

FUTURE SUBSCRIBERS



GERBER—Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Gerber, of Lexington, a daughter, Gail Elisabeth, born Saturday, January 26. Reverend Gerber was the former pastor of First Presbyterian church in O'Neill and moved to Lexington last fall.

DONOHUE — Mr. and Mrs. James Donohue, of O'Neill, a daughter, weighing 9 pounds 4 ounces, born Thursday, January 24, in O'Neill hospital. The Donohues have another daughter, Joan.

MULLER—Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Muller, Bristow, a daughter, born Saturday, January 19, at the Sacred Heart hospital, Lynch. The grandfather is James Muller, Sr., of Lynch, and the maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. J. Tarr, of Butte.

GATZ—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gatz, of Nicholls, a son, born Saturday, January 19, at the Sacred Heart hospital, Lynch. The grandfather is Clemens Christensen, of Monowi.

RITTEL—Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Rittel, of Butte, a son, Larry Lowell, born Saturday, January 19, at the Sacred Heart hospital, Lynch.

SHALD—Mr. and Mrs. George Shald, of Stuart, a daughter, Judy Marie, born Thursday, January 24.

STREIT—Mr. and Mrs. Albert Streit, of Portland, Ore., a daughter, Judy Jean, born Saturday, January 12, at Portland. The Streits also have another daughter, Both Mr. and Mrs. Streit are former Lynchites and graduates of the Lynch school. The grandmothers are Mrs. Hannah Streit, of Madison, and Mrs. Mary Zach, of Lynch.

MULHAIR—Mr. and Mrs. Leo Mulhair, of Lynch, a daughter, born Monday, January 21, at the Sacred Heart hospital. The couple has another daughter. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Lee Mulhair, of Lynch, and Mrs. Mary Wade, of Lynch, and the maternal great-grandmother is Mrs. Kate Fitzpatrick, of Lynch.

SICK & INJURED

O'NEILL — George Hammond, "Voice of The Frontier" announcer, was ill during the week-end. . . Mrs. John DeWitt and son, James Anthony, arrived Thursday at the M. M. Langan home. James Anthony was born in a Norfolk hospital. . . Steve Martynak and son are on the sick list. . . W. E. Gatz returned from Clarkson hospital, Omaha, on Friday, January 25. He is "improving." . . Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wells went to Herrick, S.D., Sunday to see Mrs. Wells's father, Rudolph Wetzler, who recently suffered a stroke. He had returned to his home from the Burke, S.D., hospital and is "slightly improved." . . Miss Mary Horiskey, who has been in the O'Neill hospital, is "greatly improved" and will go home soon. . . Mrs. P. B. Harty submitted to major surgery Tuesday in St. Vincent's hospital, Sioux City. She was accompanied to Sioux City Sunday by Mr. Harty and their son, Thomas.

PAGE—Chris Sorensen, who has been "quite ill" with a heart ailment, is "somewhat improved." . . The 3 small sons of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Stauffer have been "quite ill" with pneumonia, throat and ear trouble. . . Milo Landreth drove to Omaha Saturday to bring Mrs. Landreth to their home here. She had entered the Lutheran hospital there 4 weeks ago for a nerve and heart ailment. She had spent about 10 days with relatives after leaving the hospital. Her condition is "improved but she will have to return to Omaha in about a week for a medical checkup. . . George Hall, farmer living east of town, had the misfortune to get his hand caught in a feed grinder Saturday. He was brought to a

doctor at Page who dressed the wound. No bones were broken but the hand was badly torn.

AMELIA — Beth Fullerton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fullerton, submitted to tonsillectomy Friday, January 25. She was able to return to her home Sunday afternoon and is recuperating "nicely." . . Mrs. Frank Pierce returned Sunday afternoon from Valentine where she had been with her daughter, Mrs. Charles Bligh. Mrs. Bligh submitted to major surgery Tuesday, January 22, at a Valentine hospital. . . Mrs. Clyde Widman was a surgery patient at the Lutheran hospital in Norfolk Thursday, January 24. . . Juanita Ragland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Ragland, has been ill with "strep" throat. . . The "flu" bug has been doing his best to catch everybody. Those who have been ill are Mrs. A. E. Sammons, Mrs. Forest Sammons, Mrs. Lawrence Barnett, Mrs. George Fullerton, Caroline Backaus, Mrs. Link Sager and Mrs. Ed White.

EWING—Denny Anson, small son of Mr. and Mrs. Vance Anson, is convalescing at his home from a siege of measles. . . Robley Sisson III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robley Sisson, Jr., has the measles this week. . . Mr. and Mrs. William Hobbs went to Norfolk Sunday to bring home their small daughter, Jeanie, who has been a patient at Our Lady of Lourdes hospital the past week. . . Mrs. Peter Roudybush was taken to Norfolk Thursday for a medical checkup. She was able to return to her home in North Ewing. She has been at the home of her son, L. A. Hobbs.

LYNCH — Jean Fernau, of Butte, was brought to Lynch for medical care last week with a fractured nose suffered in a fall on an icy sidewalk. . . Virgil King was dismissed from the Lynch hospital Sunday where he had spent several days with a severe throat infection. . . Harry Pebble, of Butte, was released on Friday from Sacred Heart hospital. . . Mrs. Frank Fisher is "getting along fine" at the Sacred Heart hospital, Lynch. . .

CHAMBERS — Mrs. Pauline Masterson received word from her sister, Mrs. George Black (formerly Audrey Wilcox), of Los Angeles, Calif., stating Mr. Black had received an injury to his knee while at work. The injury required surgery and would keep him confined to his home for some time. . . Chet Fees, Jr., and daughter, Cheryl, and Mrs. Myrtle Fees are ill with the flu.

DELOIT—Mary Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sheets, underwent an appendectomy at a Norfolk hospital on Monday. . . Measles has invaded the homes of Albert Sehl, Marvin Fuller, Guy Taylor and Bill Sehl. Some cases are quite severe. . . Zoe Ann Huffman is ill with measles at the home of her grandmother in Elgin.

REDBIRD—Mrs. Ernie Wright received a call Wednesday, January 23, that her father is seriously ill at Boise, Ida. She left the next day by train to be near him. . . Mrs. Carroll Bjornsen and twin daughters, of Atkinson, spent the past week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Melior, while under the doctor's care at Lynch.

ROCK FALLS—Elwin Grutsch drove to Sioux City Saturday, January 19, to visit his mother, Mrs. John Grutsch, who has been in a hospital there. He stayed and John Grutsch returned to O'Neill. Mrs. Grutsch is "improving satisfactorily." . . Mr. and Mrs. John Schultz took their daughter, Gwenda, to a doctor Saturday.

STUART—Miss Jean Cobb returned Thursday, January 24, from Omaha where she had been taking treatments for her eyes at Methodist hospital.

OPPORTUNITY—The 5 children of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Zakrzewski have been having the chickenpox.

Lees Enjoyed Life In Eskimo Colony

(Continued from page 1.) germs don't seem to mind the Arctic temperatures.

A government hospital has been built at Barrow and many tubercular patients, for whom the doctors have hopes, are flown out to sanitariums. The hospital was originally operated by the Presbyterian church, but was turned over to the government in 1937.

Dog teams are the conventional mode of transportation, unless it's a short junket and you elect to go by ski or snow shoe. In the Arctic country skiing on the flat ice is an art unfamiliar to razzle-dazzle U.S. snowbunnies.

Yearly a ship, the North Star leaves Seattle with cargo labeled for Barrow, sailing June 1. It laboriously works its way through the icy waters, reaching Point Barrow about September 1. The arrival date varies. Sometimes the Arctic doesn't cooperate.

Mrs. Lee used to order larder supplies by mail on February 1 for the entire year. It was a big event when the North Star came in. The beach would be piled high with goods.

One year the North Star could penetrate no closer than Point Lay, 200 miles away. There was great apprehension for 2 weeks. The skipper finally brought her in.

Many people believe the Eskimos to be Mongols. The Lees liken them to the Navajo Indians of the Southwest. Their native tongue has many dialects that vary from settlement to settlement. Increased travel and interchanging of ideas has enabled the natives to overcome some dialect differences.

The Lees have the impression the Eskimos live only for the present, although they are gradually emerging from that philosophy. There are still many non-Christians.

In the past they've had no political ideas but this condition is changing, too. Many of the natives served in the army in the Aleutian theater during World War II and others are in the Alaskan national guard.

Reverend Lee procured a Hammond organ for the church and the natives turned out en masse to hear it at the dedicatory service. An organist from Fairbanks flew up to give a concert. A native musician who had played for many years on a crude reed organ is now the organist for the mission.

"He has a fine touch and did very well for us," Reverend Lee says.

The young minister who did his pioneering between 1946 and 1951, was not on the scene long until he envisioned a new church for his growing flock. He became architect, designer, master carpenter, electrician, financial adviser and mason. Unfortunately the new church was not completed before the Lees left Barrow last February.

All materials were bought in Seattle—mail order style. Last year the North Star disgorged 302 tons consigned to "Rev. Samuel Lee." This cargo included materials, food stuffs, mission supplies, fuel and personal goods.

"Frankly, we were fairly good Montgomery & Ward customers," Mrs. Lee laughingly remarked.

Lots of food was consumed at the Lee household. No wonder. In one month Mrs. Lee was hostess to 459 guests.

"Natives would call and I always managed to give them something to eat. They'd come at meal time and often well in advance of meal time. In that event they'd linger until it was time to eat and we liked it that way."

The navy fleet (a miniature one) arrived once each summer and the Lees would have the boys in one day a week during their stay. They liked homecooked food, phonograph records and books.

Contrary to modern school textbooks, the Eskimos do not live in igloos. They erect ice barriers to protect themselves from the icy blasts but even the oldtimers do not recall igloos. Most construction is frame. Most all wood has been shipped in since the white man first appeared. The Eskimos are masters in improvising insulation.

Hunting fox and polar bear is the chief occupation. Down the coast whaling and fishing predominate. The fur trade is the white man's idea.

Only contact with the outside world is by wireless—navy and amateur.

The Lees listened to U.S. radio stations at night but during the daytime (daylight in the U.S.) no standard band broadcasts are audible at Barrow on common radio sets.

When the Arctic is frozen over as it is most of the year, the natives play back-and-forth by dog-sled with Eskimos on the Russian peninsula. This takes place far to the south and west of the Barrow peninsula.

Mrs. Lee sometimes looks back on the Alaskan experience as a long dream. Especially when she goes to the phone and orders fuel oil and a little later the man and a fuel truck appear. Or when she opens the faucet and hot water rushes down the drain.

Things were different a few months back. Reverend Lee had to chop ice for water. David would carry it in. Together they would uncover a buried oil barrel, hoist it and their dwelling would keep warm. Except, of course, when it was colder than 50 below zero. It seems that even fuel oil freezes at that point!

And the Lees were living in luxury compared to the Eskimos! Jonneth Anne was born in the Barrow hospital. But "Jonny," as they affectionately call her, decided early in life that she and the Arctic country could not agree. She developed an allergy to

animal dandruff. And that was an unkind situation in the land of dog teams, parkas and furlined boots.

Ultimately the Lees had to decide between their work and little Jonneth Anne's health. Successors were found for the work at the mission and the Lees departed from the land of the midnight sun.

Today they are nicely settled in the Presbyterian manse, David is in the 9th grade at O'Neill high school, and Jonneth Anne is a picture of health.

In their living room hangs a large photograph of a fine old Eskimo gentleman—the oldest

resident at Barrow. He's a man with a kindly wrinkled face.

They also have a photograph of an aged Eskimo lady, who brought along her granddaughter as an interpreter to say goodbye when the Lees were leaving Barrow.

The old lady cried and cried. She had become attached to them and they loved her. "I'll never see you again," she wept.

Another gave Jonneth an ivory heirloom that had been in the family for years.

Still another, an elderly man, brought a handwoven basket made from whaleskin. With it

came a painstaking handwritten message. The writer wasn't certain the right words were used to convey his feeling and he apologized if he hadn't.

"I want to thank you for your spiritual help and Christian fellowshipship."

Donald Murphy arrived home Monday evening from the marine base at San Diego, Calif. He was accompanied by his wife and his sister, Mary Joan, who have been staying in Sioux City. Donald will leave Friday for further schooling in North Carolina. Mrs. Murphy will accompany him. They plan to go by auto.

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