Say It Can't Be Done . . .

Page Women Prove It Can! By MRS. N. D. ICKES, SR.

The Frontier Feature Writer PAGE-There was a time when Page was a prosperous small town with much promise. Folks hereabouts were content in being rathwhich went begging for tenants, er self-sufficient, living in the midst of a thriving community soon became unfit for occupancy. within easy driving distance of the Neglect was the order of the day. countyseat (O'Neill), where people went to pay taxes, get legal place was home. Some of these

advice, occasionally to serve on could neither sell out nor move the jury. out. Those for whom the die was During Page's heyday, the town cast, those who had no choice ex-

boasted two banks five stores, cept to ride out the depression. two livery barns, two elevators, staved on. two lumber yards, a newspaper, On May 31, 1946, the first meet-

three barber shops, three restau- ing of the Page Improvement club rants, one cafe, one hotel, sale was held. Mrs. O. B. Stuart acted barn, a variety store and dress as chairman. The membership was shop combined, a doctor, dentist, a cross-section of the population, beauty operator, drug store, silent nearly all church, lodge and somovie and a daily passenger and cial groups represented. bus service. A transcontinental The depression already had left

highway went through the town. its mark. Reversals among people Sidewalks increased, houses occasionally left ill-feeling; the sprang up on town lots, windmills | bad times encouraged laziness and disappeared, a livery barn became bred contempt; children were dethe sale barn and the other livery nied happy childhood and educastable became a garage. The Meth- tions. odists built a new parsonage.

Competition was keen and there was an air of prosperity about the town. The surrounding community reflected both hard work bartering and trading. and thrift.

Then came . the dust bowldrouth-depression days of the thirties. The town lost, in succession, the doctor, drug store, dentist, bank, elevator, lumberyard, hotel, restaurant, butcher shop, dress shop and beauty shop.

It was an unhappy era when a One after another, they preceded or followed the sale barn out and livestock. of town.

Business came to almost standstill. Those who could went into defense work. Some left for a time; others left for good.



ment

Weeds grew, rubbish collected | no money with which to and junk piles increased in size. members decided to give the place When prosperity flew out the the works-the soap and water window, pride ran a close second. treatment. And "Operation Im-Buildings lacked paint, fences provement" was on! went unmended and houses.

Dues of a dollar were collected. Boundary limits were defined. Boys were hired for 35 cents an hour; vacant lots, unsightly trash There were many for whom the and junk piles that had accumulated everywhere were hauled away or burned.

> Residents were invited to join the cleanup and people were en-couraged to do what they could to improve the looks of the town

> > In the earlier days of the club's operation, the intent was taken Serves in Honor Guard lightly - just another place for women to go! But soon critics were forced to admit the Improvement clubbers meant business. of John P. Hytrek of Stuart, is Husbands, especially, developed a

cooperative frame of mind and backed up their new attitude with actual labor and money. Presently the town reflected polish in physical appearance and many of the citizens acquired a more

Those were days when people cheerful outlook. who had shared with those who The club sponsored the first had not. Sometimes a cow would be loaned to a family; there was

Prizes were offered for the best in many lines of gardening, flower Records at some of the public weighing scales bear silent growing and homemaking and the testimony of feed and seed boraffair is now a traditional labor rowed and paid back with a day event.

disregard for price or length of the club's responsibility from the time between buying and paybeginning. Recently the Commercial club became interested and

took over the management of the man was lucky to feed his family theater

After several years of effort, a light was set in the park for the Out of this weary mental and convenience of after dark visitors. physical lethargy came a healthier Fireplaces were built and tables frame of mind with the birth of the Page Improvement club. placed for the picnickers' convenience. The old water fountain was While the club conceded there was repaired and placed there; a new

one was installed at the bank corner.

The theater has proved to be an expensive and worrisome undertaking, requiring all the monev that could be coaxed out of a community and constant and vigilant supervision. In time the theater became a paying proposition: even became a money maker with a sizeable bank balance to prove

The repair and redecoration of the theater was a yearly housecleaning project - one of the things that could have failed and passed out of being had not the of O'Neill, where as partners they

one large, lone tree for miles While members regret the loss around. So Gustave planted five large plots of pine trees on his place. For years it was regarded as the largest private tree plantation in the state.

Lynch News

Mr. and Mrs. John Hurd spent Sunday, March 13, at the Faye Pinkerman home. Mr. and Mrs. George Svatos,

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Svatos and Connie Rae and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Svatos and Dan of Lake Andes, S.D., were Sunday, March 13, visitors at he Albert Kalkowski MacLeod, whose birthday an-

Anton Drobny of Verdigre and Mrs. Lydia Reagon of Montey Park, Calif., are visitnig with Alfred Stanek.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hewiton of Gary, Ind., spent a week recently visiting at the Francis Shrunk home. Mrs. Edmund Rohde returned home from a two-weeks' visit

with relatives in Lincoln. Siding—Asbestos and insulated. Completely applied by skilled me-chanics. Convenient terms. Free Pfc. Richard D. Hytrek, 20, son estimates. Prompt service. Phone Jim Sessions, 409-J or 548-LR, or

45tf Mr. and Mrs. Herman Heiser returned home from a visit in Texas with their son, Pvt. Gary Heiser. Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Haselhorst

entertained relatives from Osmond and Plainview on Sunday, March 13. Mr. and Mrs. Orville Holtz and

Tree-Planting Dies Mr. and Mrs. Vance Anderson NE^{1/4}

the Shrunk home Saturday. On Tuesday, March 22, the county government day at the courthouse at Butte.

Sunday, March 13, vistiors at Gustave L. Hoppe, 88, who re-the James Maly, sr., home were sided on a ranch south of Robert Maly of Chicago, Ill., who O'Neill for 40 years, died at his is home on furlough, and his lahome in Gordon on Wednesday, dy friend from Norfolk; Mr. and March 2. He had suffered a series Mrs. Johnnie Hanslik and children

past 10 years, including severe at- Sedivy and family of O'Neill. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Christensen moved into their new home in Lynch and their son, Richard, and family moved onto their farm near Monowi. Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Spencer

and baby have moved to Texas. Eldora Serk of O'Neill spent the March 12-13 weekend at the

parental Jake Serk home. Monuments of lasting beauty made by skilled craftsmen of the J. F. Bloom Co. . . monuments from the factory to the consumer. - Emmet Crabb, O'-Chambers

Neill, phone 139-J. 37tf The Frank Weeder family visited at he Emanuel Soukup home tions. For years there was just north of Spencer Sunday, March Mrs. Jack Samuelson and chil-

13

dren of Hartington visited at the William Havranek home several to James O'Connor 2-7-55 \$5- So days recently. 20 ft of No 40 ft of Lots 5-6-7 Blk Mr. and Mrs. Junior Wilson and 3- Emmet Chad visited at the Ray Wilson WD-Ross E Taylor to Gailard home in Holt county. Albright & wf 11-10-54 \$950-South 67 ft lots 1-2-3-4-5 Blk 5-Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Barnes called at the Herman Schochenmaier | Page home in Bonesteel, S.D., on Fri-SD-Leo S Temjack- Sheriff to day. Mr. and Mrs. James Maly, sr., and son, Robert, visited relatives Blk F- Lyons Add- Emmet

in Fairfax, S.D., Sunday. THE FRONTIER, O'Neill, Nebr., Thurs., Mar. 24, 1955 .- PAGE Maxine Jehorek of Omaha spent

the March 12-13 weekend here at the parental Martin Jehorek home. Mrs. Mary Zach visited with Mrs. G. L. Mulhair on Saturday,

March 12.

2 Anniversaries-P. C. Donohoe will entertain at dinner tonight (Thursday) la, 3, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

honoring his sister, Mrs. Mary Lawrence Skrdla, who reside MacLeod, whose birthday an-niversary was Wednesday. Mr. Donohoe's 73d birthday anniver-sary is today sary is today.

Real Estate Transfers

QCD - Fred Smith to Lorraine

Smith 4-25-52 \$1- Lot 9 Blk 1-Bakers 2nd Add- Chambers QCD-Ward Smith to Lorraine

angel's mass was said by Rev. R. Smith 4-25-52 \$1- Lot 9 Blk 1-Bakers 2nd Add-

QCD- Edw Smith to Lorraine Smith 4-25-52 \$1- Lot 9 Blk 1-Bakers 2nd Add-QCD-Cora Marguis to Lorraine

Smith 4-25-52 \$1- Lot 9 Blk 1-Bakers 2nd Add-QCD-Wilson Smith to Lorraine

Smith 4-25-52 \$1- Lot 9 Blk 1-Bakers 2nd Add-QCD-Vernon Smith to Lorraine

Smith 4-25-52 \$1- Lot 9 Blk 1-Bakers 2nd Add-

QCD-Nellie Smith to Lorraine Smith 4-25-52 \$1- Lot 9 Blk 1-Bakers 2nd Add-

WD-Rudie Juracek to Clarence family returned here from Min- L Sisson 3-1-55 \$15,800- S1/2SE1/4 nesota Saturday, March 19, and 32 E1/2 SW1/4- N1/2 SE1/4 32 SW1/4 plan to live on Sunshine Bottom. SW1/4 32-27-9 N1/2NW1/4 5- NE1/4 Mr. and Mrs. Vance Anderson NE¹/₄ 5- N¹/₂NW¹/₄ 4- NE¹/₄NE¹/₄

WD-Edward Menish to Joseph Menish & Mary Elizabeth Hansen Lynch junior class attended Boyd 8-18-51 \$1- Lot 16 Blk 20 except North 65 ft- O'Neill WD-Edward Menish to Joseph

Edward Mensih & wf 8-18-51 \$1-No 65 ft lot 16 Blk 20- O'Neill WD - Clarence Faulhaber to Richard Faulhaber 3-10-55 \$1-E1/2SW1/4 12- W1/2NW1/4 13-29-9 WD - Maggie Smith to Nellie Smtih 10-5-46 \$1- Part of SW1/4 20-26-12

Sheriffs Deed-Leo S Tomjack to James Van Every 2-7-55 \$31.25-Lots 7 & 8 Blk 19- Page WD-Bennie Hill to Ben Gilli-

gan & wf 1-24-55 \$12,000- So 83 ft lots 1 and 2 Blk E- Fahy's 2nd Add- O'Neill

WD - Clair J Schroth to Wm Hinze & wf- no date \$7250- S1/2 NW1/4- W1/2 SW1/4 Sec 12-29-9

WD- Harry E Pelcer to Clarence E Spence 3-3-55 \$1- Part of

SE1/4SE1/4 32-30-14 WD-Walter Brown to T E Alderson & wf 1-6-55 \$1300- Lots 4-5 & 6 Blk 1- Cooke's Add-

SHERIFFS DEED-Leo S Tomack, Sheriff to James O'Connor 2-7-55 \$10- Lot 1 Blk 3- Emmet SD-Leo S Tomjack, Sheriff to James O'Connor 2-7-55 \$5- No 20 ft lots 5-6 & 7 Blk 3- Emmet . SD-Leo & Tomjack, Sheriff

J. Parr. Burial was in St. Joseph's Lukemia Blamed

ATKINSON-Little Judy Skrd-

for the past five months. Her third

birthday anniversary was Febru-

Funeral services were conduct-

ed Saturday, March 19, from St.

Joseph's Catholic church when the

ary 28.

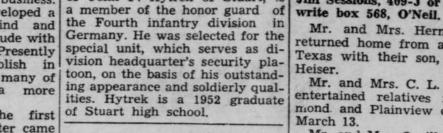
cemetery. Survivors include: Parents for Child's Death brothers-Larry, 8½; Donnie and Ronnie (twins), 7½; Jerome, 8½-

months; sister - Mary Ann, 6; grandparents- Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jansen of Stuart. Mrs. Skrdla's maiden name was Evelyn Jansen of Stuart.

Frontier for printing! had suffered incurable lukemia

Alice's Beauty Shop (In Former Apparel Shop Location) Phone 263 - O'Neill







Pioneer Noted for

Gustave L. Hoppe, 88,

Rancher 40 Years

of paralytic strokes during the of Pilger and Mr. and Mrs. Eldon

tacks on February 4 and February 12 this year.

The late Mr. Hoppe was born July 4, 1866, at Warsaw, Ill., a son of Charles C. and Sophia Hoppe. He came west from IIlinois when he was 17-years-old with his brother, Hugo. He was united in marriage with

Hanna Schneider at Chambers on December 1, 1898. To this union two children were born-Emma and Forrest. Gustave and Hugo homesteaded in Wheeler county, 28 miles south

Improvement group doggedly operated a large ranch and raised stuck to the task of keeping a purebred cattle for two generamovie in town for the kids.

of the many things, they are proud to have snatched from the burning brands the enduring qualities that establish and maintain happy and comfortable

achievement day that later came to be known as Page's free day.

The park and the theater were

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Mr. Hoppe moved to the Gor-don region in 1923. He purchas-ed land near Gordon and on the

Down the years, since 1946, the Improvement club has demon-Pine Ridge reservation in its strated what an overworked imearly development. He moved into Gordon in 1943. agination plus ingenuity and a meager amount of hard-earned

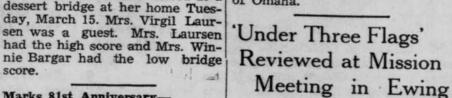
money can do for a community. A casual inquiry would never dsiclose all the things the club deserves credit for nor the crit-icism members have let themdaughter-Mrs. Ralph L. (Emma) Swick of Gordon; son-Maj. Forselves in for.

rest H. Hoppe of the U.S. air force; brother- Albert Hoppe of Hamilton, Ill.; grandchildren --Loren Swick, Larry Swick and Currently, the Page Improve-ment clubbers have their sight set on another "impossible" project. Deborah Hoppe. Among those who came from a This time they hope to develop a roller skating rink from which

distance to attend the funeral of Mr. Hoppe were: Maj. Forrest H. Hoppe of Mobile, Ala.; Loren I Swick of Evanston, Ill.; Larry Swick of Vermillion, S.D.; Mrs. children will derive a great deal of pleasure and from which oldsters might salvage some skating or dancing enjoyment. Say it can't be done and these J. E. Greppin and Mrs. Octavia Brown, both of Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Albert Clouse of Custer, S. eager Improvement clubbers will prove they can do it!

D.; Mrs. Robert Carter, Mrs. Gerret Dyke and Charles Hoppe all of Platte, S. D., and Lewis Hoppe Mrs. Hunt Hostess-Mrs. Earl Hunt entertained at a of Omaha.

Survivors include: Widow



EWING-Mrs. Leo Miller re-viewed several chapters of the

book, "Under Three Flags," at the

Marks 81st Anniversary-Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Gatz enter-

tained Wednesday at dinner at their home honoring her mother, Mrs. Mary MacLeod, on the oc-casion of her 81st birthday an- of the United Presbyterian

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Barnhart and Joe of Wagner, S.D., visited Monday night, March 14, with Weight Monday and Mrs. P. D. State March 14, with Weight Monday and Mrs. P. D. State March 14, with Weight Monday and Mrs. P. D. State March 14, with Weight March 14, with March 14, with

At the business session it was voted to take a freewill offering at the next two meetings. The offering will be sent to the Church of the Valley at Twin Bridges.

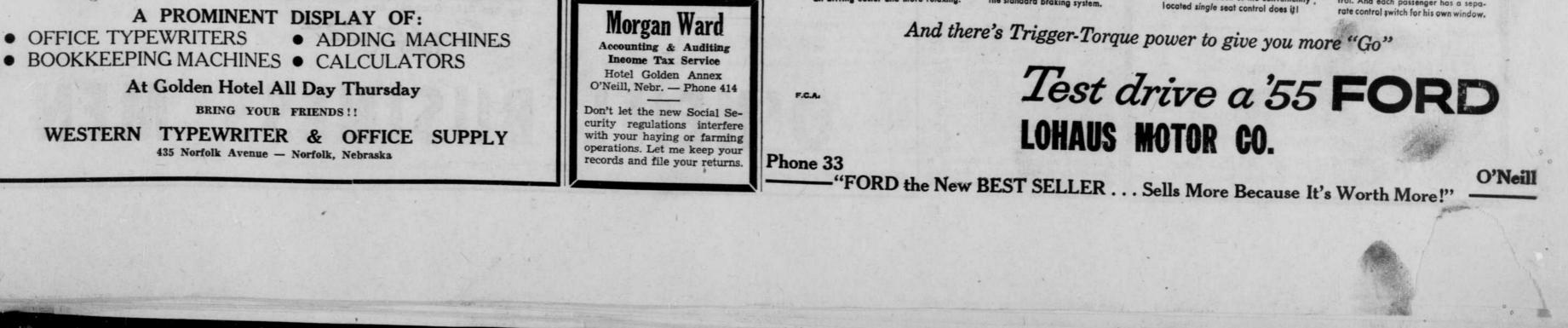
Mont., a town of about 500 without a church. The world day of prayer col-lection will be sent to the Nation-

al Association of Evangelicals. After some discussion, it was also voted for members to send letters of protest to Vice-Presi-dent Nixon on his appointment of Robert L. King as his administrative assistant

Mrs. Carl Christon was appointed as delegate to attend the Presbyterial meeting which will be held April 12 and 13 at Mur-

The prayer cycle was led by Mrs. Ralph Shrader and prayers were said for the missions and missionaries of Pakistan and Pun-

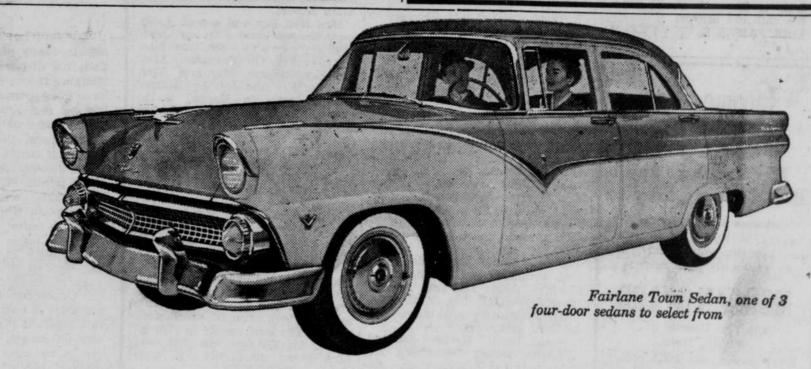
Mrs. Leo Miller was appointed as news reporter. The hostess served refreshments.





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