

Prairieland Talk

Select Few Enjoy Columbus Day

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN—Standing today in view of the entrance to a bank afforded a study of human nature. One by one they came, men and women, men with a grip on something in a rear pants pocket and with an air of dominate purpose grab the bank door latch for an impatient jerk.

Bank closed, October 12, Columbus day, a holiday in Nebraska. Holiday for bankers, city hall, courthouse and statehouse workers. Printers, store clerks, grease wipers at filling stations and everybody but a few select are on the job as usual. What did Columbus do for Nebraska? Not much, though we have a town named in his honor. But he did something at a period in world history that changed the face of things.



Romaine Saunders

In the face of opposition and ridicule by churchmen and the wise guys of his day, he set sail and headed west for India. He landed on an island was met by a few friendly Indians and thought he had arrived in the Far East but didn't know just where he had been when he got back to Spain while his shipmates said they had been to a land loaded with gold. Spanish adventurers flocked to the new world after gold. The real discoverers of North America were the sea-roving Norsemen at an earlier period.

And when the Spaniards were after gold, North Europeans came to the new world for freedom to worship God.

Tuesday, October 6, 1903, Ed Tierney and Miss Cleo Fleener were issued a marriage license by Judge Morgan. . . Joe Dennis of the Cleveland neighborhood harvested a field of oats that yielded 80 bushels to the acre. . . October 8 that year Father Cassidy celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ministry as a priest by giving the pupils at St. Mary's academy a half holiday. . . Will and Mable son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. McNichols went to Clo, Ia., on a visit to their grandparents. . . The 25th infantry from Ft. Niobrara, composed mostly of Negroes, were in town for a day and a night, which gave a colored lad employed in Maylon Price's barber shop the pleasure of associating with a lot of black-skinned fellows. . . O. O. Snyder, S. J. Weeks and Harvey Stocking went to Lincoln to attend Odd Fellows grand lodge.

The Frontier of October 14 tells of life's activities having come to an end for three Holt county pioneers. Tom Donlin, P. C. Gallagher and Clyde Johnson have answered the call of the drumbeats of eternity. Time writes its wrinkles on the brow of man and out of the shadows of night the summons comes. These three men each exceeded the allotted span of three score years and 10, each acting a part in the development of a land where now they find rest in death.

News, Views and Gossip

BY THE EDITOR

(Note: The following article written by Holmes Alexander, appearing recently in the Omaha World-Herald, aptly analyzes the irony for the beleaguered Wisconsin Sen. Joseph McCarthy. Alexander so well expresses some of our personal feelings on the subject we are pleased to reproduce his article below.—By CAL STEWART.)

Joe's Finest Hour

By HOLMES ALEXANDER WASHINGTON, D.C.—Tragedy, perhaps, is too big a word for the plight of Sen. Joe McCarthy; but two indispensable elements of tragedy are in his story—irony and pathos.

Four years ago McCarthy deliberately risked his political life and integrity on the Owen Lattimore case. He charged that Lattimore, then an unheralded professor and journalist, was a secret soviet spy. It was a sensational charge, and the freshman senator was pictured as a character-assassin, a bearer of false witness, a smear-monger, a devil incarnate.

He had the worst press of anybody since Hitler, and it wasn't long before this excitingly successful young American—an ex-judge, an ex-marine combat aviator, a United States senator at 37—was having his name coupled with the insane monster of nazism.

Looking back on those tumultuous scenes of white house denunciation, congressional uproar and journalistic blitz, I have often wondered how McCarthy kept his wits and his convictions intact. But he did and he plainly said that if he was wrong about Lattimore, he would resign from the senate. Owen Lattimore was re-indicted last week for falsely denying under oath the charges that McCarthy made against him. He is not yet indicted and may never be. But by all that's just and fair, this ought to be McCarthy's finest hour!

His finest hour! What playwright, what novelist ever concocted such irony as the Joe McCarthy story holds? He was going to resign from the senate, if he was wrong about Lattimore, but now that he appears to be right, he's in danger of being expelled from the senate.

The catching of a hidden spy—or even making a good try at it—is enough to elevate a politician to the heights of the senate, if he is generally accepted as the nemesis of Alger Hiss. Then look again at McCarthy. His war record, which was decent and admirable if not spectacular, has been dragged in the slime. His tangled finances, which are admittedly unconventional but which three United States attorneys-general have unsuccessfully combed for criminal evidence, have been used to degrade him in the public mind. His morals have been fiendishly sullied by the most respectable senators, columnists and private citizens have played a part.

In books and pamphlets, in newspapers and television shows, McCarthy has been systematically defamed. The public has been asked to believe that he never leveled a finger at a single bonafide subversive whereas, in fact, the list of fifth amendment takers before his committee runs into the dozens.

McCarthy has been in the naval hospital at Bethesda for several weeks. I don't know how he received the word of Lattimore's re-indictment. But I doubt if he or Mrs. McCarthy felt like celebrating Joe's finest hour. My outside observation is that he

doesn't want anybody to be publicly sorry for him, certainly not someone like myself who has found plenty of fault with him on minor matters, and may again. But if McCarthy isn't a lonely, pathetic and close-to-tragic figure, he'll do till one such figure comes along.

When You and I Were Young... Telegraphy, Rail Careers Are Open

Training School Is Being Setup

George L. Barney died at his home at Chambers. G. W. Smith has announced that a school in telegraphy, practical commercial telegraphy and railroad station business will open soon in O'Neill. Anyone interested is to contact him. A party consisting of J. H. McPharlin, P. J. McManus, James F. O'Donnell, Ed Purdy, J. P. Gallagher, John Biglin, George Trigg, J. S. Harrington, M. H. McCarthy, Tom Enright and S. J. Weekes, is on a week's duck hunting trip on the lakes in southwestern Holt county. Members of the fire department have organized an athletic club and have purchased and are installing in their building near the pump house a complete gymnastic outfit.

20 Years Ago Charles A. Grass died instantly of gunshot wounds when he reached for a rifle in the closet and the gun discharged as he was pulling it toward him. . . Six O'Neill students are registered at the Wayne State Teachers college. . . The government will quit buying cattle. Only two more sales will be held in Holt county. . . The American Legion plans for the armistice day celebration are nearing completion. A feature of the day will be a parade followed by a luncheon when Legionnaires will be hosts to the O'Neill businessmen. . . Miss Zelma Johnson and Andrew Kurtz were united in marriage at the Lutheran manse at Burke, S.D.

10 Years Ago Two oldtimers, Charles Richter and Oliver Hill, were honored at a birthday anniversary party given at the Richter home. . . St. Mary's six-man team earned the title of north-central Nebraska champions when they won over Butte, 33-8. Butte until then was undefeated. . . T/Sgt. Louis Zastrow is in the Miami Beach area after completing 27 months of service in the Asiatic-Pacific theater. . . The O'Neill high Eagles won over Spencer, 20-0, and defeated Ainsworth, 13-6. . . John Gordon, a Holt county resident for over 64 years, died in the Stuart hospital. . . Hugh Gilday died suddenly at his home after an illness of only a few hours.

One Year Ago W. H. Hoffman, about 70, was critically injured when the car he was driving left the road at Lincoln and smashed into a stationary rail freight car on a siding. . . Herbert J. Hammond, 66, veteran Holt county abstractor, this week rounded out 50 years occupancy of the same office which his father, the late A. J. Hammond, established in 1885. . . A fire of unknown origin reduced to ashes the once-comfortable farm dwelling on the Otto Knoell place, located 15 miles northeast of O'Neill in the Opportunity locality. Mr. Knoell was picking corn about a mile south of the house and Mrs. Knoell and the children were visiting school. The only items the Knoells have is the clothing they were wearing at the time of the fire. . . A unique evening of fun is in store for O'Neill kids Halloween eve. The cry will be "trick or treat" for the benefit of poor.

Lodge, Shirt Factory Blind School Described

The Holt county home extension club achievement day was held at the American Legion hall Thursday, October 21.

Mrs. Robert Martens of Atkinson, county council chairman, presided over the morning session. Plans were made for the coming year, for the making of the year books, and routine other business was transacted. A no-host lunch was served at noon.

Mrs. Martens was also in charge of the afternoon program. Mrs. Walter Rites of Atkinson led the audience in song with Mrs. Howard Manson at the piano. Delegates to the three-day Nebraska council of home extension clubs, who met at the Memorial Building at Nebraska City September 21-23, highlighted their experiences for those present.

Mrs. Oliver Ross, of O'Neill took the group on a word-picture tour through Arbor lodge, the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Sterling Morton and their gift to Nebraska. She also presented a step-by-step routine in the making of a shirt at a shirt factory there.

Mrs. Glen Grimes of Chambers described the luncheon and barbecue foods, the sunrise service at Arbor lodge state park, described a visit to the assembly line at the cannery.

Mrs. E. A. Bouska, of Atkinson, brought a stirring picture of the "courage perseverance and independence" of the sightless at the school for the blind at Nebraska City. She gave reasons for the high cost of maintenance. Frank Nelson, state senator for this district, presented an insight into the way a budget is set up for our use for extension club and county agent programs.

Mrs. Henry Canenberg of Bassett, delivered an entertaining review, entitled "Talent, Time and Trouble", a mixture of child tending and poetry writing. Neil Dawes offered a poem, "October". Mrs. Helen Kreymsborg of Grand Island, former Holt county home extension agent, now of Hall county, was given a welcome and was congratulated for the inauguration of the program that the clubs carried out so well.

In behalf of the extension clubs, Mrs. Martens congratulated County Agent Neil Dawes for the recognition he received at the national meeting of county extension agents held at Salt Lake City, Utah. He was one of 87 agents to receive a distinguished service award for having completed at least 10 years of service.

Both the retiring and the new members of the council, the group centers and the club presidents were recognized. Credit was given for favors shown and services rendered.

About 30 clubs competed in booth display of foreign Christmas, table

decorations, Christmas ornaments, gift suggestions, gift wrappings, cards, cakes, cookies and candy with recipes included.

Mrs. Howard Manson and Miss McNutt, home economic's teacher judged the booths. The Haydettes of Atkinson were given first place and the East Side Kountry Klub were rated third place on "Cake, Cooky and Candy." The Elkhorn Project club, of O'Neill received the second place rating for "Table Decorations."

Elderen, Valley Center and Golden Rod clubs served the afternoon tea and Mrs. Martens, assisted by the group chairman, poured.

O'Neill News

Mrs. Loretta Hynes and Miss Helen, Harry Sullivan and John Sullivan visited Sunday in Burwell at the James Carney home. Dr. and Mrs. Harry D. Gildersleeve entertained at an 8 o'clock dinner Saturday evening. The oc-

casion honored Mrs. Gildersleeve's birthday anniversary. Following dinner the evening was spent at the Gildersleeve home. Miss Kathryn McCarthy left on Friday from Grand Island for her home in Boise, Ida. Mr. and Mrs. Norman Gonderinger drove her to Grand Island.

Monuments of lasting beauty made by skilled craftsmen from the J. F. Bloom Co. . . monuments from the factory to the consumer. — Emmet Crabb, O'Neill, phone 139-J. 37H

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Gettert and family were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Gettert in Atkinson.

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RE-ELECT FRANK NELSON to the STATE LEGISLATURE from the 28th District Holt, Boyd, Rock, Keya Paha Counties • A farm owner and operator who knows your problems • A Legislator with experience • One who has worked for lower taxes • For home rule on all local problems • For better roads in all of the 28th District —aided in securing 60 miles of black top road in the district I appreciate your support in the past and hope I may merit it at the election November 2, 1954

Vote Republican! Vote for A. L. Miller Republican for Congress • Chairman Irrigation Committee • Believes taxes and spending can be cut more • Got appropriations for Sargent Irrigation Unit • Voted against foreign aid vote-aways • Voted for 13 bills to get rid of Communists • Believes in prosperity and progress without war • Has 12 years experience in Congress VOTE FOR A RECORD— NOT A PROMISE

Editorial

Nelson Versus Rohde

One of the important contests in next Tuesday's election viewed from the state-county level is the Twenty-eighth legislative district race between Frank Nelson of O'Neill, veteran state senator who is seeking reelection, and Donald Rohde, who lists Lincoln as his address, but has, in fact, spent most of the last 10 years out of the district.

The Frontier frequently has had kind things to say concerning Senator Nelson and his record in the Nebraska unicameral legislature.

Senator Nelson is a man of considerable and successful business experience. He is a farm owner and operator who understands the problems of the district he represents. During these past few years in the unicameral, he has steadfastly stood for lower taxes, home rule on all local problems; he has doggedly battled special interest legislation and has, to the very best of his ability, been a highly capable representative for the district as a whole.

His honesty and sincerity are beyond reproach. His neighbors and those who know him are anxious to testify that Mr. Nelson is a fine, honest, Christian gentleman, who fortunately for the constituents, is willing to serve in the legislature—this in view of the fact he does so at a personal financial loss.

Senator Nelson has aided in securing 60 miles of blacktop in his four-county district (Holt, Boyd, Rock and Keya Paha counties).

Senator Nelson is courageous in his legislative endeavors. No one, knowing his full story and his background on the various issues, would question his honesty and integrity in working for the best interest of the most people.

The Frontier does not have Senator Nelson's consent, permission or encouragement in the preparation of this editorial.

Mr. Rohde was out of the district to serve in military uniform during World War II (like 15 million other people) and for a time he served in Germany during the recent Korean war. He is a law student at the University of Nebraska and has been living in Lincoln, making frequent flying trips to the district to campaign. All of which is commendable.

Mr. Rohde declares he is for a broadening of the tax base and has supplied newspapers in the district with handouts explaining his position. He forthrightly has declared himself in favor of a state sales tax and a state income tax. He says he was against a sales tax and income tax in Nebraska until he began research in preparation for the current campaign. After three months of study, Mr. Rohde was convinced the state income tax and state sales tax are just the checker to better the taxation ills in Nebraska.

Mr. Rohde, by virtue of his professions during the past 10 years, has acquired little, if any, business experience and no experience in state and county government. The Frontier seriously questions how well Mr. Rohde understands the practical aspects of law making.

The Frontier prefers to leave Nebraska's tax problems as well as the other forms of legislation in the hands of a grey-haired gentleman who has had ample success in his own right, a man who understands the problems of his district and the problems of the state, and one who won't change his mind in a matter of three months over such important issues as whether or not to impose a sales tax and income tax on people of this state.

A sales tax might be an ultimate aid in equalizing the tax burden, but The Frontier would prefer to abide by the judgement of the older and wiser heads in determining when and to what extent it is to be imposed.

Your Duty As a Citizen

The editor feels it appropriate in these controversial times, to point out to readers that they have certain obligations as citizens of the most powerful country in the world, which must be met if the electorate is to be able to act intelligently. One of the first duties of every citizen is that he makes an intelligent effort to be informed on the issues of the day.

This may sound trite, but keep in mind that knowledge is power and also that no citizen can act or talk intelligently if he is not acquainted with the issues of the day. Also keep in mind that misinformed citizens, who make both inaccurate and confusing statements, do nothing to lift the level of understanding and intelligence in the community.

Too often in this community, as in other communities, business men and others interested in material pursuits spend little time in trying to acquaint themselves with the true facts involved in the issues of the day. Every citizen should devote some time each day to honest search for the accurate news. That news is not necessarily found in editorials, editorial columns, or in the words of commentators. From these sources one gets opinions, although quite often, news as well.

One should take advantage of these sources of opinion to become acquainted with the various viewpoints, but each citizen should form his own opinion concerning the issues of his time.

Therefore, every citizen of this community should make the effort to read some good books regularly, read the news columns of the newspaper, and, occasionally, glance at an atlas or some map which would acquaint him somewhat with the geography of the world. The search for the facts should not be confined to national or international issues, but should also include local issues, in which much information is usually involved.

The Nebraska Cornhuskers finally pulled themselves together to score an upset of a sort. Colorado's win streak, however, wasn't any great shakes, considering the kind of opposition the Buffs had been meeting.

The world is not interested in the excellent excuse you have for your failure to deliver the goods.

Unholy Hallow'en is next.

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

Entered at the postoffice in O'Neill, Holt county, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. This newspaper is a member of the Nebraska Press Association, National Editorial Association and the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Terms of Subscription: In Nebraska, \$2.50 per year; elsewhere in the United States, \$3 per year; rates abroad provided on request. All subscriptions are paid-in-advance.

Audited (ABC) Circulation—2,335 (Mar. 31, 1954)

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