

Prairieland Talk

What Can a Grand Jury Do?

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN—Several hundred Lincoln citizens petitioned for a grand jury investigation down at the penitentiary. Investigation—what can a grand jury do more than has been done by investigators? Penitentiaries are the abode of bad men. Some are those who are not essentially bad but they are not the ones who cause the trouble. The bad man has chosen a life of crime and forever is with us. The state of Nebraska has them to deal with as other states also have the criminal element.



Romaine Saunders

Since the first one born into the world stained his soul with his brother's blood there have been murders; since man wanted what another had there have been robbers; since the foul Sodomite stunk to high heaven there have been sex fiends. For the protection of society the state deals with such, not as a reformation agency but that which deals out the punishment for crime.

Yet, since the repentant thief on the cross there have been the Harry Ormonds who, through the agency of spiritual birth, have buried a life of crime to walk in newness of life in the paths of righteousness. The head of a Lincoln mercantile concern that deals in clothing, household and personal needs from pins to furniture, from beefsteak to sliced bread, and covers a block or two of the commercial center, is in Washington, D.C., to plead and preach for federal defense plants to be brought to Nebraska. The gentleman of commercial instinct may anticipate the thrill of wrapping up another package of shoes and socks for another new customer but many Nebraskans would deplore seeing the charming prairieland dotted with conning towers, lookout stations, bomb piles and smoking, steaming factories where now you may travel the open country, charmed by the song of the meadow-lark, thrilled by the sight of creatures of the wild, look out across the farflung landscape robed in green gowns, stand by a little inland lake and dip a bare foot into the cooling nelects of the sands. Commercial instinct with many ends with ample resources for the daily needs, beyond that stretches the unspoiled prairieland.

As we bow at the shrine of childhood and youth, let us not forget the bent form, the wrinkled face, the silver threads among the gold that warn of the gathering shadows of life's approaching sunset and that from the toil-marked hands of the aged came much of what we enjoy today. And in those snow-crowned heads of father and mothers is the mature judgment the world needs so much just now.

The state of Nebraska maintains a school in the little town of Milford where trades are taught, such as shoe cobbling, auto mechanics and other crafts. But unless the applicant for admittance to acquire a trade has a college degree or at least a high school diploma he is not accepted as a student. It appears to this homo genius that the young person who has been deprived of the chance to acquire scholastic standing is the one who needs to learn a trade.

A man doesn't care much what you say about him just so you get his name right. Ladies are still more sensitive about it. What there is about that plainly typewritten name Mary that looked like "Maude" to the typographical artists that put Prairieland Talk in print has not been explained. But I will try to square it with a gracious lady the next time I am in Atkinson by explaining my typewriter needs a new ribbon.

Another million-dollar bond proposal to dig for more water for the capital city. How the millions roll! The city fathers think the requirements for another year demand it. Who knows but next year bonds will be in demand for "flood control"?

Editorial

'Voice of the Soviet Union'

(Guest editorial from Pierce County Leader)

The cold war has taken some queer turns lately.

"The Voice of America" overseas radio program became "The Voice of the Soviet Union" on August 24 when the Soviet acting minister of agriculture used its facilities to broadcast to the Soviet people.

At the suggestion of the USIA chief, the impression of Vladimir Matskevich, head of the Russian farm delegation, were recorded at the Soviet embassy in Washington for transmission to iron curtain countries.

No wonder several congressmen have said they intend to ask why U.S. taxpayers should spend 100-million-dollars a year on USIA if the cold war is over!

The chap at the head of the USIA is named Streibert.

About those exchange visits of Russian and American farmers: On the surface it would seem our delegation has learned little of value about farming methods in Russia, but what the Russians learned in this country (including visits to the Omaha-Lincoln-Columbus areas and the sandhills) is something else. By and large the Russians weren't dirt farmers at all but bureaucrats acting in the capacity as agents.

And so the cold war grinds on!

It is easy enough to tell somebody else what

Atkinson can lay claim to having some "firsts". One of these is a lifelong citizen who believes he was the first white child born in Holt county, maybe before it became organized as a county. More than four score years ago a pioneer mother of prairieland looked into the face of her new born babe with the tender emotions that only a mother can know and wondered what this untamed wildness that echoed to the tramp of buffalo might have in store for her son. That baby was Herb Bitney, who grew up in the Atkinson community and still abides there.

O'Neill, too, had its "first white baby," Joe Ryan, who died many years ago, a victim of lawless violence. And so long ago began a rivalry, Atkinson to outdo O'Neill, O'Neill to outdo Atkinson.

As the Bitneys were up there before there was an Atkinson, the Ryans came with the Gen. John O'Neill colonies the Bitneys have prior claim to the honor of being first.

Atkinson had progressive citizens from its earliest days. So did O'Neill. Maybe rivalry was the spur and quirt that put life into both communities. A courthouse was needed to make Atkinson all its promoters thought it should be, so county division schemes one after another were born of ambition and died for lack of votes. Out of the rivalry and envy of long ago two fine little cities have emerged, the one reaching a hand across the 20 miles between to grasp the hand of the other and thus promote friendly relations that make for the onward march of both to best serve their communities.

I saw him today for the first time, maybe the last. Not a pleasing picture to be unrolled upon the scroll of the daily street scene. A young man, a human wreck leaning on crutches and useless legs terminating in feet that had never taken a step. Not a pleasing picture but one to arouse sympathy. Inspired to pause, I looked into a clear face and a smile greeted me. A question or two, a little talk and the story of a courageous soul was told. The hand of affliction was laid upon him in infancy. He had not run and played in childhood, was deprived of life's activities in youth, had no chance for schooling. And then, dark eyes raised upward as to form a question, he asked if I would do something for him. Just name it, he was told. The favor involved some effort, the outlay of a few cents. Swinging from the sidewalk on his crutches and leaning against a tree, he awaited my return with gratitude. Or was it a chuckle that a sucker had been caught on the hook? I like to think not.

This morning the sun hides for shame behind a cloud that came from somewhere out of the deep blue after scorching earth and beast and bird and man for many days and we are fanned with mollyfying winds originating beyond the Arctic circle. August draws in its hot breath as it steps off the calendar to make room for September which leaves here and there a drop of rain to wet a dry land. Velvet-tinted leaf in high treetop flutters gratefully in the wind a welcome to the cool September morn. Morning glories in white and blue and pink hang in clusters to the vines and the gladiola bloom contributes floral charm to nature's scene.

Corn huskers will not be in demand in the Cornhusker state when autumn skies look upon us. The corn fields are about as scarce of nubbins as at any time in the past. As only a few of the 93 counties of the state can be classed as "corn country" the state as a whole will not suffer from a failure of the corn crop, while bins and cribs still bulge with products of other years. Maybe some of the corn ground should be turned over to peach orchards as Nebraska produces a quality of fruit unequalled anywhere.

News, Views and Gossip

By THE EDITOR

'Just Didn't Fit'

Mrs. August Rednar of Chambers recently received a surprise package in the mail. Upon opening the parcel she found her "store teeth" that had been missing.

It took a year, a dissatisfied finder and Uncle Sam's mail channels to restore her artificial chop-pers. The story began in August, 1954, when the Rednars were enjoying a picnic at Omaha's Peony park.

Writes Mrs. Rednar: "As I had just received my new teeth, the uppers were giving me a bit of trouble. So I removed them and put them in my pocket. When the time came that I decided to wear them again, I found them gone.

"We hunted everywhere but no luck. "But, almost a year to the date later, a small package came in the mail. And there were my teeth, not harmed one bit. I was ever so pleased to have them restored. But a note that accompanied them was somewhat disappointing.

"The note said: 'Take these back to your dentist. They are poorly made. They just didn't fit at all!'"

Miscellany:

Among those adults who last month completed private swimming courses at the Muny pool were: Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Gokke, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cokke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clifford of Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Rooney, Mrs. A. P. Jazzkowiak

(wife of the chairman of the park board), Rev. Howard Claycomb, jr., of Chambers (pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran church), Mrs. D. C. Schaffer, Alice Johnson. The tutor was Miss Elizabeth ("Ibs") Schaffer. Also among the privately-taught pupils were Bonnie and Bobby Clifford and Dick Galyn, all of Atkinson, and Pat Gokke. The story is making the rounds that Sen. Joe McCarthy's brother, who lives down on the farm in Wisconsin, has been in Holt purchasing cattle. But an effort to locate the brother of the illustrious red-hunting senator proved futile.

—CAL STEWART

When You and I Were Young . . .

Inman Man Purchases Nelig Brick Yards

LaViolette Fed at Hotel Evans

50 Years Ago The Nelig Leader says the Northwestern Brick works there have been bought by William McKenna, until recently a resident of Inman. . . Miss Ruth Evans entertained 16 friends at the Hotel Evans. Walter LaViolette was guest-of-honor. . . Dr. B. T. Truettblood has made arrangements to leave O'Neill, having sold his office and residence to Dr. E. T. Wilson. . . Michael J. Flannigan and Alice Blanch Barclay were married at Stuart. . . Jack Dwyer returned to Omaha to resume his studies at Creighton Medical college. . . Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kelly returned from their western trip.

10 Years Ago

The Eagle Creek 4-H club held a meeting at the J. B. Mellor home. A dinner featuring fried chicken was served. . . Stc. John H. Protivinsky is serving aboard a battleship which is taking part in the Pacific fleet occupation of fourth term as principal of Lynch high school. . . The employees fourth term as principal of Lynch high school. . . The employees of the telephone office held a farewell picnic at the city park in honor of Miss Lois Osborne. . . Romaine Saunders returned from Lincoln and took the bus to Atkinson on his way to his ranch home southwest of Amelia. He had been east about six weeks and had visited in Washington, D.C.

One Year Ago

Rev. M. H. Groesenbach, who has been pastor of Wesleyan Methodist church here for 10 years, has moved to Gordon. . . Ross Loveland, 32, a Kansan who was arrested by authorities at Kimball and brought to O'Neill, was sentenced to one year in the state penitentiary. . . Miss Donna Mae Fuhrer, 21, is entering a new field. The plucky young lady, who has been bedfast for many years, is doing oil painting of wooden plates and bowls. . . The Ewing Advocate went to press for the final time last week. Miss Thelma

Drayton, publisher, explained that she had been unable to get sufficient help and is "too ill to maintain the business." . . M. B. Huffman, cashier of the Farmers State bank at Ewing, returned from Madison, Wisc., where he had been attending a school of banking.

Sees Balanced Budget in Next Fiscal Year

U.S. Sen. Carl T. Curtis (R-Nebr.) predicted Wednesday that the federal budget will be balanced within the next fiscal year. He pointed out that the deficit for the current year, fiscal 1956, will be 1.7 billion rather than 2.4 billion predicted earlier. Senator Curtis believes that, with careful management of government spending, some opportunity for debt retirement and tax reduction will be possible, after the budget is balanced.

Curtis said, "A three percent curtailment in federal spending, during the next fiscal year, will balance the budget. Our deficit, this year, is the lowest in the five years past."

"I believe," said Curtis, "the public will strongly support

federal economy necessary to balance the budget. And, I think they will seek a balanced budget prior to tax reduction."

Ainsworth Pool Fund Mounts—

AINS WORTH—The swimming pool memorial fund started early this month at the Star-Journal office now totals \$148.20. The money, which will be used to construct a swimming pool at Ainsworth's East city park as a memorial to the late Mrs. C. C. Jones, wife of the late editor of the Brown County Democrat, will continue to be collected.

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

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As Every Mother Knows... 'Tomorrow's Child is Today's Food' Future Good Growth And Good Health Depend So Much Upon The Quality And Kinds Of Food You Give Your Child 3 Times A Day NOW! WONDER BREAD HELPS BUILD STRONG BODIES 8 WAYS! Get It For Your Child Today! Note How Famous Wonder Bread Compares With Meat, Milk, Fish And Eggs, And Make It One Of The "Foundation" Foods In Your Child's Dietary! This Chart Shows How WONDER BREAD Compares With Other, Leading "Foundation" Foods. HERE'S HOW WONDER BREAD HELPS BUILD STRONG BODIES 8 WAYS! 1. MUSCLE As much Protein as a serving of roast sirloin of beef. 2. BONES & TEETH As much Calcium for bones and teeth as in a helping of cottage cheese. 3. BODY CELLS As much Phosphorus for cell metabolism as 1 egg. 4. BLOOD As much Iron for rich red blood as found in 3 lamb chops. 5. APPETITE As much Vitamin B1, to help maintain appetite as supplied by a serving of fried liver. 6. GROWTH As much Vitamin B1, for growth processes as 3 slices of yellow American cheese. 7. BRAIN As much Niacin to help maintain mental health as 6 sardines. 8. ENERGY As much Energy as supplied by the carbohydrates, fat and protein of 2 glasses of milk. *This amount consumed daily is not a substitute from a nutritional standpoint for the total nutritional value of the various foods listed.

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