

Prairieland Talk . . .

God Save the Party Bosses

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

LINCOLN — I think Senator Lee of Dodge county was right in his proposal to kill the bill by Carpenter and others to wipe out conventions. Only I would go farther—wipe out the primary and give us the convention plan of selecting candidates.

The primary, an alleged setup for an expression by the people, is a builder of factions that in turn develops spite work and militates not for but against the success of political parties. The convention has a grassroots background, first the precinct, then the county, followed by the district and state conventions, and that the primary gives us any more capable citizens to fill offices is so much bunk.

Conventions, and I have sat in for six, scrutinize closely those proposed as candidates. That the conventions are controlled by "party bosses" is waved as a red flag by the primary promoters.



Romaine Saunders

God save the party bosses—if it were not for the citizens who take an interest in the political principals of government wholly unqualified and often dishonest men would be elected to run things, quite possible and not unknown since Nebraska went to the primary system.

As a means, too, of popular expression, it is a joke. Many precincts in the state show scarcely 10 percent of the vote cast at primary elections. It is also capable of being used by one political group to defeat another by promoting the nomination of a candidate that could not be elected at the general election.

But no doubt the primary is here to stay for this generation and sentiment is developing to extend the idea to include the selection of presidential candidates, which will provide the opportunity for each of the 48 states to put forward a man of destiny, their favorite son.

But woe worth the day that saw the passing of those political love feasts in the upper room of O'Neill's first courthouse that stood on the hill.

Closing the home at Milford for unwed mothers is a legislative worry. That the public should provide a home for girls who depart from the path of virtue is at least debatable. The trade school at the same place is not important. Trades are not acquired in schools. To learn a trade you begin at the bottom, take the kicks and knocks and bumps along the way, and if you have what it takes after five or six years you are a qualified journeyman printer, plumber, brickmason or whatever you have set out to do. The member of the legislature from over at Hartington is obsessed of the sales tax idea and comes up for the third time with his proposal. Yesterday daughter-in-law laid down \$20 for a few days' supply of groceries. She sets a table for four children and three adults. In addition to that it took \$42 for electric, gas and telephone bills. Last month it was taxes on the family home, the family car, the family beds and tables. Next it is income tax. If the sales tax meant the elimination of some other tax it might have an appeal, but it simply means another tax. I have been in several states where they have the sales tax; there it is the public headache. If members of the legislature who think up new ways to tax the public will scout up ways to eliminate some items of expense they will make a hit with Nebraska patriots.

One church group made up a cargo and sent to the needy of wartime Korea which included 300 sacks of beans, 10 drums of shortening, 395 cartons of dried eggs, 400 wooden boxes of raisins, 120 boxes of prunes, 15 cases of powdered whole milk and 157 packages of assorted food stuffs.

While the legislature has been deluged with bills proposing changes and new laws we feel Nebraskans will survive.

Editorial . . .

Let's Keep Nebraska Tech

The Nebraska unicameral legislature soon will consider a proposal authored by State Senator Syss of Omaha to close Nebraska Tech, the rightful title for a state institution better known as the Milford trade school.

The state's new governor, Robert Crosby, has recommended to the solons the permanent shutdown of the small Seward county institution and The Frontier's Romaine Saunders (in a paragraph above) takes a healthy swat at the institution, saying "it isn't important and trades aren't learned in school." Mr. Saunders adheres to the fine, traditional theory that trades are mastered by starting at the bottom and working up.

Actually, the 220-thousand-dollar needed to operate the school for two years is a relatively small item in the state's educational budget, and economy-minded officials might well take a second-look at some of the other institutions and agencies and easily account for as much savings.

Unfortunately, Nebraska Tech has not been operating to capacity and the relatively small enrollment and interest in the school makes it an easy mark for zealots seeking to cut expenditures.

We hold that 110-thousand-dollars a year, more-or-less, won't rock the great Nebraska ship and that figure is something less than a drop-in-the-bucket compared to the multimillion-dollar requirements of the University of Nebraska, college of agriculture, college of medicine, state teachers' colleges, etc., not to mention all the other state spending.

Nebraska Tech teaches masonry, carpentry, mechanics, jewelry repairing, radio repairing, shoe repairing, etc., to mention only a few of the trades.

Nebraska taxpayers spend thousands of dollars in educating a doctor or a lawyer or a commerce graduate, yet there are those who would neutralize the only school in the state (outside Omaha's own Omaha Tech) where a young man can learn a trade under modern conditions in a mechanized age.

On the merit of the trade school we disagree with Brother Saunders.

Most formal education is purely academic and Milford provides for fledgling tradesmen exactly what the college of medicine does for young medical students.

We know of an example where an O'Neill man went to Milford, learned a trade and today is a successful businessman and member of the city council. We know of an instance in Bassett where a man held a bachelor's degree from one of the state colleges, couldn't adjust himself in the profession for which he had been trained. He went to Milford, learned a trade, and now is a valuable member of his community as a tradesman.

Not all men are cut out to be of the white-collared variety nor do all young men nowadays

Facing now the sunset, life's ultimate, her careworn face reflects for a moment the glow of what her spiritual eye has seen out in the depths of eternity, and then is clouded by memory's shadow. She tells her story. As a young girl she would go behind the house that stood as the humble home of the hard pressed family there to cry as children went by on their way to school, a school not for her as she was kept at home to help do the work of the home. She had not the chance in her young life to acquire even the simple beginnings of education and so could neither read nor write. To escape the drudgery of childhood and early maidenhood she left home and was married at the age of 15. She left one life of toil to take on another, instead of the dream of endless romance came the reality of life's storms and struggles with an unsympathetic mate. Again the shadow lifts as memories of life's early struggles fade and that careworn face is lighted by spiritual visions. And so out of the despair of earlier years life's sunset is made radiant through spiritual birth.

After 13 years being bedfast, the oldest woman in Butler county is dead at 104 years of age. . . . \$8,868,000,000 of government bonds fall due this month. The treasury department, to encourage holders not to demand the cash, is said to be offering new series of bonds at a higher rate of interest. I wonder if Howard Berry down there in Swan precinct is still calling on patriots to buy government bonds. . . . Mr. Truman is still at it, referring to his congressional critics as "pin heads." The "pin heads" still function as public officials while Mr. Truman is now in the ranks of the has beens. . . . I don't know that he ever had a case in the supreme court in Washington, but it looks good to Nebraskans who know him to see Lee Rankin pictured before Chief Justice Vinson taking the oath of office as assistant attorney - general. . . . Are these dances and other functions advertised as benefit affairs just that or for the fun of it?

Judicial functionaries have a way of pronouncing sentence on a convicted felon charged with several unlawful acts, so much for each count in the indictment, these to run "concurrently"—in other words, six months in jail for each of six points on which the accused is found guilty just means six months incarceration. A break for the poor cuss so convicted.

The initial step in beating back on the political trail in Nebraska, as Bernard Boyle, national democratic committeeman put it, will begin at the Jacksonian day dinner this year in Omaha which comes up in April. The name Roosevelt is sacred with them and Franklin D. jr., will be the chief speaker. Mrs. Edwards of the national committee will be one of the speakers. . . . Whatever is to be gained by such things came to Stuart yesterday when a grassland and livestock program was given, featuring speakers from the state ag college. . . . U.S. Senator Griswold has been made chairman of the veterans' subcommittee of the senate which handles all legislation pertaining to veteran groups. . . . 96,000 U.S. citizens met their death by accident in 1952, if all were accounted for. . . . The president's "state of the union" neglected to mention that Brer Groundhog thinks there will be six weeks of it yet.

Presbyterians should feel a bit "puffed up" over the addition to their church rolls of President and Mrs. Eisenhower who became members of the National Presbyterian church in Washington at the service held Sunday, February 1. But numerically a somewhat lesser church group, the Seventh Day Adventists, had handed to them in addition to a normal growth a \$10,000,000 lumber business in the state of Oregon. Another church group down here in the capital city and identified with one of the largest in the country starts the month with a "look at marriage." Maybe this is something designed to steer young couples clear of the divorce court. Broken Bow Methodists dedicated their new \$125,000 church building February 1.

have four years to spend in college acquiring an education, not to mention the cash outlay that a college degree represents.

Someone has suggested that powerful trade unions in Omaha and Lincoln are most interested in eliminating Nebraska Tech. This sounds like a logical explanation. Milford turns out tradesmen—unfinished, of course—in 18 to 24 months. Unions require twice that much time spent as an apprentice and one still isn't a polished tradesman.

The trade school has a definite role in Nebraska life and, we think, except for lush years and frequent wars, the enrollment figures might be different. The tougher the times the more need for Milford.

We say: Keep Nebraska Tech.

President Eisenhower's recent state of the nation address has been widely and justifiably praised. It has been said that each cabinet officer had a hand in its preparation and like personally did the final draft. What we liked best was like's friendly deference to congress as a co-equal branch of government, and his bold approach to the Far Eastern problems—his decision to free Chiang's troops for attacks on the China mainland.

Apparently open season is at hand for the seasonal run of farm auctions. It's strictly a business matter for the fellow offering his personal property, usually an important milestone in the lives of members of his family. Neighbors, however, tend to make it a social event, mixing business with pleasure. And why not?

St. Anthony's 35-bed hospital has been operating less than five months and is taxed to near capacity. One wonders how many people needing hospitalization in days gone by never received it.

THE FRONTIER

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When You & Were Young. . .

Captured Robber Whisked to Pen

Mechanics in Secret Meeting

50 Years Ago
M. F. Due, disposed of his jewelry stock to F. B. Cole and son who will operate the store. . . . The saloon keepers presented a petition to the city council for a refund of the license for the last quarter of the fiscal year. Business in their line has not been good the past two or three months. A motion was made that one-half of the license be thrown off. It was defeated and the entire matter was laid on the table. . . . The mechanics of this city assembled in secret conclave and organized a mechanics union for all skilled laborers in the city. Laws were established. Nine hours shall constitute a day and members will not work longer without charging overtime. The following officers were elected: R. T. Williams, master mechanic; George W. Trigg, senior mechanic; M. F. Kirwin, draftsman; A. J. Roberts, paymaster; James Davidson, James Davis, Ray Townsend, L. D. Bender and Andrew Schmidt compose the executive board. . . . A sheet and pin dance was held at the opera house. . . . Emil Sniggs moved his blacksmith and wagon shop to his newly erected building south of the postoffice. . . . The donation by O'Neill citizens to the Finland famine fund amounts to over \$25. . . . Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Birmingham celebrated their 16th wedding anniversary.

20 Years Ago
The robber of the Chambers bank was taken to the state penitentiary 72 hours after the robbery. He was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment by Judge Dickson. . . . Word was received from Norfolk that there is a milk war there. Milk was selling at one cent per quart. . . . Frozen water pipes have caused damage in several homes. The Martin Cronin house blew up breaking windows and destroying the stove. The cause was due to the frozen pipes; also the home of Tom Hanneberry blew up and broke several windows. . . . O. F. Linberg sold his farm near Lincoln to Page and operated Lindy's oil station which he and his brother, H. L. Lindberg of O'Neill, own. . . . "Sound Your Horn" was presented at the KC opera house by local talent under the direction of Mrs. J. J. Kubitschek. The St. Mary's Cardinals defeated the public high school Eagles with a score of 18-2. The alumni game of the two schools resulted in a 13-13 tie. . . . A new low temperature has hit in the state. It was 41 degrees below zero at Verdigris.

10 Years Ago
Drs. Brown and French have purchased the residence of Arthur M. King on West Douglas street and they expect to have it fitted for an office and move there by March 1, 1943. . . . Jack Hart, who has been attending Loyola university, Chicago, Ill., returned home Tuesday to visit his parents while awaiting his call for the army. . . . Bill O'Connell returned to Washington, D. C., after visiting his parents, Dr. and Mrs. O'Connell, for the past month. . . . The public is warned to be very careful not to give any information of value as the names of ships that troops leave on and when they leave as it may be aiding the enemy. . . . The war rationing board has placed a rationing on all shoes made in

It'll make you turn Your head!



MILLER THEATRE

— Atkinson, Nebr. —

Fri.-Sat. Febr. 13-14



Sun.-Mon.-Tues. Febr. 15-16-17



Wed.-Thurs. Febr. 18-19



whole or part of leather or rubber goods. Shoes not rationed are waterproof rubber footwear and soft and hard-soled house slippers. Beginning February 9 all shoe dealers must collect stamps for each pair of shoes sold. . . . Eli Hersher owns a deck of playing cards 50 years old. . . . The O'Neill schools collected 225 books for the "Victory Book Drive". . . . Lt. Robert Biglin and Miss Patricia Kelly of San Francisco, Calif., were married February 2. . . . If mint officials have their way, a new 3-cent coin of zinc-coated steel will replace the copper pennies. The present penny contains 95 percent copper and copper is a vital material of war production. If the new coin arrangement passes, minting of it will begin the first of the month.

One Year Ago
Herbert Kaiser succeeds D. D. DeBolt as part-owner and manager of the William Krotter Co., here. . . . The O'Neill polio fund has reached the \$1,715 mark. . . . The Wesleyan Methodist missionary society met and made and rolled bandages to be sent to the foreign fields. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Zakrzewski were surprised on their 37th wedding anniversary. . . . Mrs. Belle Summers celebrated her 92nd birthday anniversary. . . . Miss Mary Lois Kelly was capped February 3 at St. Catherine's school of nursing. . . . A daughter, Pamela, was born February 10 to Mr. and Mrs. Don Petersen. . . . William Benjamin Martin, 60, died suddenly following a heart attack. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Milnar of Atkinson celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary. . . . William W. Griffin was elected president of the Fifteenth judicial district bar association; John Cassel of Ainsworth, vice-president, and Norman Gonderinger, secretary.

treasurer. . . Charles ("Casey") Jones, a Consumers Public Power district employee, was mysteriously bruised and injured between 3 and 7 a.m. on January 24. He was taken to an Omaha hospital by ambulance. . . A marriage license was granted to Bob Protty and Miss Lavonne Riley, both of O'Neill, on February 13.

Wilbur Bennett Named President—

EWING—At a recent meeting of the newly-organized chapter of the United Presbyterian Men's club, the following officers were elected: Wilbur Bennett, president; Adolph Bartak, vice-president; Wayne Shrader, second vice-president; Leo Miller, secretary; Willie Shrader, treasurer. The purpose of the men's club is to promote Christian action by a better understanding of the meaning of Christianity and by being a channel through which men may put their faith to work in the community.

Rev. W. J. Bomer is pastor of the United Presbyterian church.

Feted on Anniversary—
Casey Tomlinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Tomlinson, was honored on his third birthday anniversary, Thursday evening, February 5, by members of his family and members of the Charles Boyle family. The evening was spent playing games and a lunch was served by Mrs. Tomlinson. He received many gifts.

Dr. Fisher, Dentist
In the Bishop Block—Norfolk
Office Phone: 610
Res. Phone: 2842

It Happened In NEBRASKA...



THIS was once described as a familiar sight on the midwest prairies . . . when the railway station was "too poor to put up a post to hold the mail bag." Frequently, it was said, a member of the postmaster's family would hold up the mail bag for the approaching train to pick up. Imagine trying this stunt with today's fast streamliners!

Also streamlined is today's tavern operation in Nebraska, which has reached a new high. An educational program by the brewing industry keeps tavernmen continually aware of their responsibilities to their community.

NEBRASKA DIVISION

United States Brewers Foundation
710 First Nat'l Bank Bldg., Lincoln

Card Party at Underwood Home—

Twenty-five guests were present at a card party held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Underwood on Sunday evening. Among the out-of-town visitors present were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Van Ert of Clearwater, Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Beck, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beck of Creighton, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Perego-

way, Mr. and Mrs. Bill O'Connor of Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Gene McDermott and Pat Gallagher of O'Neill.

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Bassett, Nebraska

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SHOW AT 10 A.M. — SALE AT 1:30 P.M.

Dr. C. A. Watson, Mitchell, Nebraska, Judge

62 HEREFORD BULLS 62

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FOR CATALOG, WRITE

Tug Phillips, Sales Manager BASSETT, NEBRASKA

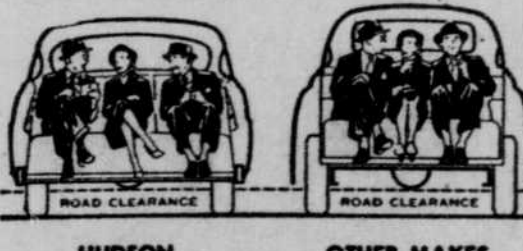
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among American cars. That's why Hudson can handle its mighty power so safely.

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