated, regardless of disease, and the

(Continued on page 8)

## Demos, GOP Hit Lease Handling

### Resolve to Convey Issue to State Conventions

Holt county democrats and republicans are agreed on at least one item.

They both heaped condemnation on the manner in which the state of Nebraska has handled the current school land lease problem.

The demos blessed the Truman administration and the republicans skipped any serious discussion of presidential nominees.

Principal purpose of the primary conventions was to select delegates to the respective state conventions.

The republicans chose: Mrs. Guy F. Cole, of Emmet; Julius D. Cronin, of O'Neill; Frank J. Brady, of Atkinson; William W. Griffin, of O'Neill; and Earl Collins, of Atkinson.

The democrats picked: Joseph Wagman, of Atkinson; James Mullen, of O'Neill; John Sullivan, of O'Neill; John R. Gallagher, of O'Neill; and Francis D. Lee, of Atkinson.

Democratic alternates are: Jerry Lamason, of Page; R. D. Copes, of Page; James Gallagher, of Inman; Anthony O'Donnell, of O'Neill; and John Tushla, of Atkinson.

The demos leveled a blanket censure on "the entire administration of state school lands." And they urged their delegates to support the Truman administration at the state convention.

Both political groups, meeting in O'Neill Saturday afternoon, resolved that their school land attitudes should be taken to the floor of the state conventions and they resolved to press for similar action at those conventions.

The republicans went deeper into the subject of school leases. Their resolution "deplored the action of the state board of educational lands and funds during 1951 and at the outset of 1952."

The resolution declared, "If the present policy of inducing exorbitant bonuses continues, the land will not be operated according to sound conservation practices . . . the net result will be financial disaster to the lessees or a deterioration of the soil or both."

"The present method of handling leases creates enmity among neighbors . . ."

"Therefore, this convention proposes as a solution that all school lands should be sold and placed on the tax rolls."

"And, further, if this cannot be arranged, all monies derived from school land leases should be for the exclusive benefit of the counties in which the monies are collected, rather than for the state at large, because many eastern counties have long since sold all school land."

Earl Collins, of Atkinson, advised the assembly that he had been appointed chairman of the Holt county Robert Crosby for governor committee.

The republicans met at the Holt county courthouse. Chairman William W. Griffin, of O'Neill, presided and Earl Collins, of Atkinson, acted as secretary.

The democrats convened in the Knights of Columbus hall. Chairman John Sullivan, of O'Neill, presided. John R. Gallagher, of O'Neill, is secretary-treasurer.

### Polio Response Is Still Slow

Response to the 1952 Holt county polio fund-raising drive is still lagging, it was announced this week by John H. McCarville, publicity chairman for the Holt chapter, National Infantile Paralysis Foundation.

Returns have been slow in being received from outlying rural sections. But workers in the O'Neill community have reported "good" results.

A home talent show will be held at the American Legion auditorium on Friday, February 8, 7:30 p.m. Proceeds will go to the polio funds.

Anyone wishing to participate as an actor or actress is urged to contact D. H. Clauson or Mrs. Gene Sanders.

Ritchie Ashburn and his Tilden Townies will face the O'Neill Lions team in a benefit basketball game on Thursday, February 14, at the school auditorium. It will be the main event of a twin bill. The South side business men will tangle with a North side team in the preliminary.

### Hereford, Angus Sales Coming Up

Annual sales of the Holt County Hereford Breeders' association and the Holt County Angus Breeders' association, both to be held at the O'Neill Livestock Market, top The Frontier's sale calendar.

On Saturday, February 2, the Hereford breeders will offer 62 registered Herefords. Show will begin at 10 a.m.; sale at 1 p.m. The Hereford sale will include this breeding: Anxieties, Larry Dominos, Regents, Mischiefs, Dominos, Paladins, Bozatos, Stanways, Pioneers, Asters, North Stars, Royal Dukes, Silver Knights, Bacas, WHRs and T O Lintons.

James W. Rooney is sale manager.

The 6th annual sale of the Holt County Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' association will be held on Tuesday, February 5. Show will start at 9:30 a.m.; sale at 1 p.m. Bandolier breeding will predominate in the 51 bulls and 22 females.

Freeman L. Knight, secretary-treasurer, explained that the association feels very fortunate in securing Tex Spitzer, of Pleasant Plains, Ill., as judge of the show. He is with the J. Garrett Tolan farms.

The annual Angus banquet will be held the preceding evening at the American Legion auditorium. Mr. Spitzer will give a type demonstration with a live Angus on stage.

The Chamber of Commerce will present a loving cup to the grand champion breeders at both sales. Other sales:

Friday, February 8: Sale of 176-acres of Boyd county land, adjoining northwest edge of Spencer; Mrs. Hans Mathisen and John Mathisen, owners; also personal property including 10 head of cattle, 3 horses, complete line of farm machinery, household goods. Thorin-Reynoldson Auction Service, O'Neill, is handling the sale. (See advertisement on page 6.)

Saturday, February 23: North-Central Nebraska Hereford Breeders' association, Bassett, 56 registered Herefords. For catalog address Tug Phillips, secretary, Bassett.

Friday, March 7: Niobrara Valley Hereford Breeders' association, Butte, 40 registered Herefords. For catalog address: Walter G. Sire, secretary, Butte.

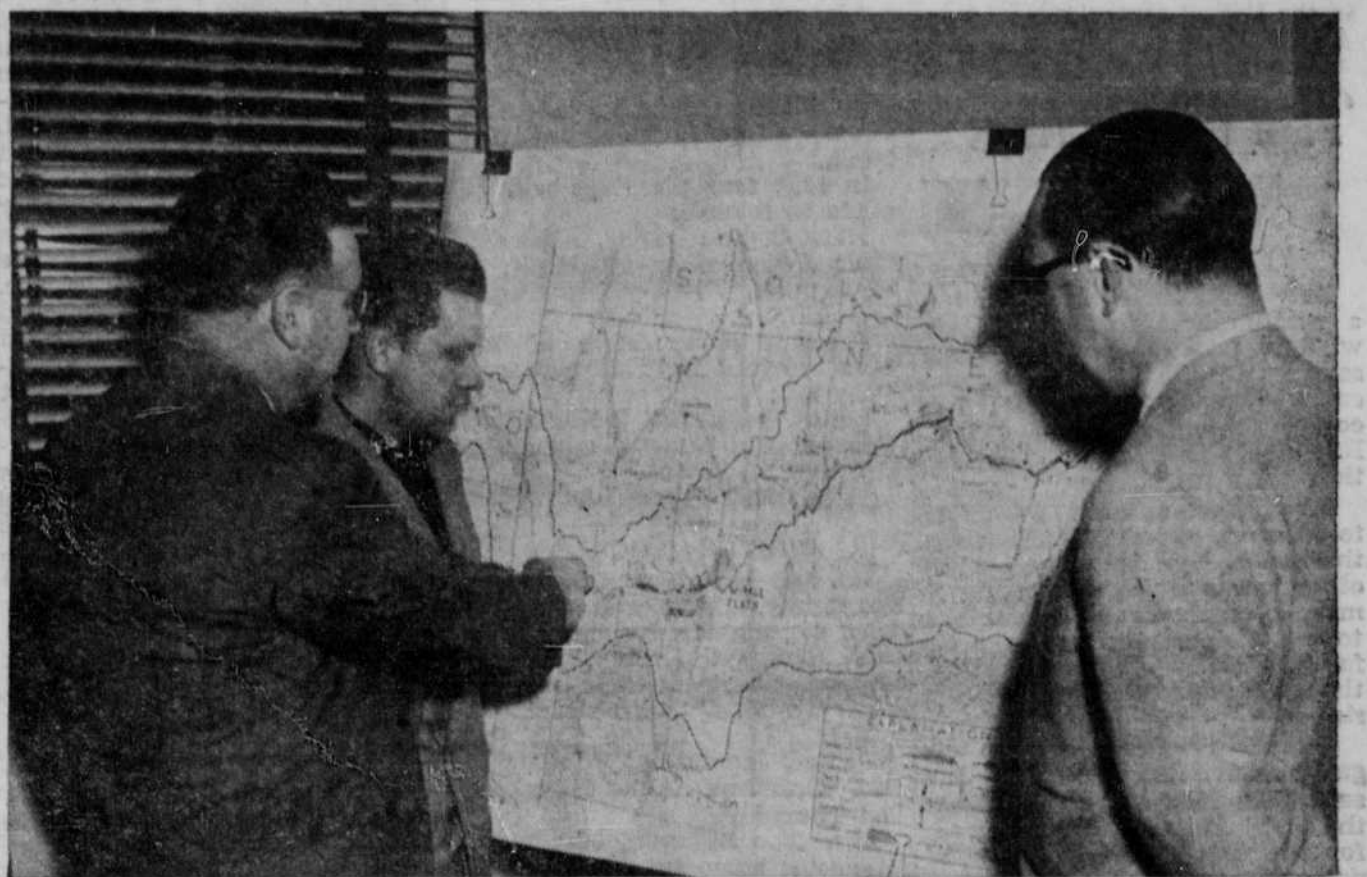
### Frank Vican, Wife Married 50 Years

LYNCH—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Vican celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at their home in Creighton Sunday, January 27.

Eight o'clock high mass was said at the Catholic church in Creighton after which open-house was held in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Vican began farming on a farm 1 mile north-east of Monowi 50 years ago and lived on that farm until last October when they moved to Creighton to live near their daughter.

They have 4 sons and 3 daughters.



—The Frontier Engraving  
Niobrara basin development plan (map) grows nearer . . . (left to right): Clyde E. Burdick, of Ainsworth, area engineer for the bureau of reclamation; Vern P. Lindholm, of Ainsworth, secretary-treasurer of the Niobrara Basin Development association, and Albert N. Williams, of Denver, Colo., author of Duell, Sloan & Pierce book published in 1951, "The Water and the Power."—Photo courtesy Ainsworth Star-Journal.

### OHS Announces 3d Honor Roll

Supt. D. E. Nelson of the O'Neill public school, this week announced the honor roll for the 3d six-weeks period:

Freshmen: Carol Leidy, all A's; Marilyn Lindberg, all A's; Bob Sanders, all A's; Ruth Young, all A's; Jeanene Backhaus; Vera Ernst; Janice Holsclaw; Alfred Meyer.

Sophomores: Evalyn Asher, all A's; Duane Booth, all A's; Fred Fetrow; Marilyn Fetrow; Janice Landreth; Etta Murray; Margie Norman.

Juniors: Margaret Alm; Lyle Fox; Doris Pierson; Edward Price; LaVonne Rieck; Marlene Waring.

Seniors: Barbara Bennett, all A's; Joellyn Backhaus; Paul Fetrow; Phyllis Harmon; Clarice Johnson; Hazel Johnson; Verle Ralya; Dale Strong.

Students who were on the honor roll all 3 six-weeks periods were:

Carol Leidy, Marilyn Lindberg, (all A's), Bob Sanders, Ruth Young, Jeanene Backhaus, Janice Holsclaw, Alfred Meyer, Evalyn Asher (all A's), Duane Booth, Fred Fetrow, Marilyn Fetrow, Margaret Alm, Marlene Waring, Barbara Bennett, (all A's), Paul Fetrow, Phyllis Harmon, Clarice Johnson and Dale Strong.

### New Air Beacon Goes into Action

A new 24-inch 500-watt aerial beacon was energized Wednesday night at Municipal airport, according to Airport Manager Gordon O. Harper.

The city of O'Neill procured the beacon from Brady where it had been in service a number of years on the Salt Lake City-Omaaha aerial route.

The beacon will be a vital navigation aid for airmen in north-central Nebraska.

### TO SCHOOL PARLEY

Supt. and Mrs. D. E. Nelson, Ira Moss and H. J. Lohaus went to North Platte on Monday where they attended a Nebraska state school board association meeting which was held for 2 days, Monday and Tuesday.

### Linda Lee Sends Warm 'Thank-You'

Little Miss Linda Lee Tolbert, daughter of Marine Cpl. and Mrs. James R. Tolbert, of Atkinson, Holt county's baby derby champion for 1952, this week sent a warm thank-you to the O'Neill business firms who cooperated with The Frontier in showering her with gifts. She was born in the Stuart hospital at 10:59 a.m., on January 4.

Her letter:

Atkinson, Nebr.  
January 21, 1952  
"To The Frontier and the generous merchants of O'Neill who sponsored the shower of gifts, I want to thank you for making my arrival such a joyous and rewarding occasion.  
"Even when I go far away from here to be with my daddy I shall not forget you and will be waiting anxiously to hail Holt county's first 1953 baby.  
"I would have written to you sooner but have been very busy keeping my mommy busy.  
"Thank you again!  
Thoughtfully yours,  
LINDA LEE TOLBERT"

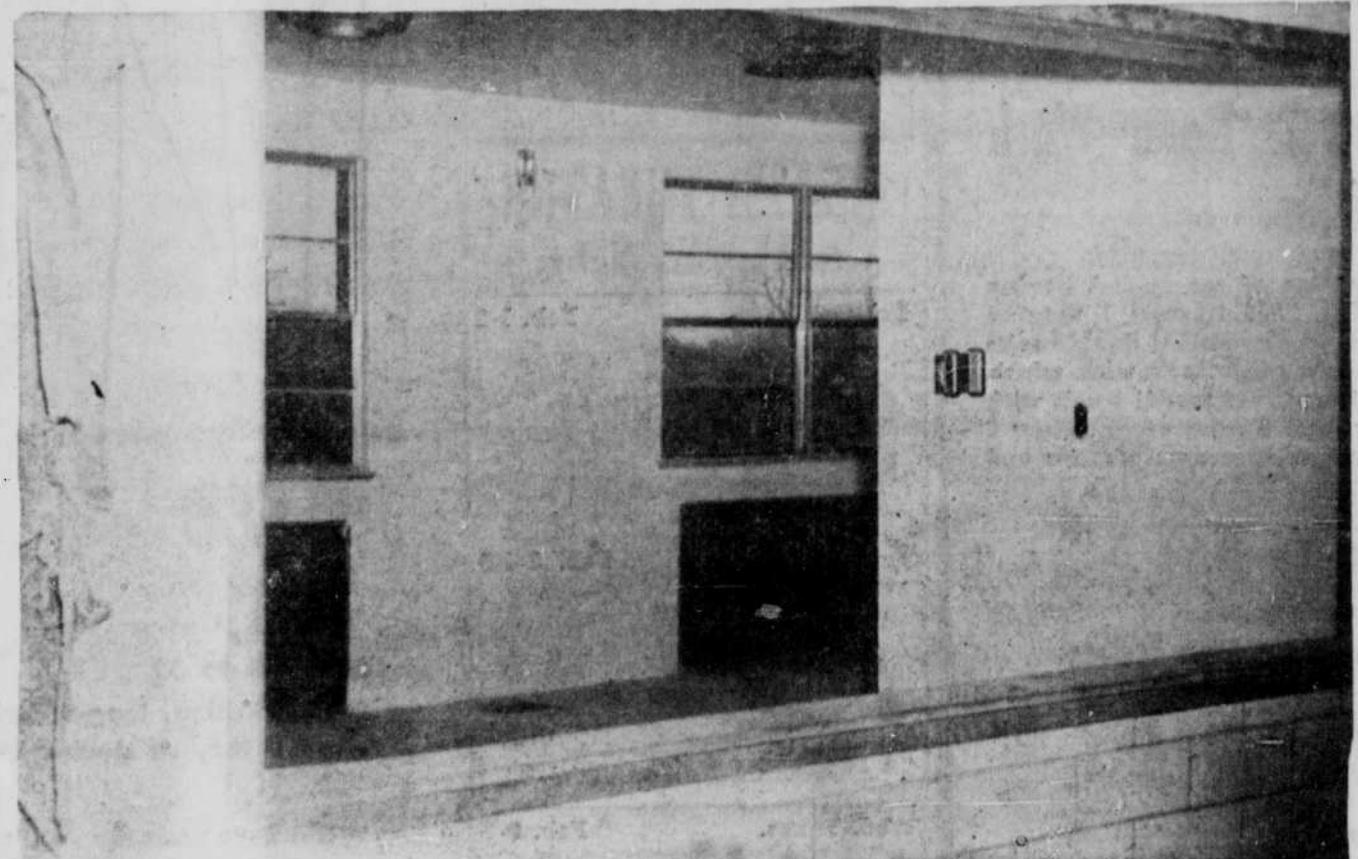
"P.S.: Would it be possible to send my subscription to my great-grandmother, Mrs. Winnie Blue, 724 East Bridgeport, Spokane, Wash.? You see, my grandparents here, Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Johnson, and many of my other relatives already take The Frontier."

Thanks, Linda Lee, for the nice letter. Of course, we'll be happy to forward your hard-earned gift subscription to your great-grandmother in Spokane.

Furthermore, Linda Lee, may we congratulate you on your excellent handwriting!

### Visits Mother—

Robert Eby, who was discharged recently from the navy, is now employed in Omaha. He visited his mother, Mrs. E. J. Eby, from Saturday until Sunday.



### ARE YOU A PROSPECTIVE FATHER?...

It'll be through this nursery window that many proud fathers will have their first glimpse of little Junior or Sally. It's a view of a portion of the nursery at the new St. Anthony's hospital here. The room at right will be the all-important formula-mixing station. The top floor nursery will be

spacious and bright. Painters are now at work decorating the interior of the half-million dollar 40-bed health center. Most of the general contracting has been completed, much of the equipment has arrived and soon St. Anthony's hospital will be in operation.

## AUTHOR URGES UNIFIED ACTION

Albert N. Williams, author of a widely-acclaimed historical narrative, "The Water and the Power," was the principal speaker at a joint meeting of the Niobrara Basin Development association and north-central Nebraska editors and publishers held Saturday night at Ainsworth.

Williams urged unified effort on the part of basin inhabitants in order to fulfill the plans of the Niobrara association.

He told how "community quarrels" had led to retarding Niobrara basin development "60 or 70 years."

Pioneers in the Mirage Flats vicinity early conceived the possibilities for irrigation. Crude homemade irrigation projects were undertaken but the plan was abandoned in the 1880's when cattlemen and farmers couldn't decide on the distribution of water and the location of their crude canals.

Congress could have been interested in advancing money to the Mirage Flats proposal at that time and was "almost ready to intercede," Williams declared. Mirage Flats could have been the birthplace of reclamation.

A generation passed, however, before reclamation came into being under President Theodore Roosevelt. An Arizona group sent a delegation to Washington outlining a plan in 1902.

The Arizonans wanted the government to advance money for development and their legal body of citizens would repay it—and did.

Williams dwells at length on this background in his book published last year by Duell, Sloan & Pierce, New York.

Despite unfavorable weather conditions a representative group of basin enthusiasts from Brown, Rock, Holt, Boyd and Sheridan counties attended the Ainsworth parley.

Holt representatives were Lyle P. Dierks, of Ewing, association vice-president; Walter Ries, of Atkinson, member of the board of directors; and Carroll W. Stewart, of O'Neill, editor-publisher of The Frontier.

Williams is director of development at the University of Denver.

Vern Lindholm, of Ainsworth, secretary-treasurer of the Niobrara River Basin Development association, announced in opening the meeting that it was the first meeting in the history of the association that had not been attended by its president, E. A. House. Mr. House at present, is confined to his home, under the doctor's care. He is gravely ill.

Clyde E. Burdick, area engineer

(Continued on page 5)

### Twice Wounded GI Returns—

Sgt. Maynard G. Morrow, of O'Neill, Saturday reached Seattle, Wash., aboard the navy transport R. L. Howze.

Sergeant Morrow was twice wounded in Korean fighting. He is coming home to greet a little daughter whom he has never seen. Mrs. Morrow is the former Virginia Bennett, of Ewing.

### WILL ENTER BUSINESS

George Janousek, son of Mrs. Lod Janousek and the late Lod Janousek, has announced plans for opening a grocery store next month in the Janousek building on North Fourth street, the former Farmers Union building now owned by the Janousek family. No date has been set for the opening.