



Knoell's good neighbors . . . foreground—Mrs. Fred Frerichs and Miss Thelma Young; background—Mrs. Everett Vandover and Mrs. Bill Pinkerman. (Story below.)—The Frontier Photo.

### Korea Vet Collapses in Carson Messhall

Sgt. Richard McNichols, a recently returned Korean war veteran, collapsed Monday, October 26, while in a Camp Carson, Colo., messhall. He was rushed to the base hospital for emergency surgery. The cause of the ailment was peptic ulcers. Members of his family rushed from O'Neill to Camp Carson. His father, Walter McNichols, returned to O'Neill Saturday while his mother, Katie, remained to be near her son.

### Scout Finance Drive Scheduled

#### Kickoff Breakfast Is Planned

A Boy Scout finance campaign in O'Neill under the chairmanship of Dr. C. M. Eason, will take place throughout the community Tuesday, November 10. This campaign is one of 84 similar campaigns being held in the state of Nebraska on November 10 and is coordinated with the following communities in the North Central and Sandhills districts, Covered Wagon council, Boy Scouts of America: Merriman, Kilgore, Valentine, Wood Lake, Ainsworth, Long Pine, Springview, Bassett, Stuart, Atkinson, Spencer, Chambers, O'Neill, Page and Ewing.

A kickoff breakfast is planned at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday—the morning the drive starts—at Slat's cafe. All drive committee heads and friends of Scouting are urged to be present.

The campaigns are held for the purpose of raising funds for operating of the Covered Wagon council, Boy Scouts of America. It is the result of such campaigns that Scouting continues to grow in membership beyond the three million mark nationally, and above 550 boys in our two districts. George Hammond of O'Neill is chairman of the North-Central Nebraska district drive. Direct aid is also a benefit of such campaigns through reorganization, new organization, recruiting of new and additional leaders, leadership training, planned district activities and camps, council programs, and a program of character building and citizenship training for youth of the community.

The local troop leaders are: Bill Moriarity, scoutmaster; Verne Grenier, assistant scoutmaster; Harold Humrich, assistant scoutmaster; Rev. W. B. Smith, committeeman; Ray Eby, committeeman; Herbert Kaiser, committeeman; John Grutsch, committeeman; Rev. R. W. Olson, committeeman; Archie Bright, committeeman; O. D. French, committeeman.

The pack leaders are: James Coker, cub master; Glen Brewster, committeeman; Claude Wiley, committeeman; Bill Kramer, committeeman; Gene Schmeical, committeeman; Mrs. W. B. Gillespie, den mother; Mrs. Leigh Reynolds, committeewoman; Mrs. Charles Richter, committeewoman; Mrs. E. W. Thompson, committeewoman; Mrs. Glenn Brewster, committeewoman.

### Schoolroom Packed with Knoell Gifts

#### Neighbors, Readers in Big Response

The tiny schoolroom in rural district 127, about 14 miles northeast of O'Neill, was well-filled with gifts Sunday as neighbors and The Frontier readers responded with a miscellaneous shower for Mr. and Mrs. Otto Knoell and their two small children. The Knoell's farm home was destroyed by fire of unknown origin on Friday, October 23. Mrs. Fred Frerichs, who knows what it is to have a home and all of her family's personal effects consumed by fire, sparked the shower move and neighborhood ladies quickly picked up the idea. The Frontier readers and "Voice of the Frontier" listeners were quick to respond, too, and the Knoells are having a tough time taking inventory. Some donors even went to O'Neill stores, purchased new merchandise and threw it into the pile. Most of the items, however, were used gifts packed in cardboard boxes. Some used furniture was included.

"We're very, very grateful," the young farm couple told The Frontier. "Please tell everyone we cannot thank them enough."

Mrs. Frerichs and her husband suffered a fire loss in Colorado while residing there about 10 years ago. Mrs. Bill Pinkerman scoured the countryside in her car to drum up shower interest in behalf of the Knoells. Other ladies helping were Mrs. James Van Every, Mrs. Everett Vandover, Mrs. Walter Young, Mrs. Bob Tomlinson, Miss Thelma Young, the teacher in district 127, and others.

Attends Convention—Joe Stutz, manager of J. M. McDonalds, left Sunday for Hastings to attend a buyers' convention for four days. Mrs. Roy Oik and children of Petersburg are visiting Mrs. Stutz and children during his absence.

Paul Shierk and Harold Benson returned late Sunday from the Black Hills where they had spent the weekend deer hunting. They were accompanied on the trip by Stanley and Lloyd Gilbert, both of Burke, S. D.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cleary and family were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dumpert. Mr. Cleary and Mrs. Dumpert are brother and sister.

CORN BURNS ATKINSON—A fire Monday at the Bob Jonas place, five miles southwest of Atkinson, destroyed about 15 bushels of corn and burned some pasture. The blaze, presumably caused by sparks from a truck being loaded with corn, was extinguished before the Atkinson rural fire department could reach the scene.

NEIGHBORS AID CHAMBERS—A group of neighbors gathered Tuesday at the Elwyn Robertson farm, west of Chambers and picked corn for him. Mr. Robertson is in St. Anthony's hospital, O'Neill, recovering from a siege of pneumonia.

"VOICE OF THE FRONTIER"  
WJAO  
Mon. Wed. Sat.  
9:45 A.M. — 780 k.c.

# THE FRONTIER

North-Central Nebraska's BIG Newspaper  
O'Neill, Nebr., Thursday, November 5, 1953.

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## Pioneer Firm Into New Hands

### R. G. Clinkscales and George Hammond Buy Biglin Brothers

Biglin Brothers, a pioneer O'Neill firm, this week passed into new hands. But the firm name will be retained.

Mrs. William J. Biglin and Mrs. Frank J. Biglin, whose husbands died in February, 1950, and July, 1953, respectively, this week announced the sale of the funeral directing and furniture establishment to R. G. Clinkscales and George Hammond.

Mr. Clinkscales was employed for a time by the late Biglin brothers after ill health had overtaken them. Mr. Hammond, a lifelong resident of O'Neill has been employed there for 3 1/2 years, and since the recent death of Frank Biglin he has been managing the firm. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Hammond.

Both are experienced funeral directors. Mr. Clinkscales recently has been located at Columbus.

The firm name will be shortened from Biglin Brothers to Biglin's. Mr. Clinkscales and Mr. Hammond say the firm policies will remain the same, there will be no staff changes, and furniture will continue to be sold.

The firm was originally founded by John McMann at the time O'Neill was started. It was first known as McMann's. In about 1885 the late O. F. Biglin identified himself with the firm, which then handled farm implements and furniture in addition to funeral directing. The establishment expanded and kept pace with the growing city. Mr. Biglin's sons, William J., and Frank J., joined their father, and after the elder Mr. Biglin's death in 1918 the firm became known as Biglin Brothers. They continued to serve an ever-expanding territory. In 1928 the present building was constructed.

In a prepared statement, the two widows said: "We find it difficult to make this announcement, because of tradition and a sense of loyalty and gratitude to this community, yet we are sure the public will find Mr. Clinkscales and Mr. Hammond a real credit to their profession and men who will be real assets to the community."

## Parked Truck Is Destroyed by Fire

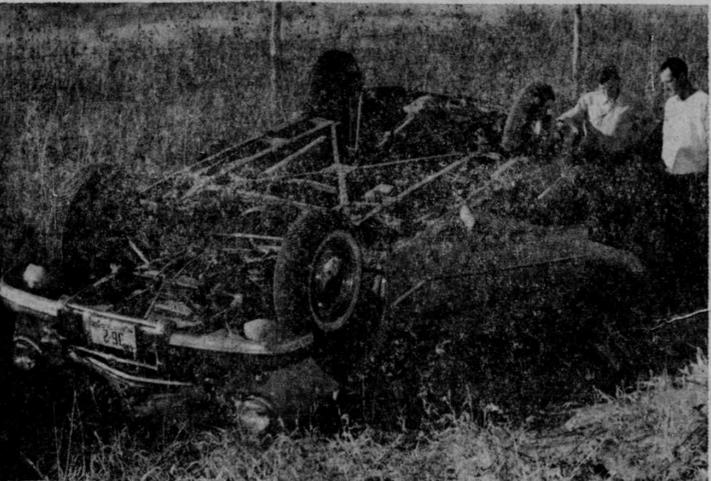
ATKINSON—Defective electrical wiring was blamed for a fire that destroyed the cab and engine of a tractor-trailer outfit Tuesday afternoon at the Atkinson Livestock Market's truck park.

The outfit belonged to Charley Petersen, Atkinson rancher. A broken gas line helped to spread the flames. Atkinson firemen were summoned. The trailer was not damaged.

Robert Koci Promoted to Sergeant—CHAMBERS—Robert Koci, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Koci of Chambers, recently was promoted to sergeant with the 45th infantry division in Korea.

The 45th Division has been in Korea since December, 1951. Sergeant Koci, a squad leader with company A of the division's 179th regiment, has been overseas since April. He holds the Korean and UN service ribbons and the combat infantryman badge. Koci entered the army last November.

Frontier for printing!



Elgin Ray (left) and Mickey Stewart study the Clauson car wreckage . . . they assisted. —The Frontier Photo.



## Prize-Winners at Kid Party

These costumes were winners in their respective divisions in Friday night's costume party of O'Neill kids sponsored by cooperating churches. Joan Wilson (left), daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Rex Wilson, won first place in the foreign land costume division, appearing as an aged Chinaman; Beverly Peterson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Peterson, was found by the judges to be the prettiest entry. A door-to-door canvass of the city in behalf of United Nations underprivileged children netted \$173.25 and a bank draft in that amount was promptly forwarded Saturday morning.—The Frontier Photo.

## Chamber to Hold Monthly Meeting

The Chamber of Commerce will meet Monday evening, November 9, at Slat's cafe. Lunch will be served. The meeting will begin between 7 and 7:30. All members are asked to make an effort to attend, President G. C. DeBacker said.

## Atkinson C of C Seeks 150 Members

ATKINSON—The Chamber of Commerce here has set a goal of 150 members for its membership campaign, which is getting underway. Wayne Galyen is Chamber president.

## Legion Plans Dutch Lunch on Armistice

A Dutch lunch, starting at 5:30 p.m., has been planned for armistice day—Wednesday, November 11—by Simonson post 93 of the American Legion. Legion officials said all Legionnaires, auxiliary members and their guests are invited. The affair will be held at the club rooms. There will be dancing, games and entertainment.

## Hoffman Improves

W. H. Hoffman, 70-year-old Spencer man who was hurt early Wednesday, October 28, when his car smashed into a rail car at Inman, is "much improved," according to his physician, Dr. W. F. Finley. Mr. Hoffman is in St. Anthony's hospital. His condition was described as "critical" for several days following the accident. Mrs. Hoffman and other members of the family have been near him.

## Wilkins Firm Begins Job

The E. T. Wilkins Co., Inc., of Lincoln, a property valuation firm under contract by Holt county, has two young women already at work in the courthouse here. They are revising personal property and real estate valuations. The women are Betty Remington of O'Neill and Rosalie Boyle of O'Neill.

## Beet Weighing 9 Pounds Displayed

An enormous beet weighing nine pounds was brought into The Frontier office Tuesday by Ivan Cone, who resides in West O'Neill.

All summer I've been watching that thing grow," declared Mr. Cone. "It was at the end of one of the rows of beets in my garden. I simply thought it was all going to rot."

"I let 'er grow until today," he said, dropping the weed vegetable on the floor with a thud. From the tip of the beet's tail to the top measures 15 inches.

## Ashcrafts Claim Lion Is Spotted

CLEARWATER—Recently what was believed to be a mountain lion was spotted in the Clearwater vicinity. It's a popular topic of conversation down Clearwater way.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Ashcraft first saw the lion, so the story goes, in their pasture, which is the former Clint Miller place.

They said they first noticed the lion's footprints around the stock tank. The imprints were plain in the damp dirt, complete with large claws.

This is the story as reported by the Clearwater Record. As Mrs. Ashcraft looked over the pasture she remarked to her husband, "Oh, look at that deer." Mr. Ashcraft explained that it was not a deer but after watching it a little said it was easy to see that it must have been a mountain lion. At a distance it almost appeared to be a fawn color, or color of a deer. They watched it for some time until they started toward it with a pickup, it did not run. However, when it did run, it ran with its head down and sort of took big leaps similar to a cat.

"Several days later Andy Anderson, who was working at the ranch, and Mrs. Ashcraft sighted the animal again. He was then south of the Ashcraft place and was traveling toward the slaughter house west of town. He was last seen going south from there."

## Passenger Hurt When Car Upsets

### Mrs. Clauson Suffers Skull Fracture

Mrs. D. H. Clauson of O'Neill was seriously injured about 1 p.m., Sunday in a one-car automobile accident near the Rov Margritz corner on a north-south county highway, about 20 miles northwest of O'Neill.

She was riding in a 1943 model car being driven by Mr. Clauson. They had attended church services Sunday morning and were enroute to spend the afternoon at Coburn's lake.

After climbing to the top of the hill and making a slight jog, their northbound car went out of control, swerved from one side of the road to the other, and careened into a ditch. The machine landed on its top headed in the opposite direction.

Mr. Clauson, who suffered only from a pulled right arm muscle, managed to remove Mrs. Clauson from the machine and place her on a car cushion. She was semiconscious and losing considerable blood.

Mr. Clauson ran across the field about three-fourths of a mile to the John Storjohann farm, where Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Stewart reside. Mrs. Stewart phoned for a doctor and ambulance while Mr. Stewart and Elgin Ray, who was visiting there, took Mrs. Clauson back to the scene.

The injured woman was rushed to St. Anthony's hospital by Biglin's ambulance. Dr. J. P. Brown said she was suffering from a fractured skull and from shock. Wednesday he said she was "much improved" but would not permit visitors for several days.

## Former Resident Dies at Scottsbluff

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday morning, November 4, from the Catholic church in Scottsbluff for Thomas Connelly, 55, a native of the O'Neill community. He died from diabetes following a lingering illness.

The late Mr. Connelly was born on a farm north of O'Neill. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. James Connelly. As a young man he left O'Neill and for a number of years worked for an oil refining firm in Scottsbluff.

Survivors include: Widow; mother—Mrs. Theresa Connelly of Beverly Hills, Calif.; brothers—John and Francis, both of California, and Medard of Scottsbluff; sisters—Mrs. Arthur Turner of Norfolk; Grace of Beverly Hills, and Theresa, also of California.

## Robert Allen Out of Marines

Marine Sgt. Robert Allen, son of Mrs. Bernard Dusatko, reached O'Neill last week after completing two years in the service. During his marine career he was stationed at San Diego and Camp Pendleton and recently has been assigned at Quantico, Va., the marine corps headquarters.

After a month's rest he will return to his post with the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance company, Omaha, from where he has been on leave of absence.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Smith and Mrs. Smith's mother, Mrs. W. A. Strong, were Thursday, October 26, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dumpert.

## Ex-POW Cites Red Discord

### Navy 'Copter Pilot Thorin Is Regaining Health After Ordeal

By a Staff Writer  
The only known repatriated American serviceman from this area pulled in last Thursday for a reunion with kinfolks and a busy four-day whirl at pheasant hunting.

Navy Chief Duane Thorin, 35, a helicopter pilot who had been held prisoner 18 months by the North Korean reds, preferred chasing pheasants to granting interviews.

Monday he left O'Neill, spoke that evening at a Rotary club gathering at Neligh, and then left for Lincoln from where he took a plane for San Diego, Calif., to rejoin his wife, Lee, and their two children.

Most of his time here was spent hunting with his brothers—Edwin of O'Neill, Clarence of Neligh and Ernest of Chambers—and visiting with their families.

Chief Thorin has regained 20 of the 33 pounds he lost while in captivity but he is still under medical care and observes a strict diet. He will report for further duty in about two weeks.

In his opinion, the communists are holding some of our prisoners back. The basis for this view was that communists held back both German and Japanese prisoners in World War II and could not be expected to act any differently this time.

During his stay in the prison, from May, 1952, up until his release in September, 1953, his diet consisted mainly of rice and potatoes and very little meat. At the start of 1953, more concern was shown by the communists for the welfare of the prisoners and the food was better, the treatment improved.

By reading between the lines of propagandist news releases, the prisoners were able to tell that the communists expected the war to end and thus were anxious to make a more favorable impression on the prisoners at the beginning of 1953.

Chief Thorin's helicopter was downed over North Korea in February, 1952, but he did not actually enter the prison camp located on the Yalu river about 60 miles upstream from the west coast of Korea until May, 1952.

He said he is not yet allowed to start what went on between February and May because of security reasons.

He had little to say about the interrogation he underwent at the hands of the communists except that it was "good and bad" and many methods were tried. Again he reported that he was not yet allowed to go into detail on the interrogations.

He said he found many Americans in his prison camp who because of environment of education were not self-reliant, and could not have existed by themselves. Some, he said, made no attempt to take care of themselves and died because of it.

In prison camp, Chief Thorin noted, it was necessary to utilize stone-age methods to make living bearable or even to exist.

Of the few Americans who have refused repatriation, Chief Thorin remarked that either they are being held against their will or they are afraid to come home, possibly because of collaboration with the enemy.

There may be other factors involved, he added. "But it is well known that there were Americans in the prison camps who were out-and-out traitors."

In his camp, he said there was little attempt at communist indoctrination. "Apparently the reds regarded us as a bunch of (Continued on page 6)

## Civic Chorus Plans First Rehearsal

The first rehearsal of the O'Neill Civic chorus will be Monday evening, October 9, at 7:30 p.m., in the music room at the O'Neill public school.

All those who like to sing are welcome to come and join, explained the director, C. B. Houser.

## BORG JOINS WORTH

Ronald Borg has purchased the interest of Darrell Graham in the Graham & Worth Phillips 66 dealership here. The firm has been redesignated Borg & Worth, this week. The other partner is Roy Worth.

## Chief Thorin . . . repatriated prefers to hunt pheasants.

—The Frontier Photo. (Story in column 8)