## Prairieland Talk . . . 'Experts' Roam State, Fix Values

### By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

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LINCOLN-Maybe as a product of the seed. sown by the "experts" who went about the state from county-to-county telling the homefolks what their real estate should be valued at for taxation delegations from various counties are meeting at the statehouse in Lincoln wrangling over the valnations

Governor Anderson uses the milder word "discussion," but it means the same thing. Of the 17 counties participating in the "discussions" on August 1, Garfield and Wheeler

counties were represented by delegations. Holt county had been invited to participate by sending a delegation but ignored the gathering to expound the wisdom of the wise relative to the findings and conclusions of the experts.

Nebraskans heretofore managed their affairs without experts to be paid out of public funds. Now the city of Lincoln called in another group of experts from an eastern university to tell how to

Saunders organize the police force. Their conclusions include a dip into the nearly 17-million-dollar budget for increases in pay for the men assigned to guard the peace and dignity of the community.

A few years ago the experts were here telling how to run the city buses.

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Where are Tom Dewey, Colonel Lindberg, Sam McKelvie, Joe Lewis? . . A gent down at Hastings takes up a column of space in a state newspaper demanding that the world shall know he parks by the highway that carries the most traffic in Nebraska. Streets, highways and roads everywhere are crowded to capacity with traffic-this to the Adams county patriot has become the important problem, overshadowing world peace and the visit of a delegation of Muscovite "agriculturists" to prairieland. . . The ladies have adopted wide flaring skirts, maybe next the hoopskirt of our grandmothers. The other extreme a generation ago was introduced in O'Neill by Mrs. C. E. Hall, who ventue forth in the new togs, took a tumble and all but broke her neck. . . . A farm woman of a community near Lincoln tells us they have had to sell their cattle as the pasture is dried up and they have no feed for the stock. Southeast Nebraska has been scorched under a blazing sun all through July. Those returning from vacationing in the West report the Platte valley country robed in velvet green. . . The Russian farm delegation arrived in Lincoln the morning of August 1, looked the capitol city over and ventured out around Columbus. The day previous some of them flew from Omaha to Cherry county for a look at sandhills cattle herds.

Nebraska's two senators doubtless have the billion some hundreds of million dollar foreign ony. Too hot to write-will see you later. aid measure. Foreign aid. All lands have been on the map for centuries beyond 1876 and if the people of those lands have not yet acquired the capacity to root hog or die they better be getting busy.

Editorial

. . .

A lady told me today that her daughter, living in a distant Eastern city, is homesick for her childhood Nebraska home but feels they can not at present afford the \$129 the airways ask to fly her and her two small children to Omaha. Another case where "money bars the way." And the airplane does not take you to your ultimate destination. Some years ago I boarded a bus in Washington, D.C., and was landed safely in Omaha at a total cost of \$19.26. Well, not exactly the total cost as I gave the bus driver two bits for a pillow. Woke up the last morning only to discover I had acquired a seat mate during the night, and was sharing my pillow with the auburn-head of an attractive look-

Loren Mills, a native of Gordon and a nephew of the late Sturdevant brothers of Atkinson, Brantle and Doctor Sturdevant, is connected with one of the long-established mercantile concerns in Lincoln. Charley Sturdevant, a grandson of the doctor, is with one of the drug firms in the capital city.

R. L. Cochran was governor of Nebraska when the late Hugh E. James invited me to accompany him and two others to Lincoln to intercede with the governor and pardon board for the release of a young man of our Swan precinct community. The man had been mistakenly convicted and sent to prison. Cochran now is reported scheduled for retirement from government service in Washington, D.C., where he has been since retiring as governor. Governor Cochran treated us graciously and our request was granted.

Early in August I received a package through the mails from Melvin and Marvin Meals up by Atkinson. The package being about the size of a loaf of bread I thought the boys had concluded, in get?" he queried. view of the hot and dry July down this way, things were getting tough for us and in a generous mood they would help out with a loaf of bread. But upon opening the package I found a pigmy size bale of Holt county hay, a souvenir of the Atkinson hay days. Thanks a lot, boys; a bit of Holt county hay is precious and revives memories.

Loneliness-a cure for the bighead. Admitting that you were wrong is a step toward the elimination of error. Money talks; so does the goofy guy. You are eligible for a place in the ranks of the successful if the boss has put up with you for 10 years and your wife every day. . .

The radio has the same stories day-by-daythe weather, the highway crackups, officials and society groups pondering problems, community, national and world notables expounding their wisdom and which bunch at the bat scores the winning runs. And the story of a religious zealot in a Southern state, fondling a rattler in his devotions, approval of the homefolks for opposing that two is stung and dies is at least a break in the monot-

and Gossip By THE EDITOR

News, Views

### **Jovous** Occasion

Dark and brooding clouds had gathered in the eastern skies (of Omaha and vicinity tomorrow. If stationed at the navy training staall places!) for several hours last it rains here, I'm going to call tion at Great Lakes, Ill., managed Thursday afternoon. Finally, you! slashes of lightning pierced the sky, the thunder rolled and the heavens opened up with rain. It was a joyous occasion because this signalled the end of a miser-

**Ed Whalen Returns** able fortnight during which the torrid sun had baked the pastures, wilted the corn and dried up the awns and gardens. And most of the nation was sweltering.

The rain had been falling for 10 or 15 minutes, the South Fourth 'America Is Best Place Colo., where she will visit her sisstreet storm gutters were running brimful. The storm was still in progress and from horizon - to orizon we could see nothing but rainclouds. We were so elated we picked up the telephone and cailed Ed Stapowich, the U.S. weather bureau chief at Omaha. We thanked him for the rain.

Stapowich took the call stride and was happy to learn that somebody, at least, was getting rain.

It was Stapowich who drove through O'Neill back in May, stopoed off at The Frontier office, got imself out on a limb by declaring "the sandhills area will get general rain in just a few days." On the morning of the fourth day, Mr. Stapowich called from Omaha. "How much rain did you

Big Ed obviously was pleased that he had hit the nail on the head. "Are you happy?" he asked. The spring season had been dry hereabouts and the May 17 rain,

heralded in advance by Mr. Stap-For the ensuing two weeks the rains came almost daily.

Heat Wave Broken Fourth street north of Douglas, Back to our phone conversation and it was decided to pave these with Mr. Stapowich last Thursday afternoon. Big Ed declared the en's Christian Temperance Union blistering punishment was over; elected Elsie Johnson president that a cold front moving down and Mrs. Lucy Leach as vice-presfrom the north would touch off numerous showers on a line ex-turned home from a two-weeks' tending from Denver, Colo., into visit at the home of his brother Minnesota. Taylor (west of Bur- at Osage, Ia. . . Russel Bowen well) was clobbered with a seven- and Miss Wilma Dell Smith were inch deluge, and showers fell united in marriage at Crookston, all along the imaginary line.

chunk of the O'Neill territory was could be called the Scrawny Eyed

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home, all office buildings, every | Scridgets and the Scridgy Eyed Birthday club entertained at a daughters, Lou and Mrs. Harry factory, each street and every Scrawnets, boys around 10 or so, covered dish picnic dinner at the Lampert, and granddaughter, Jancowpen at the stockyards. But played at the fair grounds. home of Mrs. O. W. French. it'll take 1,572,669,431 one-ton air- One nine was composed of Capt.

conditioning units to do the job; Duke Kersenbrock, Paul Kubitor the energy equivalent to three and one-half atom bombs." schek, Howard Graves, G. Ham-mond, Don Loy, Jack Harty and The delegation wiped per-spiring brows and trudged away. Bill O'Connell. On the other team were Meredith McKenna, Jerry Throughout the conversation hout "Weather ing Heights" Harold Calkins, Jack Morrison about "Weather - ing Heights," and Francis Gunn. cloud-seeding, air conditioning and

**10 Years Ago** 

Apprentice Seamen Gene Streeter, George Janousek, James Gold-"We're forecasting showers for to get together for a 45-minute chat. . . The Bell Bros. circus, which takes great pride in its cleanliness of performance, will be in O'Neill. . . A large crowd attended the wedding of Norma Jean Derickson and Elroy Arthur from British Isles Lieb. . Arlan Tangeman of Chambers had the end of the middle finger cut off while working with hay machinery. . . Miss Vi Eidenmiller left for Denver, ter and other relatives. . . Mrs. Ruby Skelton, 67, died Wednesday at her home following a paralytic stroke.

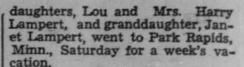
One Year Ago

Rev. Ernest Smith is the new Kaczor's place, 18 miles north of pastor of Christ Lutheran church O'Neill. . . Attorney Ed. H. Whelan, in O'Neill and St. Paul's Lutheran returned from a three-months' church in Atkinson. . . Walter trip to the British Isles. Ed says Kruse is recovering from injuries his travels have convinced him received while repairing his car that America is the best country at the Bill Alm place near Redon earth, and its people the most agreeable. . . The Frontier and the tired architectural engineer now Nebraska Farmer of Lincoln have residing in San Diego, Calif., rearranged to conduct a piano, gold visited scenes of his childhood, watch and scholarship contest. having been away from Holt The voting will be on subscription money paid to The Frontier. You Huffman of Deloit was elected senior vice - commander of the county and we want several state American Legion convention young ladies to enter the contest. held in Omaha. . . Mr. and Mrs. Senator had business in this re-

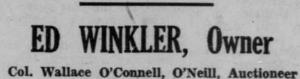


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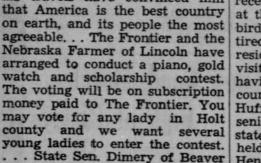
HOME ON LEAVE







First Nat'l Bank, Atkinson, Clerk



atom bombs the rain continued to

When You and I Were Young .

on Earth'

-CAL STEWART

fall at O'Neill.

Big Ed said:

gion and while up this way came on to O'Neill to visit with his old

owich's weather gadgets and sci-entific training, broke the drouth. friend, J. A. Cowperthwaite.

20 Years Ago

At the regular meeting of the city council, a paving district was created of the two blocks on ¥. drink ... Minn. . . John Baker was in

**50 Years Ago** An old settlers' picnic is being arranged for in the Blackbird country in a fine grove on William

We know of no one who ever regretted reading the Bible and know of many who have gotten much out of it. That ought to mean something.

# **Every Shot Helps**

better is that every Salk polio shot helps protect all children all over America. Of 20 children in a neighborhood, let us say, Johnny is the one to get a shot this week. But if Johnny has turned up with polio this week, instead of with protection, every child he played with, or rode in a bus with or sat next to at Sunday-school or church would also be exposed. Johnny is not going to give polio to any of those children. Tomorrow Susie will get her shot. Another six or eight children who might get it from her will not get it. They share her protection.

Multiply that protection over the country and it is easy to see that with the very first shots protection begins to work. It spreads with the new shots as fast - probably much faster - than the disease is likely to spread.

So there's no occasion for worry because Johnny gets it and Jane does not get hers for a few weeks. Three-year-old Kathy is in no greater danger than before because six-year-old sister, Libby, got hers and Kathy didn't. On the contrary, Kathy is safer than before, because Libby got hers.

Patience is a virtue of virtues today. Protection is not only coming. To some extent it is already here.

### Is Private Power Evil?

Private rather than public development of water power in Hells canyon has been approved by the federal power commission. FPC granted a 50-year license to Idaho Power company to build three dams on a hundred-mile stretch of the Snake river along the Idaho-Oregon border.

Almost automatically came the blasts from the public power advocates. Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) termed the FPC action "just another example of the fact that this administration waits until congress is away to uncork its special interests packages.'

Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) said the matter is far from settled. "When this battle is over the people's interests will prevail." Sen. Warren Magnuson (D-Wash.) said, "This ruling is a complete sellout of God-given resources to the private power body." There were similar statements from the usual people.

For many years the public power crowd has tried by constant repetition of old refrains to put over the idea that they alone are on the side of the angels, that "the people" are entitled to the cheaper power which federal ownership can bring, and that private utility firms are heartless seekers of huge profits.

The Minneapolis (Minn.) Star points out that first of all, the utility companies aren't closely held corporations operating for the profit of a few wealthy persons. Their stockholders in the aggregate number millions of individuals. Insurance companies, pension funds and educational institutions own substantial holdings in utility firms. Such investments have the highest approval because the companies are well run, subject to much regulation.

### An Inexcusable Tragedy

Even in an age of atomic weapons there is no reason why the penalty for an error of navigation should be death by shooting. Certainly not for all ty, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter under

A point which should make every parent feel | British airliner shot down by fighter planes off Hainan island last year. The Soviet government recently offered to pay for half the injuries sustained when an American navy plane was hit and forced to land off Alaska.

> But the crying need is some kind of warning procedure which will alert a plane that is off course, as the Israeli transport was, and give it a chance either to land or to stand clear. Over Hungary a few years ago even an American military transport was brought to earth safely by signals tried from another plane.

The Bulgarian statement says "a few warnings" were given to the Israeli ship, but does not say what kind. By international practice a code of warning flares or star shells could be adopted, to be fired near but not at an unidentified plane.

To be sure, an anti-aircraft crew these days is conscious that any large plane might carry an atomic bomb. But this hardly explains the destruction of a passenger-type plane bearing commercial markings and heading away from rather than toward the Bulgarian capital. Communist trigger fingers simply need to learn more restraint, if that be possible.

### Searing Summers

North America seems to be on the hot side of temperature cycle. Whether that cycle is one to be measured in decades or centuries no one really knows.

The middle of our continent (including Nebraska and her neighbors) has the "continental" climate-extremes in heat and cold. Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis and other metropolises lying in the heartland have seen their thermometers break the 112 mark in the last few years.

Warm cycles are not new. A sequence of searing summers swept the Mississippi valley and the plains more than one hundred years ago.

Ever wonder what happens to the coin given beggar? At once the glow of generosity is dimmed by doubts. Will the man spend the money for a warm bed or for a vice? The same citizen sends a check to a charitable organization. What the coin to the beggar lacked he feels sure the check to the agency will supply.

The International Astronautical Federation, meeting in Denmark, said it was now concentrating on a space ship that can return to the earth. This is a rather belated piece of news and will throw cold water on the budding plans of a lot of space enthusiasts.



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Entered at the postoffice in O'Neill, Holt coun-

being watered, our conversation with Stapowich drifted to different weather talk.

Big Ed has just completed a weather-wise house in Omaha. His house is perched on a hill, taking advantage of prevailing winds, shutting out the sun's hottest rays, ventilating through a cavernous culvert-type opening at the bottom of the hill. Air is drawn through the tunnel (which is deep in the ground), sent up into the house where the warm air is exhausted. A 20-degree differential means that Stapowich's "Weather-ing Heights" is air-conditioned mother nature's way.

Pencil Needed

Stapowich lampooned the artificial rain-making schemes being

"If cloud-seeding were feasi-Stapowich declared, "the U.S. weather service would be in it up to our neck.

"We get some screwy requests," he continued. "The other day some people came to me with a plan supposedly based on elementary physics. The people reasoned that since cold air lingered close to the ground, why couldn't the entire city of Omaha be airconditioned mechanically, the temperature lowered 20 degrees, and the cold air be kept from escaping by reason of hills, Missouri river, etc.?"

Stapowich pondered the delgation's questioning for a few moments, called for a sharpened pencil and began figuring. Finally he said to the do-gooders:

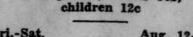
"I believe the city of Omaha could be air-conditioned - every



Thurs. Aug. 11 The air force called it "Operation Deep Freeze" . . . but this hand-ful of heroes who lived it called

it "hell"! TOP OF THE WORLD Starring Dale Robertson, Evelyn Keyes, Frank Lovejoy with Nancy Gates, Paul Fix, Robert Ar-

thur Family admitted for 2 adult tick-ets; children under 12 admitted with parent; adults 50c;



**Big Double Bill** All new thrills!

Starring John Agar, Lori Nel-son, John Bromfield. Wierd monster escapes! Terror siezes the city! All the pent-up fury of the

- also -Gene Autry in SUNSET OF THE WEST Adults 50c; children 12c; matinee Sat. 2:30. All children under 12 free when accompanied by parent

Sun.-Mon.-Tues. Aug. 14-15-16 John Wayne, skipper of the ship

that had to get home, dead or alive, and Lana Turner, the torrid fuse of his floating time-bomb! in



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