

CHAMBERS NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. George Jorgensen and daughters, Kathy and Judy and Jens Jorgensen and son, Larry, all of Carroll came on Saturday and visited until Sunday night in the Ruben Peltzer and A. A. Walter homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Thorin visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson at Page on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Walter attended services at the Lutheran church in Atkinson Sunday and were afternoon guests in the Bob Martens home. They were accompanied by Mrs. Louise Crandall who visited relatives in Atkinson.

Rev. and Mrs. C. D. Ankey and children were called to Cleveland, O., Friday, November 7, by the illness of her mother, Mrs. Keith Sexton is substitute teaching for Mrs. Ankey.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Wink and family drove to Neligh Sunday to help her father, L. A. Houston, celebrate his 80th birthday anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Shavlik and daughter, Pamela, drove to Ewing Sunday where they attended church services and then went to the Wilbur Napier home where they were dinner guests.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ritterbush and Mr. and Mrs. John Ritterbush were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ritterbush.

Mrs. Lyman Covey and mother, Mrs. Hertel and Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hertel left Thursday for Illinois to visit Mr. and Mrs. Omar Bratton and family and Mrs. Leon Hertel's daughter, Leo-

ta. Mrs. Bratton is a sister of Mrs. Covey and Leon Hertel.

Mrs. Eldon Brotherton and son of Eugene, Ore., and Mrs. Matt Kinne of Napa, Calif., came recently to attend the funeral services of Mrs. Katie Jacobson. Mr. Brotherton has been visiting his daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Taylor for the past two weeks.

John Adams of Austin, Tex., is spending a few days with his mother, Mrs. Sarah Adams and other relatives.

A group of extension club members and friends attended achievement day in O'Neill last Thursday. The Better Ways club of Chambers won first on their safety booth.

Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Croty of Amarillo, Tex., were Saturday guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Hubbard, Mr. Croty assisted his grandfather, Isaac Baldwin for several years in operating a merchandise store in Chambers about 45 years ago, where the Joe Daas store is now located. They are also visiting relatives at Inman.

Banns Announced — LYNCH—Banns of marriage were announced the second time in the Assumption BVM church, here Sunday, November 9 in behalf of Charles Faye Courtney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Courtney, st., of Lynch and Gertrude Fay Hull of Niobrara.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Osborne, Wayne and Norman of Parker, Kans., were Saturday dinner guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Gaskill and family.

Price's Soil Speech Winner

Edward Price, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Price of O'Neill, recently was declared winner in a soil conservation speech meet held here. Members of FFA and 4-H groups from Atkinson and O'Neill competed. Subject: "The Job Ahead in My Soil Conservation District." The winner is an O'Neill high school senior. Text of his speech follows:

By EDWARD PRICE

The soil conservation district is a means farmers and ranchers have available to help maintain and improve our great land. Now, before we see what it does, let us look at the district organization.

In order to form a district a group of farmers or ranchers petitions the state committee.

If the state committee finds that many local people favor a district a referendum is held. If this is approved by the people, the district is established.

The soil conservation districts are governed by local citizens. These citizens are called supervisors who receive no compensation for their time.

The powers of the district are very limited. It does not have the power of eminent domain, can not levy taxes or force farmers to accept the conservation practices proposed.

Now that we have seen how the soil conservation district operates, let us see what it has accomplished in Holt county.

The Holt district was formed in April, 1944. There are 1,483,351 acres in the district. This acreage is divided into 2,300 farms and ranches.

At the beginning, the district served more or less as a clearing house for trees and grass seed. In 1946 the supervisors borrowed one thousand dollars to buy trees and seed for reselling to cooperators, thus making it possible to get a larger selection of seed and trees. Also, tree planting equipment was obtained and the district hired personnel to operate the machines.

Now let us see what has been done. Today, these practices have been accomplished: Contour farming 2,537 acres, crop residue management, 25,421 acres, strip-cropping 11,018 acres, range improvement 23,701 acres, seeding of range 4,800 acres, tree planting 1,317 acres, 95 farm and ranch ponds, 36 miles of terraces, 99 miles of field windbreak, 123 acres of water ways, 900 acres seeded to rotation hay and pasture and over 2,100 acres seeded to hay and meadow.

These plans were completed on about one-fifth of the district. By this, you can tell what remains to be done.

The district needs publicity to familiarize the people with the services which they may use. It is imperative that the fact of soil erosion be brought before the people of the district. We have come to the point where there is no more virgin land in our country so we must adopt and use conservation methods.

Our land in the past centuries has suffered abuse at the hands of the people. Our land has had to support vast armies in two wars and it has had to help foreign people as well.

If we are to keep up the pres-

ent rate of production and even increase it, we must practice conservation, not only the stopping of erosion but also stopping the abuse of the elements in the soil.

The most productive part of our soil is the topsoil. Good topsoil and water are the main things that make land productive.

When the land was first broken the average depth of topsoil was nine inches. Now the average depth is approximately five to seven inches. Nearly half of the topsoil is gone because of improper land management. The next 15 years will decide whether or not we have any topsoil left.

Here in Holt county we have good soil and adequate rainfall but if we keep up some of our present practices in a few years the land will have lost much of its productivity.

The soil conservation district has technical advisors and supervisors who will come and help you decide what would be the best for the land.

If a farmer were to go out and try to make a terrace, chances are he probably would not get the best results. If he were to get a surveyor and a technical advisor to help him decide and help him build a terrace, it probably would be successful.

These advisors are not restricted to terracing alone. They will make soil conservation survey maps which will aid in planning your farm so that each acre can be used for the production of the crop for which it is best suited.

Another of the services performed is the planting of trees. In early times windbreaks were planted more for protection around the home sites than anything, but now we know that trees, if properly used with other contour measures can help to prevent soil blowing and loss of crops.

Trees aid in conserving moisture on the fields, although the roots take moisture from the fields the beneficial effects usually outweigh the detrimental.

In the Holt district 90 miles of field windbreak and 1,317 acres of trees have been planted.

One of the problems today in the farming business is adequate feed. If we allow the pastures to be overgrazed or let the cattle out to pasture too early in the spring or leave them too late in the fall we risk killing the better grasses. Even in pastures that have had good care there are many undesirable grasses.

The conservation district will help the farmer choose the grasses best suited to his land and they rent grass seeders to enable the farmer to improve his pastures.

The pasture is not the only grass bearing land that needs to be improved. Many of the meadows have suffered and undesirable grasses have come in. Here, too, the soil conservation district gives help.

Thus far we have been mostly concerned with hay, pasture and trees but these are only part of the problems of conservation.

Every time a new field is broken we introduce new conservation problems, but there is always a way to combat these problems. Here are a few of the approved conservation practices and how they work.

Stripfarming is probably one of the most widely used and most flexible of conservation methods. By the stripfarming method there are no large exposed areas that the wind can reach. Most strips are 10 rods or less in width. This places vegetation close enough together that the wind is not able to carry away much valuable top soil.

When using stripfarming in areas where the land is rolling or hilly it should be done on the contour to prevent unnecessary erosion by runoff.

When sloping, rolling or hilly land is encountered while farming we almost have to use contour farming. If we did not, much of the soil would probably wash away.

We must plow, plant, cultivate and harvest sloping fields on the level, that is, farm on the contour around hillsides with curving furrows to fit the lay of the land, instead of straight furrows up and down hill.

By doing this we not only stop erosion by water but we also conserve water.

If the land is extremely hilly

terracing should be used if the land is to be farmed. Since water conservation and soil conservation are inseparably combined a terrace can be used to an advantage.

Terraces, where applicable, are but one of the many elastic combinations of control measures that may be used in a field.

If we use terraces and on some hilly and sloping land the runoff water often eats hungrily into the land. Here again we come to an acute problem of erosion. These waterways will rapidly become gullies if they are not promptly controlled. Controlling the runoff water starts on the contour or the terrace but the runoff water can become an erosion hazard too. By planting grass in the water way we can go a long way toward stopping this erosion.

Farm ponds sometimes are the best use for a certain piece of land. This piece of land may be at the mouth of a gully or a very low spot. Usually ponds

are put in places where it is either impossible or impractical to farm the land. These ponds provide water for livestock and they may provide fishing and other recreation. Ponds can be made the center of a wildlife refuge. Too often we fail to leave a refuge for game. If one is interested in conserving wildlife he can greatly aid it by planting shrubs, grasses and trees on small patches of eroded land and around farm ponds. Useful wildlife on your farm helps pollinate clovers and fruit trees and it affords excellent recreation.

By leaving crop residues and soil improvement crops on the ground instead of plowing them under or burning them, cuts down on erosion and evaporation. This practice is quite beneficial in areas where there are few trees to stop wind erosion.

We have now reviewed some of the ways to stop erosion but there are two important things left.

When the soil is misused, when improper crops or poor rotations are used, we rob the soil of much of its productivity. Quite often we fail to realize how bad-

ly our soil is depleted. The way we can offset this is by having our soil tested. The district encourages the farmers to take soil samples and send them to the University of Nebraska to have them analyzed. This will tell us what the soil lacks. By following conservation practices and getting the correct fertilizers we can save the soil.

The soil conservation has a wealth of knowledge for us to use for the betterment of our land. We have only to take advantage of this knowledge.

Last but not least is bringing the conservation problems before the people and the fact that there is an organization ready to assist them. The newspapers cooperate by publishing articles but this is not enough. By practicing conservation methods ourselves we spread the idea. If people knew there was an organization and knew more about how it operated they would receive it with greater favor. It is to everyone's advantage to help save the soil.

We should all remember that the soil is our heritage and that it will be no better than we leave it.

African Missionary Speaks at Ewing — EWING—A large crowd gathered at the Ewing Methodist church Monday evening, November 3, where Dr. W. E. Lewis, a Methodist missionary and superintendent of the Hunda hospital, Central Congo, spoke on his experiences as a doctor and surgeon among the tribes of the Congo.

Mrs. Lewis also gave an interesting talk on her work in an orphanage in Tunda of which she has been superintendent of for several years.

Doctor and Mrs. Lewis have spent 30 years in Africa and this is their fifth trip back to the U. S. A covered dish supper was served at 6:30 p.m.

Tune In! Voice of The Frontier... Mon., Wed., Sat., 9:45 a.m. a.m., 780 kc., WJAG.

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Thurs., Fri., Sat. NOVEMBER 20 - 21 - 22

We will take your picture, give you four proofs and make up a dozen Christmas Cards from one of your choice for \$2.50. Additional dozens can be purchased for \$1.80 per dozen and other types of photos can be ordered from these negatives, also.

This offer will not be repeated this year so plan to come while we are running the special.

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PUBLIC SALE

IN ORDER TO SETTLE the estate of the late Charley Ross, the following described personal property will be offered at public auction at the Ross place, located FROM Midway (on U.S. highway 281) — 4 miles east, 2 miles north and one-fourth mile west, or FROM Redbird — 7 miles west and 2 miles south, on --

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Sale Starts at 12:30 P. M. Lunch on Grounds by Paddock Ladies Aid

- 68 - HEAD OF CATTLE - 68**
(These are High-Class Hereford Cattle)
- 30-Stock COWS
 - 6-Yearling HEIFERS
 - 29-CALVES
 - 2-Milk COWS
 - 1-Registered Hereford BULL
 - 1-Registered Brand
 - THREE HORSES — Including one Team and One Saddle Horse
 - 37-SHOATS

FARM AND HAYING MACHINERY

- IHC Model H Tractor, 1942 Model
- IHC Model H Tractor, 1939 Model
- Winch
- Underslung
- '36 Chevrolet Truck with '48 Motor
- IHC Power Mower, '51
- Trail Mower & Hitch
- Flared Wagon Box
- Trailer and Box
- John Deere Spreader
- Hayrack and Wagon
- Buzz Saw
- Vega Cream Separator
- Horsedrawn Mower
- Bradley Disc
- One-Row Cultivator
- Two-Row Cultivator for IHC H Tractor
- 2—John Deere Two-Row Go-Digs
- 3-Section Harrow
- Corn Planter
- Tuttle Hay Baler
- Gang Plow, 2 14-in. Lays
- Osborn Rake
- Wagon Stacker
- Many Shop Tools
- 1'-1" Steel Cattle Chute
- Roll Cable
- GI One-Row Corn Picker
- IHC 9-ft. Duck Foot Loader
- Superior Fanning Mill
- 2-Wheel Trailer
- Set of Tractor Chains
- Gehl Bros. 9-in. Hammer-mill
- 40-ft. Endless Belt, Rubber, 6-in.
- 2—One-Row Drills; One IHC, other Superior

CASE THRESHING MACHINE, 28-in., with Belt
John Deere 10-ft. GRAIN BINDER

Hay, Grain, Etc.

100 TONS OF HAY This lies north of Eagle creek, is easily accessible to Boyd county buyers, 2 miles east of Highway 281.

700 BU. FAR CORN This is good corn, picked by neighbors and ran better than expected.

560 BU. RYE SOME FUEL BARRELS 4 HIVES OF BEES

Property Consigned by Clarence Ross

14 Calves 4 Yearling Heifers

Saddle — Rake — Mounted 2-Row IHC Lister — .22 Rifle — 16-ga. Shotgun Rubber-Tired Trailer Wagon, Nearly New

TERMS: CASH or see Clerk before sale. No property to be removed until settled for

Estate of Charley Ross Dec.
FRANK NELSON, Executor

COL. ED THORIN, O'Neill, COL. LESTER PEARSON, Spencer Auctioneers

O'NEILL NATIONAL BANK, O'Neill Clerk