

## Saddle Clubbers Look to Big Year O'Neill Group Began As Hobby

By Mrs. N. D. ICKES, SR.  
The Frontier's Feature Writer

What started out as a healthy exercise and a hobby shared by a few congenial couples soon developed into a neighborhood affair. Subsequently, it acquired almost a countywide membership and has found a place in statewide entertainment circles featuring equestrian performance.

The 1952 organizational chairman and the first president of the O'Neill Saddle club was C. E. McVay.

That year activities were confined to getting horses and to intensive training of their mounts. Public demonstrations were limited to the Page free day, the Inman fall festival and the Neligh Saddle club jamboree with the

highlight performance in the O'Neill city park when 356 horses took part in the parade.

The club was reorganized with increased membership at the spring meeting of 1953 with Virgil Laursen of O'Neill as president.

That year's activities included a contract exhibition for the Aberdeen-Angus association at O'Neill, at Stuart for a Fourth of July performance and two days at Nebraska's big rodeo at Burwell. They also attended the Spencer and the Page and Inman fall festivals and performed both days at the Nebraska state fair, joining the downtown parade.

That fall the entire club joined the Neligh Saddle club for a fall jamboree.

The third year, Bernard Allen was president and the club had gained sufficient confidence in their ability to perform at contract exhibitions. They signed up for numerous appearances.

This angle took them to the Geneva roundup where contestants from the O'Neill Saddle club won the all-around championship.

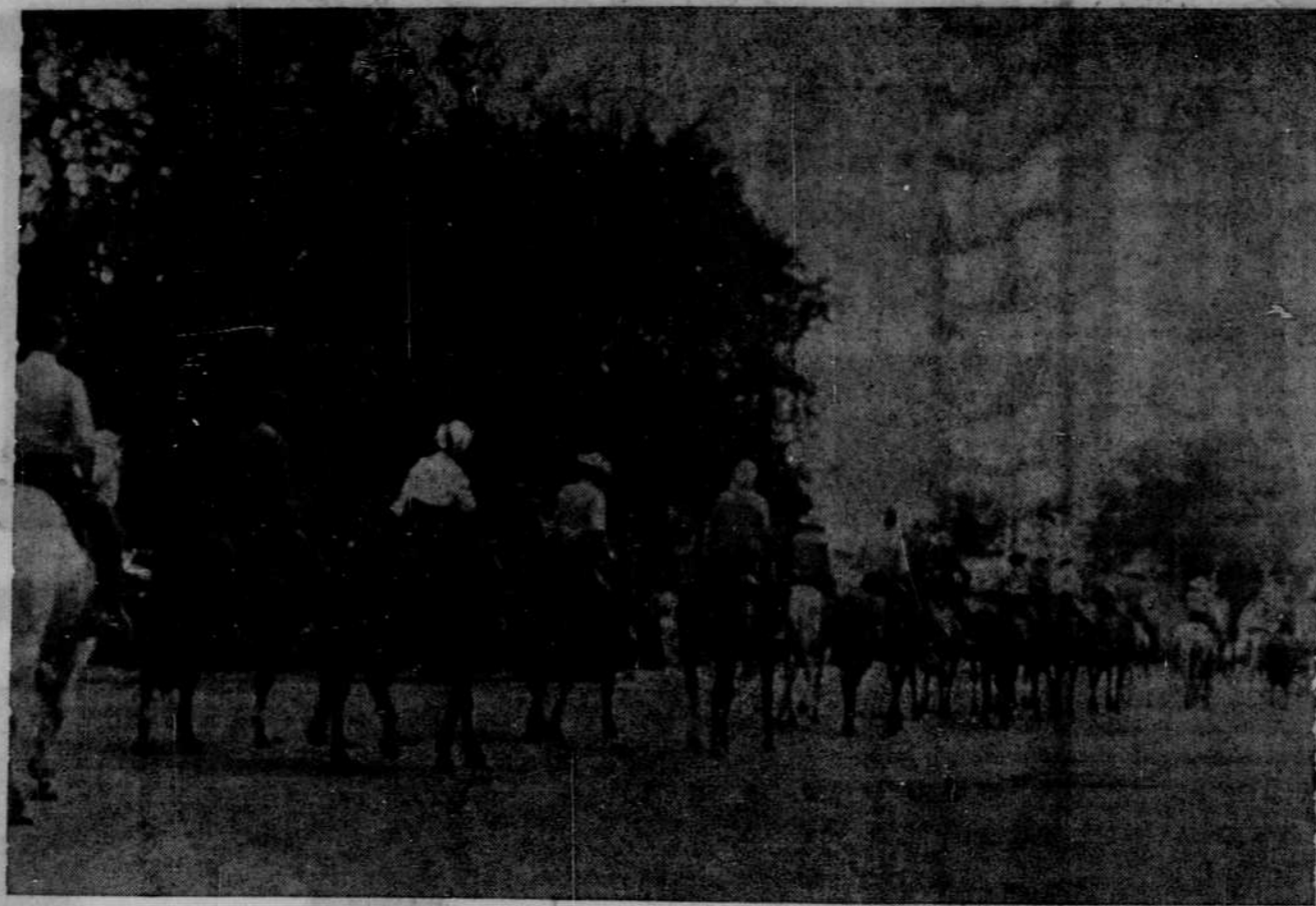
They performed at the rodeo staged at O'Neill by Walter Pluggs, stock contractor with top prestige in rodeo business.

The club played a return engagement at Stuart the Fourth of July, put on a contract performance at the Atkinson hay days and competed for the state trophy at the state sponsored roundup at Ravenna.

They participated in county fairs at Spencer and Albion and were contract performers two days at the Ak-Sar-Ben at Omaha.

The Saddle club sponsored a donkey rodeo at the club grounds at O'Neill and the entire club went to Ft. Randall, S.D., for roundup.

It has been the custom from the beginning to share a Thanksgiving turkey supper at which time new officers are elected



Saddle clubbers . . . parade at Page

and plans made for the coming year.

The 1955 president is Roger Bowen. Plans were completed last Thanksgiving for a June 12 and 13 rodeo at the O'Neill Saddle club grounds. They are open for contract dates.

Grandstand seating capacity for two thousand people is being provided and this year the performers are to appear in uniform.

Their drill team numbers 26, including three sets of eight and two flagbearers.

Members boast they can run the fastest figure eight in the state in addition to the record performance of their drill team.

From the first meeting the interest has increased and the organization has been a "howling" success from a financial point as well, even though the trucking expense alone has approached the staggering figure of more than \$1,600.

During the first years of the club's activities, Jim Hartman put on a clown act and his horse "Rusty" was the star performer of the lot, showing almost human understanding in the team work between horse and his master.

This act was discontinued for lack of time to devote to practice and out-of-town engagements.

## Nebraska Logical Nuclear Energy Site

Sen. Carl T. Curtis has recently brought to the attention of the atomic energy commission the importance to American agriculture, of locating in Nebraska a nuclear reactor to produce electricity. Curtis, a republican, is a Nebraska senator.

Consumers Public Power of Columbus is one of four applicants throughout the country seeking to build nuclear reactors on an experimental basis. The sodium-type reactor sought by Consumers would generate 75,000 kilowatts of energy.

Curtis states, "It is important that agriculture share equally with industry in nuclear development. Aside from the power which can be used by our REA systems and communities, other research which is of great importance to agriculture will be made possible. Experiments in new fertilizers and in use of radio-isotopes to study crop and animal nutrition are very beneficial to farmers. Nebraska is the logical state to carry on nuclear studies which will aid farmers of the nation."

## Celia News

Hans and Jim Lauridsen were Saturday visitors at Spencer.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton McKathnie and family were Monday evening supper guests at the Gerald Risor home near O'Neill.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Terwilliger and sons spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Mullen. The men went fishing.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman and sons, Gerald and Glen Frickel, were Sunday evening visitors at the Duane Beck home.

Mr. and Mrs. Hans Lauridsen, were Monday evening visitors at the Truman Rossman home.

David Frickel visited Billy Milner Sunday afternoon.

Markita Hendricks spent Friday to Sunday at the Leonard Chaffin home. On Saturday she

helped them drive cattle from Chaffin's home to their farm north of the Hendricks ranch.

Sunday dinner guests at the Mark Hendricks home were Omer Poynts and Grandpa Blow, Edith, Linda and Frances Chaffin. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Chaffin also enjoyed a fish supper at the Hendricks home that evening.

Mrs. Rudolph Ruda and daughter, Isla, visited several families in Lauridsen community.

Omer Poynts and Grandpa Blow were Tuesday, April 26, guests at the Mark Hendricks home.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Colfack and family of O'Neill spent Sunday with the Emil Colfack family.

LeRoy Hoffman along with many of the men of the Immanuel Lutheran church fixed fence for Mrs. Chris Gathje Monday.

Markita Hendricks spent the past two weeks attending the school Millie Ernst teaches, north of O'Neill.

Carol Schlotfeld took eighth grade exams in Atkinson Friday and visited at the O. A. Hammerberg home in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. George Beck of Atkinson, his aunt, Metha Beck of Winner, S.D., her mother, Mrs. Nickolas of Naper, were Sunday dinner guests at the Duane Beck home.

Buddy Focken, Denton Colfack, Shirley Colfack and Donnie Frickel attended the junior-senior banquet Saturday evening at Atkinson public school. Billy Focken helped serve the banquet.

Mrs. Ray Pease went to Omaha Friday to attend a convention and returned on Monday.

Gerald, Harold, David and Glen Frickel attended Lauridsen school picnic April 24. Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Frickel, Vickie, Bonnie and Rodney visited Mr. and Mrs. William Coleman.

Gerald and Glen Frickel spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman and sons.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Manning and family spent Sunday, May 1, with her sister, Mrs. Earl Schlotfeld, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman and sons took cake and ice cream

Mrs. LeRoy Hoffman took her son, Roger, Vicki and David Frickel to Atkinson Thursday for polio shots.

Tune in "Voice of The Frontier", thrice weekly!

Will be in O'Neill on FRIDAY, MAY 13 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. At the Hotel Golden Glasses Properly Fitted Eyes Scientifically Examined Dr. Edw. J. Norwood, O.D. Optometrist, from Crawford, Nebraska.

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**Riverside Club to Print Paper**

The Riverside 4-H club held its fourth meeting at the Charles Boyle home on Sunday, April 17. Roll call was answered by giving a sewing hint.

Everyone agreed to start publishing the 4-H club paper again. Each family will take turns printing it.

The safety posters made by club members have been on display in various stores in O'Neill.

The next meeting will be at the Ed Boyle home in May but no date has been set. The club rosary will also be at the Ed Boyle home Monday, May 9.

After the meeting, demonstrations were given by Rita, Helen and Frances Boyle.

Most of the members and parents attended family fun night in O'Neill on April 16. Several awards were won by members and leaders. They also attended the safety meeting on April 18.

A record of the height and weight of each of the members was taken by the health leader, Mrs. George Ramold.—By Mary Agnes Boyle, reporter.

**Schaffer's Mother Honored at 84**

Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer of Lincoln, mother of D. C. Schaffer of O'Neill, Sunday was honored at a family gathering at her home in honor of her 84th birthday anniversary.

Attending the affair were Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Schaffer and Dr. and Mrs. G. R. Cook, all of O'Neill, and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Schaffer of Emmet.

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In Nebraska, racing dollars are returned to you. Your charitable, educational and civic enterprises . . . your county fairs, agriculture and stock shows, 4-H and FFA activities all benefit. No individual can profit because racing in Nebraska can be conducted only by non-profit organizations or fairs. Yes, in Nebraska thoroughbred racing is different. You not only share in the fun and the pleasure—but also in the benefits!

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AK-SAR-BEN RACES

(No racing Sundays and Mondays) (EXCEPT Mon., May 30 and Mon., July 4)  
Post Time—2 P.M. RAIN OR SHINE  
TWILIGHT RACES EVERY THURSDAY, 3:30 P.M. (Except Thurs., May 19, Post Time 2 P.M.)  
NO CHILDREN ADMITTED

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## \$55,843,018 in BENEFITS to NEBRASKANS REPORTED by CONSUMERS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

Consumers Public Power District's Annual Report\* reveals that total benefits accumulating to Nebraskans since the beginning of the District's operations had reached a total of \$55,843,018 at the end of 1954. This is far more than the original investment of \$44,425,000 made by the District to acquire its initial properties.

These benefits came from the following sources:

1. Revenue bonds redeemed from earnings—\$15,450,000, representing Nebraskans' equity in the system itself. Bond redemptions during 1954 amounted to \$1,674,000.
2. Gross additions and improvements, from earnings, to the system—\$23,036,079. (Total expenditures from all sources for these purposes now amount to \$38,420,377.)
3. Savings to customers through rate reductions—\$17,356,939. (The average cost per kilowatt-hour to the customer has been reduced by more than 27 per cent since the District started operations.)

These, of course, are the tangible benefits. Other important benefits include the expansion of Nebraska's economic horizons, and a higher standard of living for every citizen, through the availability of dependable, low-cost electric power. Meanwhile, through far-sighted planning, Consumers Public Power District is making certain that these benefits will continue to accumulate throughout the years to come.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 1954 A YEAR OF RECORDS

THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS served set a new record—a total of 113,799, which was an increase of 2,684 over the 1953 figure.

KILOWATT-HOUR SALES set a new record—a total of 682,740,321, which was an increase of 6.6 per cent over 1953.

RESIDENTIAL USE of electricity set a new record—an average consumption during the year of 2,401 kilowatt-hours per residential customer, which was an increase of 7.9 per cent over 1953.

GROSS OPERATING REVENUES set a new record—a total of \$15,150,456, which was an increase of 6.7 per cent over 1953. Operating expenses increased by 6 per cent to reach a total of \$10,968,047.

ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS to physical properties resulted in a gross expenditure of \$4,318,552.



\*You may obtain a copy of the 1954 Annual Report, including audit statements certified by Arthur Andersen & Co., independent public accountants, at your nearest Consumers Public Power District office.

Serving Nebraska Electrically  
**CONSUMERS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT**

