

Prairieland Talk

Plot Foiled by Kindness

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN—A state senator with a heart equal to an able head had prepared a measure for enactment into law that would have given kids who get into trouble a break. The measure proposed would have given youth the protection of a quiet court hearing, the inquisitive with itching ears being excluded from juvenile court hearings.

Some newspaper guys cried out in horror that the "freedom of the press and the public" was being violated. Dr. Frank A. Court, pastor of the great St. Paul Methodist church in Lincoln, appeared before the legislative committee in behalf of the youth of the state and urged the adoption of such a measure. The clergyman saw in the proposed law what others saw, that it would protect children who get into trouble from damaging publicity.

But here they came, the defenders of our freedoms with a cry of "the peoples' right to know."

Is there nothing that I have a right not to know, that a neighbor's boy has a right for me not to know? Another kid and I in the long ago formed a plot to steal apples. The plot failed because our intended victim appeared on the scene, greeted us pleasantly, and said, "Want some apples? Climb over the fence and help yourselves." That did something to correct "juvenile delinquency" that a public trial in juvenile court, press and the public admitted, could not have done. Wise newspaper editors know what the public has a right to know and what they have a right not to know.

A suggestion, a request, maybe it is a demand, comes from the Women's club down at Weeping Water to adopt the Austrian pine as Nebraska's state tree. A state tree means little or nothing, though we would not minimize the patriotic sentiment of the Weeping Water ladies. But why go to a fading European country for an emblem to express that sentiment? The cottonwood or even the sandcherry bush has a native flavor of prairieland and a picture of either of these might well adorn a corner of statehouse letterheads.

The Henry Field mansion, built in 1876 to stand a thousand years, is being torn down to make room for something else in the onward march in America's second city, Chicago (think the editor puts in Ill., but if there is a 10-year-old reader who doesn't know where Chicago is, he should have a map). . . Two guys with guns walked into a business place in Marion two nights ago and floored three men, robbed the safe and walked out with \$6,000. . . Another guy held up a bank in a small Indiana town, secured a hat full of the bank's funds, walked out, an hour later he was in jail. . . Six deaths on Hoosier highways last weekend. . . The telephone bill of one corporation with a large branch factory in Marion for last year totaled \$93,000. . . Some 60 persons offered to part with a section of their hide in behalf of an Oklahoma City 6-year-old whose life depended on skin grafting. . . Cutting \$20 from your income tax bill will meet with a responsive smile notwithstanding revenue collectors frown on it. . . Curtailing the extravagant use of paper at the nation's capital now undertaken by the Hoover commission will save an estimated 125-million-dollars annually — a movement to curtail federal spending, something new under the sun. . . A dance hall raid in a Indiana town netted 26 arrests, each contributing a 20-spot to the fines fund.

Editorial

Yalta--After 10 Years

At Yalta in one fateful week Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt attempted to shape the postwar world with wanton disregard for millions of souls being used for barter.

Yalta was from the first indictable for secrecy, and the secrecy on its major decisions was too long maintained. But Sir Winston Churchill declares that the release of details in the U.S. state department's report is even now unwise. He also adds that there are "serious mistakes" in the American version. So the report may easily start more controversies than it will settle.

Indeed, reactions at home and abroad suggest that a Pandora's box has been opened. Yet its publication has one great value. It helps to place the Yalta decisions more clearly in the context of 1945 events. The Soviet union's breaking of Yalta agreements has made the whole arrangement appear much worse than it was. But even in 1945 voices of warning were raised against the assumption that those agreements—particularly on Eastern Europe—would hold.

History will not excuse the ailing Franklin Roosevelt for seriously misjudging the Kremlin's postwar purposes. But the light shed by these documents sharply jolts the easy hindsight of recent years which has explained Yalta in terms of treason or incredible naivete.

We acquire clearer views merely by noting that Yalta's agreements were made when the American army, recovering from the "Bulge," was just entering Germany; that Russian troops were within 40 miles of Berlin; that the Pacific American power had only reached Manila, and that the atomic bomb was a fairly good bet.

The report reminds us of several other factors which are essential to fair judgement of Yalta. The ghost of Brest-Litovsk peered over the shoulders of western diplomats — they remembered that agreement with Germany in 1918 by which Russia withdrew from World War I. They greatly feared a repetition. The joint chiefs of staff were saying it would take 18 months to subdue Japan after Germany was beaten—and urging efforts to win Russian aid. However, capabilities of our highly secret A-bomb should have offered some bargaining power for the U.S. and Britain.

It should be remembered that much of the postwar expansion of Soviet power followed not only from "gifts" at Yalta but from a retreat of American power caused by disbanding armies to "bring the boys home."

The disclosure of Yalta records might well give us wisdom for today—in at least four ways.

1. To seek a clearer line of action based more on enduring moral principles, less on temporary power politics, so that today's allies will not become tomorrow's enemies.

2. To improve our military intelligence, so that such mistakes as that made about Japan will not be repeated.

3. To avoid talking beyond our power to per-

form; to take positions carefully, and then support them vigorously by moral, military, and economic strength.

4. To send delegates who are trustworthy beyond all measure of doubt.

Now: The Red Cross

Christmas seals, the crippled children's drive, the march of dimes, the heart fund, several other charity drives and now the annual American Red Cross drive! This series of calls upon the average citizen seems to get monotonous and we often hear complaints that one just cannot contribute to all these meritorious causes.

But when one considers our kind of government, and the fact that charity is the main financial support of humanitarian and medical efforts to eliminate these killers from the American scene, we realize it is both an honor and a privilege to live in a free country where we are merely asked to contribute to such praiseworthy causes, and not levied with an assessment by an all-powerful government.

In our free government we have the right to contribute to these charitable causes or not contribute. And every citizen should meet this responsibility and contribute to them whenever possible, appreciating the fact that this opportunity is one by which we can demonstrate both our good citizenship and the merits of our social system in the United States.

The Red Cross drive, now underway, deserves your support. Despite the fact that it is not a perfect organization, and never will be, it stands for the right things in our society—kindness, emergency aid and even medical aid in epidemic or plague areas. The Red Cross is a worldwide symbol of the good neighbor spirit, which means aid for those who need it badly in times of emergency.

We urge citizens of this community to support the Red Cross drive this year with contributions as liberal as they can afford.

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When You and I Were Young . . .

Doyle, Campbell Mayor Candidates

Dave Loy Assisting Brother

50 Years Ago W. W. Frost, a special agent of the United States census bureau, was in town gathering information concerning the industries of the town. . . John Sullivan arrived in O'Neill from Anaconda, Mont., and will spend a fortnight with relatives and friends. . . Dave Loy is driving the dandy while his brother, Ed, is visiting his parents in Nevada, Mo. . . D. A. Doyle and Frank Campbell are the two candidates for mayor in the city campaign that has begun. O. E. Davidson is running for police judge; Robert Morrison and Romaine Saunders are the candidates for clerk; alderman candidates are: First ward—John Carton and Peter Kelly; Third ward—James Davidson and J. A. Cowperthwaite. No announcements have come from the Second ward.

20 Years Ago O. F. Biglin furniture store held a successful two-day furniture auction. Over two carloads of furniture was sold. . . A four-day boxing carnival was held at the O'Neill public school. . . Harold Wilson was accidentally shot in the foot while out hunting. The shot off his big toe and part of the next two — further operation on the foot was necessary. . . Workmen have been busy making a tennis court on the corner of Seventh and Douglas streets. There will be three courts.

Ten Years Ago Margaret Higgins won third place in the class B discussion contests of the Nebraska intercollegiate forensic meet held at Midland college. Miss Higgins is a sophomore at Wayne State college. . . Ed Hagensick has added a new industry to O'Neill—in response to a request he started making horn weights for the cattle belonging to our local ranchers. . . The high school auditorium was filled to capacity when the community responded to the announcement of the American Red Cross meeting being held. . . O'Neill merchants were in possession of more than their usual number of no-fund checks. No charges have been filed but one culprit made the rounds and received greenbacks from many.

One Year Ago President Eisenhower pushed a button in Washington, D.C., and the mighty Missouri river went to work at Ft. Randall, S.D. . . Larry Heiss and Joellen Kennedy were the annual basketball banquet in Page. . . Holt county's polo drive receipts totaled \$8,692.78. . . Miss Gladys Mae Durre and Everett Schwager were united in marriage O'Neill. . . Future Nebraska draftees will receive their initial training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. . . according to the Army Times, an "official military publication published in Washington, D.C.

School, Village Caucuses Are Held EWING—At the school caucus held here on a recent evening at the Ewing public school with Lyle Dierks acting as chairman and William Spence as secretary, four candidates were selected: Alfred Napier, J. L. Pruden, Lionel Gunter and L. A. Hobbs. Two candidates are to be elected for three-year terms. The two members whose terms expire this year are Lyle Dierks and M. B. Huffman.

Below Bellevue the crossing was done by flatboat and skiff causing great delay to emigrants. The editor also advised farmers in Nebraska to plant hedge fences. He wrote: "The amount of timber needed for a farm where hedges or stone walls are made to take the place of rails for fence is very small; and can be raised as well as a crop of corn or wheat. One or two acres of timberland would be sufficient to afford firewood for the largest family, without a diminution of amount. Nor is saving of timber the only advantage to be urged in favor of hedges. A hedge, when once brought to perfection, requires but a trifling outlay of capital or labor to keep it in repair."

Illustrating the state of law and order was a news item reporting the organization of the Union Association of Nebraska Territory and printing its constitution. This, of course, was a claim club designed to prevent claim jumpers from taking over the claims of members. Claim clubs flourished in the territory prior to the opening of the land offices, and while they were extra-legal in nature, they performed a valuable service. They passed out of existence when regularly constituted law enforcement officials began to function as a part of local government.

Flowers of the Amorphophallus plant have an odor of rotting fish or meat.

"People believe in Maytag" 299.95 WONDERFUL TRADE-INS! EASY TERMS! Automatic Water Level Control for small, medium and full loads WM. KROTTER CO. OF O'NEILL (Next Door to Golden) Phone 496

Carload Going to Hastings Meeting—

The Antelope county farm bureau met at the hall on Thursday, March 17. Members of the county affairs committee gave a report on their meeting with the county supervisors. Mrs. Theo Weber, county chairman of Associated Women, led a panel discussion on "Safety in the Home and on the Farm." Mrs. Clarence Godkin, Mrs. Maynard Stearns and Mrs. Ralph Shrader assisted her on the panel.

Discussion followed on women of the county attending the farm bureau's "College of Knowledge" at Hastings on March 31 and April 1. A carload of women will attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Ewald Spahn entertained by showing pictures of their 1954 trip to Germany.

Out of Old Nebraska . . .

Indian Activities Choice Page 1 News

Early Bellevue Editor Had Mail Ideas

By DR. JAMES C. OLSON Supt., State Historical Society If we could seek information about Nebraskans a hundred years ago, our best source of contemporary information is the Nebraska Palladium, Nebraska Territory's first newspaper, published at Bellevue. A file in the library of the State Historical Society has three issues for March, 1855—the 7th, the 21st, and the 28th.

Indian affairs furnished the most important items of local news and editorial comment in this Nebraska newspaper a century ago. The editor, in common with the frontiersmen generally, was highly impatient of what he felt to be dilatory tactics on the part of the government. He wanted the Indians, and particularly the Omahas, removed to their reservation without delay and declared ominously in an editorial of March 21: "If the Indians remain to vex and injure the hard-working settler, the fault will be with the government, and not with them."

Another item of concern to the editor was the improvement of the mail service. In his paper for March 21 he wrote:

"A mail route embracing Bellevue, Omaha City, Florence, and the settlements in the Elk Horn River, and Loup Fork are needed, and no time should be lost in getting such a route established. Numerous families are preparing to settle all along up the magnificent valley of the great Platte River, likewise on the Elk Horn and Loup Fork. Give them mail facilities."

Good news was provided by a newspaper that Peter A. Sarpy had acquired a new steam ferryboat and had put it in operation between Bellevue and St. Mary, Ia. The editor described it thus: "She was bought last season for \$12,000, and is altogether the largest and best ferryboat ever used on the Missouri River. She is of sufficient capacity to cross 25 to 30 teams at a time."

This augured well for Bellevue because the General Marion, a steam ferry which had plied between Council Bluffs and Omaha, had been totally wrecked the winter before, "so that crossing at that point is done by skiffs and scows."

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Letters to Editor

I have been interested in trying to get some information relative to "Doc Middleton," one of the early notorious characters in Holt county, but haven't had too much success. At one time I understood that there was an article on him in the Omaha World-Herald along in the early 80's. I wrote to the World-Herald but they said there was a gap in their files about that time and articles on him were missing.

Robert Houston informed me that you did have considerable information on him and that you had had a good story about "Middleton" in the anniversary edition of The Frontier several years ago.

I would be very appreciative if you might have the article or if you could tell me where I would have access to it. Thanking you in advance, I am Very truly yours, FREDRIC L. WILSON, M.D.

(A copy of The Frontier's diamond jubilee issue, June, 1949, has been forwarded to Doctor Wilson. We continue to receive requests for that 64-page issue—the largest single issue of a Nebraska weekly newspaper ever published.—Editor.)

Senators Get Protests on VA Closures—

U.S. Sen. Roman L. Hruska (R-Nebr.) says hundreds of protests have been received by his office after a recommendation that Veterans' hospitals at Grand Island and Lincoln be shut down. The senator said, "This concern of Nebraskans for suitable hospitalization of veterans legally entitled to it, is commendable."

But Hruska expressed satisfaction that an exhaustive study urged by the Hoover commission on medical services before any Veterans' administration hospital is closed.

Meanwhile, U.S. Sen. Carl T. Curtis (R-Nebr.) reports that atomic power can some day be harnessed to supply electricity to towns and rural users throughout the United States. He pointed out that atomic power production, at commercial rates, could not be expected for at least 10 years.

The atomic energy commission is spending 8½ million dollars annually on research to develop production of electricity for peacetime uses.

O'Neill News

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hansen and family of Norfolk and Francis Flood of Neligh visited over the weekend with Mrs. Hansen and Francis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Flood, and Mrs. Hansen's father, Carston Hansen.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Tallon and family of Omaha visited over the weekend of Saturday, March 12, until Monday, March 14, with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. O. W. French.

Venetian blinds, prompt delivery, made to measure, metal or wood, all colors.—J. M. McDonalds.

Robert Carroll, student at the University of Nebraska, visited from Friday until Sunday morning at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Carroll.

Mrs. Mark Fangman of Omaha arrived Sunday to visit for several days' visit at the home of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Lohaus, and her mother, Mrs. Mary MacLeod.

Mrs. Alvin Bausch of Reseda, Calif., Mrs. Owen Kissingner and family of Canoga Park, Calif., and Mrs. LeRoy Baumister and family also of Canoga Park left Monday for their homes after visiting for two months with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bazelman.

Mr. and Mrs. Jarrold Dusatko of Emmet were last Thursday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Benze.

Sunday dinner guests at the J. F. Contois home were Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Contois of Neligh and Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Workman of Clearwater.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Houser were Saturday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smithson.

Cub Adopts Health Program—

The Elkhorn Valley 4-H club meeting was held at the George Winkler home Sunday, March 13. All of the members were present and we have another new member, Earl Miller. We received the rest of our new material for this year. Our club is taking up a health program. We are going to keep up the record for a number of years. We were measured and weighed.

After the pledge we sang songs. Our next meeting will be at the George Skopec home April 17. Everyone will bring wieners and buns for their own family. We had sandwiches, pickles, cake and cocoa for lunch.—By Maureen Schaeff, news reporter.

Legal Notices

NOTICE Notice is hereby given that by virtue of the authority granted under the provisions of Chapter 72, Article 2, R. S. Nebr., 1943 (as amended), the Board of Educational Lands and Funds has approved a reclassification and adopted a new schedule of valuations of all school land under lease in Holt County according to such reclassification; that such schedule of valuations, together with a tabulation of the valuation and amount of semi-annual rental of each lease, has been filed in the office of the County Treasurer of such county according to law; the said reclassification and revaluation to become effective July 1, 1955.

BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL LANDS & FUNDS ROBERT D. HIAIT, Secretary 47c

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Moler were Sunday dinner guests of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Appleby and family.

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.. DANCE .. AT O'NEILL American Legion Auditorium & BALLROOM Saturday, March 26th NOSMO COMBO Adm.: Adults, \$1; high school students, 50c

Again Studebaker wins Mobilgas Run Sweepstakes! Beats 21 competing cars in 1955 Mobilgas Economy Run! Wins Grand Sweepstakes for second straight year! Now more than ever America's No. 1 economy car! Once more, pace-setting Studebaker has won America's most coveted gasoline economy award . . . the Mobilgas Economy Run Grand Sweepstakes Trophy! Over a grueling 1323-mile course from Los Angeles to Colorado Springs, a 1955 Studebaker Commander V-8 took top honors in a field of 22 great American cars—all equipped with automatic transmissions. Duplicates of Studebaker's Mobilgas Economy Run Sweepstakes winner are available now at your Studebaker dealer's. See him right away! STUDEBAKER DIVISION OF THE STUDEBAKER-PACKARD CORPORATION . . . ONE OF THE 4 MAJOR FULL-LINE PRODUCERS OF CARS AND TRUCKS SMITH MOTOR CO. 316 E. Fremont St. O'Neill, Nebr.