PAGE 4 .- THE FRONTIER, O'Neill, Nebr., Thurs., July 2, 1953.

Prairieland Talk . . . Not Hopelessly Depraved Villain By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

Rerired, Former Editor, The Frontier

LINCOLN - The slayer of O'Neill's highly esteemed former police officer is now behind prison walls for life two miles west of where Prairieland Talker sits or moves about the country at will.

I have never tried it, but it is clearly apparent that crime does not pay. When, after many months, the slaver was apprehended, Holt county guardians of the peace and dignity of our fair state were not long in bringing to a close another tragic chapter.

Admitting guilt as he did, the condemned man saved the county the additional expense of Romaine a long drawn out trial.

Moreover, his action indi- Saunders cates that he is not a hopelessly depraved villain.

In the May number of "In All Its Fury," publication sponsored by the January 2, 1888, Blizzard club, appeared the following story that will be of interest to many Frontier readers. The creek mentioned as "Cash" is the Cache creek of southern Holt.

"Miss Nellie M. Baker, a retired school teacher, now living at Butte, Mont., has contributed her experience in the '88 blizzard. She writes that her father and mother, John B. Baker and Elizabeth Ruby Baker, homesteaded in Holt county, 22 miles south of O'Neill on the Cash creek bottom south of the sandhills at the time of the blizzard. Miss Baker writes she well remembers the morning of January 12, '88. The clouds were low. A foggy, silent, murky air prevailed. "Her father said, 'Nellie, you had better stay

home today. The cattle seem aware of an impending storm.' They remained in the barn and would not go to the hay stacks to feed because of this intuition. The storm broke in all its fury about 9:30 a.m. It raged on. About noon father thought he should go to the barn, anxious about the stock. He could not see a thing on account of the whirling snow. Soon he arranged a line fastened to the corner of the house. It took the wire clothesline, a lariat, and some of mother's old bed sheets to make a line from house to barn. Father made several trips looking after the stock.

"At about 2 a.m., the next day, the wind stopped suddenly and all was deathly quiet, with be-low zero temperature.

"As we were eating breakfast, our neighbor, Mr. Lelly, came to the door saying he had found the frozen body of a man between the two homes. The body was taken to a sod hay shed where it was held for six weeks before someone identified the body as that of Mr. Cole, who had drifted 16 miles out of his way. There was no fence or ranch house in his path. He was buried in a wooden box in his frozen clothes in a cemetery near our ranch.

"At our school, Mr. Goff, the teacher, refused to let the children try to reach their homes. Finally a Mr. Trussel, a nearby neighbor, followed a fence to the sod school, bringing a long rope. The older children held on to it, The younger

Three friends, Lew, Andy and Prairieland Talker, occupied a bench facing the street, feet resting on the velvet carpet nature had spread, branches of a tree over our heads waving silken gowns gently to the breeze; the blazing sun in the far distant blue looking down upon the hot earth. Almost at our feet two little birds hop

about in the grass, and just beyond stretches the sidewalk, hot and bare. A strip of grass, some bushes and then the paved street where rush toand-fro the day's traffic; two buildings, stores and a cafe, with living quarters and apartments above the place of business, each flaunting their signs to let us know what they have to sell. Men, women, children come and go along the street, step into a store to appear again with bundles in their arms. And we see the picture down a side street bordered on either side with lordly trees fluttering verdant foliage in the breeze; a magnificent dog trots across the street, a barefoot boy "with cheek of tan" comes along, kids on bikes roll by, three young women approaching the state of nudity this hot afternoon stroll past on the opposite side of the sree. Time to adjourn.

Eggs four dozen for 25 cents at Susie Horiskey's store. But that was 20 years ago. Morrison would cut you a three-pound chuck roast for 40 cents. Penney's were togging out the O'Neill ladies with new spring suits for \$4.98 and you could have the news and enjoy the literary gems in The Frontier a whole year for \$1.50. That year-1933 -veterinarians were in Holt county under the instigation of the state agricultural college testing cattle for TB and John Bower, an oldtimer down in Swan precinct, punched the nose of a vet. . Grasshoppers were conniving with the elements to make it tough for farmers. . . The activity of law enforcement officers was shifted from cattle rustling to bootlegging. One exciting case uncovered by George Bay and Henry Tomlinson involved a woman at Atkinson, where a sizable quantity of firewater was found and dumped. . .

The Albion News closes shop from July 3 to 11 and it is expected the subscribers will enjoy it as much as the editor and his printers.

Oveta Culp Hubby, secretary of the recently created federal department of health, education and welfare, is the second woman to have a place in the exalted councils of the president's cabinet. The first was Miss Frances Perkins, President Franklin Roosevelt's secretary of labor. Florence Ellinwood Allen, a native of Salt Lake City, Ut., was the first American woman to attain the distinction of a judge of a state supreme court. She was elected to the supreme court of Ohio, serving from 1932 to 1934, then was appointed to the U.S. court of appeals for the Sixth circuit. Women have invaded legislative halls, state, county and city official circles. But cheer up, boys, there and city official etaoin shrdlu ETAOIN SHRDLU are still a lot of old-fashioned girls who would prefer a home with husband and little ones.

State Capitol News . . . Russell Johns

Weds lowan Hour of Destiny for Unprecedented LYNCH—Russell Johns, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Johns of Lynch, and Marilyn Ann Graden of On-awa, Ia., were married at Onawa Saturday, June 20.

Russell is a graduate of the Lynch high school. He returned home from Germany in April, after which he received his discharge from the armed service. The couple will live in Omaha where both have employment. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Johns and

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Hammon and family attended the wedding and reception at Onawa Saturday.

Other Lynch News

The Methodist Bible school will close this evening (Thursday). Shirley Kamberg of Chi-cago, Ill., and Dorothy Porter of Lima, O., have been the instruct-

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wellenstine of Ponca spent Sunday, June 21, at the Frank Weeder

Mr. and Mrs. Norris Bjornsen of California spent Friday at the Nata Bjornsen home. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wiley and

baby returned recently from a trip to Missouri where they vis-

ited their eldest daughter and her husband, also the Harold Smikel family. Mrs. Faye Pinkerman and Mr and Mrs. Ray Wilson spent last weekend visiting relatives in

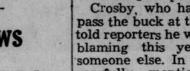
Rapid City, S.D. Ed Jones was in O'Neill Satur

day, June 21.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kalkowski visited at Paul Reel's, north of Spencer, Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Moody and their family returned home Frifigures virtually unchanged and cut them in half under the 50 perday from a week's fishing trip in Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kraft

cent law. Bristow visited friends here Sun-Or he would wear a big smile as he discussed Deuel county where officials virtually quad-rupled valuations before letting Bryce Peterson of Boise, Ida., visited friends and relatives here

the 50 percent law operate. He happily praised the "conscientious officials and citizens" as he would discuss counties which had made last week Dr. and Mrs. Donald Wyrens spent several days here visiting friends. They were enroute home to California after a two-weeks' what he called a real effort to set vacation.



carefully mentioned that the effort must be made because of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd DeLong spent the weekend visiting their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Dean DeLong at Kearney. the Supreme Court's mandate in the Johnson county farmlands case. Or he would say he had to enforce the 50 percent law even though he had asked the legislature to repeal it. But now he

said he will go ahead and do his best without passing the buck.

Procedure-Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brittell and daughter, Betty Jean, and Mrs. Lottie Thompson left Monday for the Black Hills where they will mend a water the sending notif-ications to all counties as to when they are to appear. Crosby out-lined the procedure lined the procedure, saying coun-ties will probably be called in by spend a week vacationing. Cal Geary left Monday for districts. Lyons where he will look after Each county will have 30 min-utes to explain its case. The law business interests. Mr. and Mrs. John Mattson rerequires that when a county is to be adjusted it must be notified so it can come and "show cause" why its assessments shouldn't be changed. Even though not all 93 turned Tuesday evening, June 23, from Meadowlands, Minn., where they had attended the funeral services for John's uncle. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Clark counties necessarily will be chang-ed, the state board decided it spent Wednesday evening and Thursday, June 24 and 25, visitwould be best to give everyone a ing in the home of Mr. and Mrs.

LINCOLN-The hour of destiny cent (\$206 million) of all personal in Nebraska's unprecendented tax equalization effort crept closer be off unless the local assessor this week as county and state conscientiously tried to get busi-nessmen to estimate higher this officials prepared for the annual state board of equalization meet- year.

The only bright spot is corn and Probably the liveliest sessions wheat where the higher yield in history were predicted, with last year than in 1951 should mean the board inviting all 93 counties enough increase in valuation to overcome the 50 percent cut. But to send representatives to explain what they'd done about assessgrain marks a relatively small ments this year. Gov. Robert Crosby continued day by day to explan why assess-

portion of the personal property picture, contributing only \$35 million last year. ments must be equalized this year

(the supreme court has ordered it); why it should be done (it is Conserving-Governor Crosby said he would

Tax Equalization Effort Nears

morally right); and to affirm that issue an order to state agencies which he thought would help hold he would do his best to see that it was accomplished. Crosby said he had some critdown state spending. He said he planned to ask the icism by people who said that his publicizing inequities between town and country (usually to the detriment of the towns) was bad

sociology. He said his critics said he shouldn't set farmer against on funds of the State Assistance

Then as the abstracts of as-

priates to it. Crosby said that the policy of spending 5 percent less than the budget was "prudent administic where officials took last year's priates to it.

tion" and would help the departments prepare for unexpected emergencies.

Warning-William Swanson, new director of the state real estate department, warned Nebraska citizens not to be trapped by bogus real

estate brokers representing out captain said. of state firms. He said these brok ers give a property owner a big bill of goods about how they will help him sell his house by "national advertising." They appraise his house or piece of property and then ask for a retainer's fee. That's the catch, Swanson explains. Usually the retainer's fee

is whatever the representative thinks the traffic will bear-any-where from \$100 to \$200. The "national advertising" turns out to be a 2-inch ad buried among thousands of others in cataloge. The firm usually won't even ad- 33-13

vertise in newspapers. Lecturer Here-Mrs August Strube of Scribner visited at the home of Mrs. Marie Strube for serveral days last week. She was driven to O'Neill by her daughter, Mrs. Trevor Teele of Ithaca, N. Y., who went on to Martin, S. D., to give a lecture. Mrs. Teele is the educational chairman of the Woman's

'Best We Know How'

(Reprinted from Our Saturday's McLimans Trial Extra)

Both in the columns of The Frontier and on the "Voice of The Frontier" radio programs it has been the aim of the editors to treat the Calkins slaying and McLimans trial stories with straight, objective reporting. We have intended also to present the human interest side of the news and relay to our readers and listeners all the facts as they were made available to us under varying conditions and circumstances.

In retrospect, we will look back, perhaps, on mistakes and some slight degree of misinformation or unintentional innuendo. But it has been an honest effort to report the news in the best tradition we know.

If you appreciate this service, we shall be glad to hear from you. Uppermost in our minds, naturally, is the development and growth of The Frontier and fulfilling an obligation to our public. This has been our straight-forward purpose.

-CAL STEWART Publisher, The Frontier

Dr. Fisher, Dentist

In the Bishop Block-Norfolk

Office Phone: 610 Res. Phone: 2842

Calkins Family Grateful 'It's Over'-Mrs. Chet Calkins, the chief's

Arthur L. Kaiser & wf. 6-25-53 \$10,000.00 SW¼, W½SE¼, SE¼ NW¼, SW¼NE¼- 31-26-14. WD—Martha Ballon to Millard widow, is grateful the "whole Ellenwood & wf. 4-24-53 \$250.00 thing is over.' N. 20' Lot 8, Blk. 43, Western In behalf of herself and her Town Lot Co.'s Add. to Atkinson family she wanted to thank all the peace officers who assisted in

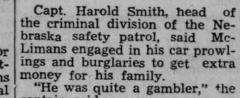
agencies to spend 5 percent less than their budgets. This "cushion" cracking the case. When the trial dea was first ordered by former was over, she said folks general-Gov. Val Peterson back in 1951. ly have been "very kind, helpiui He said it would save more than and considerate during these \$1,700,000 then. Actually, demands months."

Her oldest son, Harold, who sat near his mother in the court-Department dropped so much that considerably more than that was room, personally congratulated the investigators and asked The Frontier to include his "thanks."

With the June 30 end of the Frontier to include his "thanks." state's fiscal biennium coming Mounts pointed this out before passing sentence on Joseph Em-mett McLimans in a crowded this week, Crosby said he was anxious to check the unexpended balances of state agencies to see courtroom.

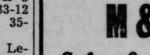
Known in Norfolk-

between Norfolk and Long Pine and between Norfolk and Winner budget was "prudent administrawere aware of him.

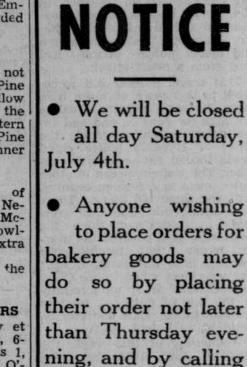


REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS WD-Dennis A. McCarthy et al to Gladys F. Cunningham, 6-20-53, \$600.00, W., 40' of Lots 1, 2, 3 in Blk. 42, Riggs Add. to O'-Neill. PATENT-U.S. to George D. Meyer, 5-4-1885, SE^{1/2}- 5-30-

WD-Emma N. Owen to Riley C Sullivan 6-8-53 \$30,560- SW 1/4 SW¹₄ 6- Twp 32- R 12- N¹₂- N¹₂ S¹₂- SE¹₄SE¹₄ 1- Lots 1-2 & 3 Sec 2-32-13 W¹₂ 31- S¹₂ 30-33-12 SE¹₄SE¹₄ 25- E¹₂- E¹₂W¹₂ 35-



WD-Riley C Sullivan to Le-ander & Urban L Menke 6-23-53 Cafe & Dal



The Calkins murderer was not

their order not later than Thursday evening, and by calling for them Friday before 8 p.m.



valuations at proper levels. Crosby, who had been wont to pass the buck at times in the past, told reporters he was through with

Inman News

blaming this year's efforts on someone else. In months past he

Sam Baker of Sioux City, Ia., spent the weekend visiting Mrs. Baker and family in the Floyd DeLong home. Larry Sawyer, who attends summer school at Wayne, spent

the weekend visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Sawyer. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brittell and

town dweller. "We can't gloss over these inequities just to keep happiness between town and country," Crosby said.

sessments started' coming in from the county boards, there was considerable interest at the

was considerable interest at the statehouse. Crosby's face showed concern as he checked over the abstracts from such counties as Garfield— whether the Peterson policy worked. Unexpended balances mean the money which a depart-ment is able to conserve from the amount the legislature appro-

ones were tied to it. Trussel leading and the teacher bringing up the rear, the whole group was guided to the neighbor's house where they were fed and put away for the night. Frantic parents arrived the next morning to find their loved ones safe and sound."

What does flexible price support mean? What makes a wildcat out of an oil well? How much is dirt cheap and what becomes of the lost cause? How much does a dingus weigh and what do you do to come clean? Why is a motion picture actress referred to as a clotheshorse, and what is there about a five-dollar bill that looks like dough? Is a gold digger a miner or a human parasite? When does racket mean a money making scheme and not a noise? How far do you fall if you take a tumble to yourself?

I don't know what became of Colonel Thompson's white horse show place in the Naper neighborhood but apparently the white horses have the scene over that way. There is still a ranch of white nags near Naper under the management and direction of Ruth E. White with the riders and performers all capable and charming cowgirls. You newspaper guys handy with the camera are missing something if you pass up Ruth White's white horse show.

"We see not our signs: there is no more any prophet: neither is there among us any that knoweth how long."-Ps. 24:9.

Editorial . . .

Quick Justice for Killer

of O'Neill Police Chief Chet Calkins and the moment the heavy iron gates of the Nebraska state penitentiary closed on the remaining years in the prisoner's natural life.

In contrast with other famous murders in these United States in which legal proceedings have been drawn out over a number of years, the McLimans prosecution was swift and thorough.

Little good can be said for a man who com-mitted so wicked and heinous a crime as to pump five shots into another man at point-blank range in a violent outburst of hatred and contempt. Certainly no law-abiding citizen can have much feeling for a gun-toter who had been indulging in a wild orgy of gambling, drinking and carousing. McLimans' police record actually dates back to a "stolen car joyride" in Omaha before World War II.

But something can be said for his desire to clear his conscience and tell all, Obviously, the mental burden and stress in connection with the murder, his intense drinking and his nocturnal maraudings ultimately were to overtake him. It was just a matter of time. However, upon the advice of his foster mother, a devout church-woman, he told all. McLimans told his foster mother it was like lifting a 50-pound weight from his chest to have released his pent up sordid

story. The Frontier believes the prosecution could have cost the county 50- or 100-thousand-dollars, even if the prosecutors were fortunate enough to have collected sufficient evidence, except that McLimans decided to be submissive about the whole thing.

The investigation, largely done in Madison county by Madison County Sheriff Joe McCarthy in cooperation with Holt county authorities, the latter having an overriding interest in the suspect in comparison with the larceny matters, was ably and properly handled, culminating in the Wed-nesday confession and Saturday trial.

McLimans has begun serving his life term Terms of Subscription: In Nebraska, \$2.50 per the second degree murder charge. year, elsewhere in the United States, Michael Green to their home in The courtroom overflowed with curious per- year; rates abroad, provided on request. All sub-Sioux City, Sunday after spendsons who wanted to see first-hand what manner scriptions are paid-in-advance. ing some time here visiting. The of man would slay in cold murder such a fine, Greens suffered loss as the re-sult of the flood in Sioux City. universally-liked police officer as Chet Calkins. | Audited (ABC) Circulation-2,200 (Mar. 31, 1953).

Something new is heard in the land: From Burma, that little British colony east of Asia, comes \$10,000 to aid our tornado victims. . . I sit by the open door. A squirrel scoots across the street and disappears from its enemies, human, animal and machine, as it climbs a tree. A harmless little creature that must forever be on the alert and fearful of the things that would destroy. Life holds its mysteries-on the one hand is a helping hand, on the other one ready to smite with the fist of wickedness. . . All that survived the once great Fourth celebrations is the noise of the firecrackers. And noise is all many have to

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call attention to themselves. "The love of money is the root of all evil."

Every day brings its record of crime that involves just that. There was the fiend who jumped to save himself as he headed the car with his wife and children to destruction over the mountain abyss to collect the insurance. Recently we read of a man in jail over at Omaha charged with beating his 30-year-old wife to death. The wife had named him as heir in her will to her fortune of a few million. He may inherit the electric chair. What was the financial stake that inspired that pitiful couple who went to their death in Sing Sing for betraying their country? Not all evil involving the "love of money" is stained with blood. The love of money has just boosted the price of crude oil 25 cents the barrel and demands 12 cents for a tomato at the store that the guy

who raised them maybe got 12 cents the dozen.

Only four days elapsed between the hour | They saw a sober and dapper little fellow in Joseph Emmett McLimans confessed the slaying | cool summer clothing stand motionless before cool summer clothing stand motionless before Judge Mounts and admit all the grievous charges in a meek voice-a sharp contrast with the wicked animal that assaulted the chief in the cruiser car that wee hour on March 7, 1952. They saw tears well from his eyes as he was escorted irom the courtroom back to his cell to contemplate a life behind the red brick walls of the penitentiary at Lincoln.

> County Attorney William W. Griffin, to whom a large measure of credit belongs for bringing to justice the insidious and intrepid little man with the big gun, said it would be unpossible to charge McLimans with anything but second degree murder.

> The Frontier believes as long as there are living relatives and friends of the late Police Chief Calkins any parole effort by Killer McLi-mans will be bitterly and rightfully opposed.

> Feeling ran high in O'Neill for days and weeks after the murder. Townspeople now are generally relieved that the slayer has been brought to justice. But that same feeling of enmity would be regenerated in an instant with the suggestion of a commutation of the sentence.



Editorial & Business Offices: 122 South Fourth St. Address correspondence: Box 330, O'Neill, Nebr. CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher Established in 1880—Published Each Thursday

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chance to talk. E. E. Clark and with other rela-tives and friends. The Clarks were Crosby said each county could spend its 30 minutes as it chose. enroute to their home in Winona,

He remarked he would prefer it if the county board would choose Minn., after visiting in San An-Miss Mary Morsbach is visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray

Conard at Clearwater. Miss Deritha Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. F. Smith. was

bridesmaid at the wedding of a friend Miss Janice Walmer, to Exception-Cort Schluesener at St. Paul's

The biggest fly in the ointment English Lutheran church at Orwas on the matter of personal chard on Sunday afternoon at 3 property.

Anderson optimistically guessed with him Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Watson there would be only a 20 percent of Rapid City, S. D. are spending fall off

a week's vacation visiting Mr. Watson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Watson, and other relatives and friends here and in O'Neill. Mrs. Eva Murten of Blair came Friday to spend a few days visiting Mrs. Anna Smith and with other relatives and friends.

ing such a high share. All were pegged considerably above the 50 Mr. and Mrs. Claude Rutledge percent level required by law of Lynch spent the weekend visit-

this year. Cattle valuations would have fallen off anyway this year because of the drop in prices. Vallations on many types of cattle were held high by the state association of county assessors.

This is pretty important when one considers that cattle com-

But the stock cattle classif-ication — which includes the' majority-was assessed at \$120 last year and only \$65 this year

sion. Mrs. Hazel Keyes and Mrs. May Watson had charge of the prise 26 percent (\$366 million last year) of all personal prop-erty (\$1,420,000 last year.) program for entertaining veteran lodge members. Refreshments were served by a committee composed of Mrs. Ada Clark, Mrs. Doris Butterfield, Mrs. Doris David and Mrs. Gertrude Youngs.

off a third. Tax officials had hoped that the influx of new WSCS met last Thursday afternoon at the Maxcy Memorial ad-dition. Mrs. Blanche Rouse, summodels and more cars would cut this loss to one-fourth. But a 10 mer chairman, had charge of the meeting. Miss Elsie Krueger had charge of the devotions. Plans were completed for the bake sale which was held Saturday after-noon at Neilsen's market. Propercent depreciation allowed them for the January 1 taxation under another new state law shut off this optimism.

ceeds from the sale were to be divided between the two sides to purchase bazaar material. Lunch was served at the close of the afternoon by Mrs. James Coven-try and Mrs. Herbert Neilsen.

Several members of the RLDS church attended evening meetings at Clearwater last week, and also attended an all day meeting at Clearwater Sunday. Those at-tending were Mr. and Mrs. David Morsbach and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Harry McGraw and Mrs. Lee

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hutton took their grandchildren. Connie and

International League for Peace and Freedom and is giving lectures in the middlewest. They returned to Scribner Wednesday.

Visit at Wayne-ATKINSON - Mr. and Mrs. Nick Schmit, Leona, Katherine, Eleanor, Richard and Mike Olinger were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Milo Mey-

Appearances by the counties are not mandatory. If they don't show up, they'll have no kicks coming whatever happens, it was explained. home of Mr. and Mrs. Milo Mey-ers at Wayne Mrs. Meyers is the former Betty Schmit. Leona plans to stay with her sister this week. Visits in Iowa—

Mrs. Fred Robertson left Monday, June 22, to visit her daugh-ter, Mrs. John C. DeHoogh. and family of Sheldon, Ia. Mr. Robertson went to Sheldon for the State Tax Commissioner Norris | weekend and she returned home

Mrs. Stanley Soukup spent Monday in Omaha visiting her But indications were that the drop might be more. This would mother, Mrs. Sarah Sparks, who shift the burden on to real estate. is now making her home with Some people say it ought to be there anyway—that automobiles, cattle, and grain shouldn't be pay-M.

> LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS Every Tuesday Hog Auction Starts at 1 P.M.

Cattle Auction Follows Consign your livestock where there are always plenty of buyers.

Motor vehicles, which comprise 21 percent of all personal property (\$298 million last year), should be YOUR CONSIGNMENTS WILL BE APPRECIATED. Atkinson Livestock MARKET Phone 5141

Atkinson, Nebraska





ing in the James Gallagher home. Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Kennedy and daughter of California came Thursday to visit Mrs. Kennedy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Stevens, and other relatives and friends. Mrs. Kennedy formerly was Lucille Stevens. Arbutus Rebekah lodge met Wednesday evening, June 24, at the IOOF hall for a regular ses-

tonio. Tex.

o'clock.

