

Lifelong Resident of Ewing, 83, Feted



James Gunter... crawled home from school during '88 blizzard. (Story at right.)

(Another story on page 8)
EWING—A lifelong resident of the Ewing community James H. Gunter, 83, was the oldest person present last Thursday evening for the 35th annual sunset banquet sponsored by the Women's Society of Christian Service at the Methodist church parlors.

Mr. Gunter was born April 15, 1872, only a short distance northeast of town. His parents were the late Calvin and Lavine Gunter. His father had fought with the North during the Civil war and had filed for a homestead across the Elkhorn river from the farm where James now lives with his son, Lionel.

The family spent the early years in a log cabin, burning twisted hay and cow chips for fuel.

James married Elsie Hoke at Neligh. Antelope County Judge James Field performed the ceremony.

The Gunters became the parents of 13 children—one dying in infancy. Mrs. Gunter died October 29, 1941.

Mr. Gunter recalls the grim blizzard of January 12, 1888, and his crawling part of the way home from school that day, guiding himself by holding onto a fence. He attended school in town.

His father had gone to Neligh for flour and got back as far as Clearwater. There was considerable apprehension in the family concerning the welfare of the elder Mr. Gunter.

Mr. Gunter is a member of the United Presbyterian church. He counts 27 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

He lost his right arm by amputation in 1933 following a tree-felling accident. His brother, DeWitt, who lives in Ewing, has one leg amputated.

Mr. Gunter has one other brother, B. R., who lives in Twin Falls, Ida., and a sister, Mrs. Rose Beckman, who resides at Ronka, Ill.

The children are: Mrs. Lyle (Lavine) Switzer of Ewing; Lionel of Ewing; Mrs. Steve (Jennie) Shavlyk of Chambers; William of San Francisco, Calif.; Mrs. R. A. Hord of Ewing; Clairmont of Corona, Ill.; Mrs. H. (Henrietta) Babcock of Oakland, Calif.; Lafayette of Hoskins; Mrs. Michael (Isabelle) Cronin of Denver, Colo.; Mrs. Dayton (Everal) Wood of Chicago, Calif.; James of Geneseo, Ill.; and Mrs. Joyce (Tony) Montalvon of Somerset, Mass.

The state called nine witnesses. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Leo Marx, who live about a quarter-mile from the accident scene. Mr. Marx was the first person to arrive after the crash. Residents living near the highway testified they were awakened in the early morning hours by the sound of a car traveling at high speed and then heard the crash.

Two Butte girls testified they saw Van Buren with a group of boys in a cafe at Bonesteel, S.D., the night of the accident and that there were four cartons of beer on the table where the boys were seated and that when the boys left the beer disappeared.

Dr. R. E. Kriz of Lynch, who examined Van Buren after the accident, testified that a laboratory test of Van Buren's blood taken the night of the accident, showed a percentage of alcohol in the range considered to be intoxication.

Also testifying about the accident were Sheriff Claude Collins of Butte and State Highway Patrol Sgt. Ray R. Shorney of Ainsworth.

Defense Attorney Cronin made several motions asking dismissal of the action and dismissal of each separate charge, but all were over-ruled by the court.

The defendant was ordered bound over to a later session of district court. The defendant's bond, filed August 23 when the action was filed, was ordered continued.

Van Buren was hospitalized at Lynch following the accident, taken to Butte where he was held, and later was hospitalized at O'Neill.

Van Buren Bound Over at Butte Overflow Crowd at All-Day Session

BUTTE—An overflow crowd Monday necessitated moving a preliminary hearing in a motorcycle homicide case from the county courtroom to the district courtroom.

Willard Van Buren of O'Neill, 20-year-old father, was bound over to the district court after a preliminary hearing in O'Neill.

Judge John P. Classen presided at the all-day session.

The charge against Van Buren resulted from the death of Daniel Kersch, passenger in a car driven by Van Buren, in an accident which occurred about two miles west of Spencer on U.S. highway 281 early August 21.

Monday's hearing had been continued from September 19, when a defense motion to require County Attorney William L. Brennan to file a bill of particulars was granted by the court.

Julius D. Cronin of O'Neill is defense attorney.

The bill of particulars charged the defendant with three offenses of unlawful operation of a motor vehicle—reckless driving, exceeding the legal speed limit at night and driving while intoxicated.

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'56 Ford Going on Display Friday

H. J. Lohaus, manager of the Lohaus Motor company here, has announced that the 1956 Ford will go on display at showrooms here Friday, September 23.

"Ford brings greatest safety news in a generation," Mr. Lohaus explains. "Ford also brings Thunderbird power, styling and design in the 1956 models."

BECOMES MASTER MASON

NIOBARA—A Master Mason degree was conferred on Bolton Randa, son of Vac Randa of Verdugo, in ceremonies here Friday night. L. G. Gillespie, past master of Garfield lodge 95, O'Neill, was present.

Half Hour Show!
"Voice of the Frontier"
WJAO
Mon. — Wed. — Sat.
9:30-10 A.M. — 780 k.c.

THE FRONTIER

North-Central Nebraska's BIGGEST Newspaper

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Death Parts Couple Wed 65 Years

James H. Snelson Dies in Atkinson After Suffering Stroke

ATKINSON—Funeral services were held at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, September 18, from the Methodist church in Chambers for James H. Snelson, 88, who died Thursday at his home in Atkinson.

The late Mr. Snelson suffered a stroke on Thursday, September 8. His condition deteriorated steadily following the stroke, and he was unconscious during the two days preceding his death.

Rev. J. M. Hodgkin officiated. Music was furnished by a mixed quartet composed of Stanley Lambert, Thomas Lambert, Mrs. Letha Cooke and Mrs. V. Robertson with Mrs. Bernard Hoffman at the piano.

Mrs. James Platt took care of the flowers. Burial was in the Chambers cemetery.

The late James Henry Snelson was born November 8, 1866, to Mary Elizabeth and James Henry Snelson, sr., at Oskaloosa, Ia.

At an early age he moved with his parents to Kansas where he grew to manhood. Later, he moved to Genoa where he was united in marriage to Rosa Ellen Wray on April 7, 1890. The couple became the parents of nine children—one son and eight daughters.

They lived on a farm near Genoa for a time before taking a homestead northwest of Bartlett in 1905. They lived for about 10 years in the Amelia community, five years at Long Pine and about 1 1/2 years in Atkinson.

Mr. Snelson took great pleasure in his grandchildren. He was a member of the Congregational church of Long Pine.

In April of this year the Snelsons observed their 65th wedding anniversary. In 1950, for their 60th wedding date, a large celebration was held in the church at Long Pine.

Survivors include: Widow—Rosa; son—Emel of Long Pine; daughters—Mrs. Gary (Edna) Jones of Medford, Ore.; Mrs. Ira (Elsie) Goodwin of Long Pine, Ore.; Mrs. George (Hazel) Cutler of Rockford, Wash.; Mrs. Albert (Ethel) Sanford of Red Bluff, Calif.; Mrs. Opal Vargason of Atkinson; Mrs. Delbert (Erma) Edwards of Amelia; Mrs. Clifford (Thelma) Green of Veneta, Ore.; and Mrs. Donald (Velma) Huston of Sedro Wooley, Wash.

There are 20 grandchildren and 47 great-grandchildren; sisters—Mrs. Olive Long of Genoa; Lulu Greenlee of Lexington and Ella Sabbin of Portland, Ore.

Mr. Snelson was a graduate of the University of Wyoming where he majored in animal husbandry. He was active on the university's livestock judging team. He was also active in the university's ag club.

Numerous 4-H members in the county have met him at 4-H club camp at Long Pine. He will be helping County Agent A. Neil Daves with all phases of extension work in the county.

Mrs. Cole Shakes Hands with Nixon

Vice-President Richard Nixon arrived in Omaha Tuesday for a party with Nebraska republican leaders.

Mrs. Guy Cole of O'Neill, chairman of the Holt county republican organization and a member of the state GOP committee, took part in the conference with Nixon, chatting with him and posing in a picture in which she was shaking hands with the vice-president.

BAND TO MARCH

EWING—The newly-organized Ewing high school marching band, under the direction of Eugene Kresl, will march in the Friday day celebration parade, which is to start at 1:30 p.m., on Friday, September 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Melena and family returned Wednesday from Searles, N.D., where they had spent a week visiting Mrs. Melena's parents.

General Rains Break Drouth

Page Couple Wedded 60 Years 4 Concerts Assured by Members

PAGE—Mr. and Mrs. Rollie Snell quietly celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sunday, September 18, at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Cullen.

The Snells were married at O'Neill, September 19, 1895. The trip took all day as they traveled by lumber wagon. The late County Judge McCutcheon performed the ceremony.

The Snells have lived all of their married life near Page and the greater part of their lives here as well.

They are the parents of three daughters—Mrs. Harvey Cullen of Page, Mrs. Roy Stewart of Page and Mrs. Dale Asher of Logan, Ia. There are eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Sixty relatives attended the affair. No open-house was scheduled because Mrs. Snell's health is "not very good."

Mrs. Snell's maiden name was Kate Julius and she was born at Stitchee, Wisc. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Julius. She came to Nebraska with her parents when she was 11-years-old.

They were induced to Nebraska by a cousin, an attorney, who assured the Julius family they would "do better in Nebraska."

The family lived in the Antelope Slough community. She went to school at O'Neill and frequently encounters old schoolmates.

Mr. Snell was born in Illinois in 1872 and came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Snell, to Nebraska when he was eight-years-old. His people homesteaded one-half mile north of Page and one mile west, now owned by R. V. Crumly.

Asked about his health, Mr. Snell smilingly declares: "It couldn't be better!"

Mr. and Mrs. Snell maintain their home and entertain their friends, and Mr. Snell drives his car.

Relatives were present Sunday from Osage and Newcastle, Wyo.; Cherokee, Meriden, Riceville, Logan and Sutherland, Ia., and from O'Neill, Stuart and Page.

Mrs. Snell's parents are buried at Cherokee, Ia., and his parents' graves are in the Page cemetery.

Rural Fire District May Be Organized

A meeting has been called for 8 p.m., Tuesday, September 27, for the purpose of discussing the possibility of establishing a rural fire protection district in the O'Neill locality.

Andy Clark, former county supervisor, has talked with scores of rural people. He declares the sentiment is strongly in favor of such a district.

Sixty percent of the freeholders in a designated area must sign a petition in order to initiate plans with the county board. The procedure calls for hearings and routine steps provided there is sufficient interest.

E. G. Iverson, state fire marshal, has agreed to meet with interested persons and discuss the creation of a fire protection district here. O'Neill Fire Chief G. E. Miles said Mr. Iverson would be present at Tuesday's meeting.

Useless grass fires this season, touched by electrical storms, tractors and other vehicles, have made most residents extremely conscious of need for organized rural fire protection.

Insurance rates—usually are lower in areas where organized protection is provided. Districts are supported by small levies not to exceed one mill, or by total bonded indebtedness not to exceed 10 thousand dollars.

Emory Harding, 50, Dies at Cheyenne

Emory Harding, 50, who was born and reared north of O'Neill, died Wednesday, September 14, in a Cheyenne, Wyo., hospital. He had been in failing health several years and had submitted to surgery four days prior to his death.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, September 17, at Kimball and burial was there. Mr. Harding left O'Neill several years ago and operated an oil transport truck at Kimball.

Survivors include: Widow—Ruby; daughters—Mary Lorraine and Nadine; sons—James and Robert; three stepsons; brothers—Clayton of Omaha; sisters—Mrs. Joseph Montagne of Kingsley, Ia.; Mrs. Sybil Maring of Brownsville, Tex.; Mrs. Guy Cole of O'Neill and Mrs. John Rhode of Cheyenne, Wyo.



Mr. and Mrs. Rollie Snell... 30 years on farm, 30 years in retirement.—The Frontier Photo.

"I never got beyond the eighth grade. My fathers' health was poor and I had to help out at home," Mr. Snell explains. "We went to school only three months out of the year, anyway, and burned hay, corn stalks and cow chips the year around."

The Snells lived on the homestead 30 years and have since rounded out 30 years in retirement at Page.

Asked about his health, Mr. Snell smilingly declares: "It couldn't be better!"

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Mrs. Snell's parents are buried at Cherokee, Ia., and his parents' graves are in the Page cemetery.

Pauline Parshall Disappears Saturday

ATKINSON—Miss Pauline Parshall, 19, a former Atkinson high school senior who had been employed on the Charley Peterson ranch, has been missing from her home since 8:30 o'clock Saturday evening.

The girl's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Parshall, who reside at the west edge of Atkinson, asked Holt County Sheriff Leo Tomjack to assist in locating her.

Miss Parshall had been working as a cook on the Peterson ranch 16 miles south of Atkinson and one mile east.

The parents said they believed their daughter was last seen with a Boyd county man. The two were driving a car belonging to a mutual friend.

Sheriff Tomjack said Wednesday no warrant had been issued in connection with the case.

Plan Reception for Ewing Teachers

EWING—A public reception will be held tonight (Thursday), starting at 8 o'clock, at the annex of the United Presbyterian church for the Ewing public school teachers.

"Everyone is invited and especially all parents are urged to be present," a spokesman said. This event is sponsored each year by the churches.

In charge are Mrs. Wilbur Bennett, Mrs. Archie Johnston, Mrs. Ralph Munn, Mrs. Jerry Tomjack, Mrs. Archie Tuttle, Mrs. Harry Van Horn, Mrs. Eula Eppembach and Mrs. C. C. Hahlbeck.

Downey's Will Note 57th Anniversary

PAGE—Mr. and Mrs. Olive Downey of Page will observe their 57th wedding anniversary today (Thursday).

Mrs. Downey's maiden name was Bertha Taverer.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Summers of Page visited last Thursday at the Frank Summers home.



Mrs. M. N. Nelson Expires at Lynch

LYNCH—Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m., Monday, September 19, from the Methodist church here for Mrs. M. N. Nelson, 41, who died Friday in the Lynch hospital. She had been in ill health several months.

Rev. Anna Nelson, church pastor, officiated and burial was in the Lynch cemetery.

Mrs. Nelson's maiden name was Lillian Ashby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Ashby of O'Neill. She was born February 28, 1914, and she attended school at Lynch.

Her first husband was the late Leo Baker, who died seven years ago. Later she married Mr. Nelson at Lynch. The couple lived on a farm north of Bristow.

Survivors include: Widow; son—Barry Baker of Lincoln; daughter—Mrs. Stanley Bjornsen of Lynch; parents—Mr. and Mrs. Archie Ashby of O'Neill; brothers—Feathers of Omaha and Vernon, who is in service and is stationed in Colorado.

Pallbearers were Ronald Carson, William Schiessler, Ernest Darnell, Louis Nelson, Babe Ducker and Wallace Moffett.

Among those from O'Neill attending the funeral were Mrs. Rodney Tomblinson, Mrs. Annie Newman and Mrs. Robert White.

Flagman Makes Final Run on Trains 13-14

Eastbound Chicago & North Western train 14, leaving Chadron late Sunday afternoon, was the final run for the flagman. The 1955 Nebraska legislature amended the full train crew law to provide for elimination of flagmen on lines operating one passenger train each direction each day and equipped with not more than two passenger-carrying coaches.

The change is intended to decrease the operational losses of C&NW trains 13 and 14—the last two remaining passenger-mail-express trains serving north-Neb. The law was introduced by State Sen. Frank Nelson of O'Neill and was guided to enactment by the O'Neill senator despite intense opposition.

TB Group Plans Annual Meeting

The Holt County Tuberculosis association's annual quarterly meeting will be held Tuesday, September 27, at the Town House, according to Mrs. Edward M. Gallagher, president.

Paul Roder, state TB association representative will be there to explain the 1956 seal sales campaign. Miss Helen Martens of Atkinson is the county seal chairman for the drive to be conducted in November.

132 Teachers Attend Workshop

One hundred thirty-two Holt county rural teachers attended the workshop Friday at the Royal theater here. Speakers were Mr. Stoval of Lincoln, Miss Margaret Stiers, Miss Lucille Mitchell of Stuart, Miss Melba Dobrovoly and Mrs. Grant Peacock.

Lightning Kills Livestock

Rudolph Poessnecker, living north of Atkinson, said seven cows and eight calves were instantly killed on his place Thursday night. He said they were struck by lightning.

EDUCATION NOTES

"Human development and behavior" class will meet for the first session Friday, September 23, 7 p.m. "You may register at this first meeting," according to Alice L. French, county superintendent.

General Rains Break Drouth

General rains fell in much of Nebraska and south-central South Dakota Tuesday, breaking a prolonged dry spell.

The moisture succeeded in doing three things: (1) Prepared the ground for fall plantings; (2) buoyed the spirits of the people, and (3) refreshed pastures.

An unusually dry growing season had created an acute shortage of forage for the cattle, halved the hay crop and shrunk the corn crop to a fraction of the normal yield.

Northeastern Holt county was soaked thoroughly with precipitation ranging up to five inches at the Floyd Luber and Howard Oberle places near Dorsey. Howard Oberle Krugman, living in the same general area, reported four inches.

Clyde Streeter and Carl Wittfeldt, residing north of O'Neill, both declared in excess of three inches of rain fell at their farms.

East of Midway three farmers reported rainfall ranging from 2.50 to 2.65.

Small creeks in northern Holt were quickly transformed into swollen rivers. No hail damage was reported.

Atkinson's total of 2.50 inches ranked highest in the state among the cities and towns. The first shower about noon netted 1.60 inches and the evening rainfall contributed .90, making a 2.50 total.

Early Tuesday morning sprinkles and solid overcast foretold moisture was in store for thirsty pastures and lawns in the O'Neill vicinity.

About 11:15 a.m., a full-scale shower developed and drenched the city with 1.20 inches.

Another good shower started at 5:15 p.m. Some drizzle had been noted most of the day. O'Neill's official total was 1.73.

At 5 o'clock the clouds were so dark that motorists proceeded with lights on and storekeepers lighted their display windows.

Motorists traveling between Clearwater and O'Neill said the clouds were green. Much of the highway traffic stopped.

A drizzle turned into a good shower at Chambers during the noon hour.

After spitting most of the day, the clouds opened up at Amelia about 5 p.m., bringing relief to that drought-stricken community, which had received scarcely any moisture since July.

The Burlington railroad here reported general rainfall along the line east to Osmond.

Stuart and Newport each reported 2.50 inches; Bassett, 1 inch; Long Pine, 3 inches.

Ewing, Inman and Clearwater all reported in the neighborhood of 1.50 to 1.70.

Gregory, S.D., reported .95 of an inch of rainfall until noon on Tuesday; Verdugo reported 3.80; Chadron, 2.60.

Other reports: Chadron, 1.25; Grand Island, 1.12; Norfolk, 1.3; Omaha, 2.07; Lincoln, 1.70; Valentine, .59.

Both Omaha and Lincoln received rain Sunday and Norfolk received 44 Sunday afternoon.

The forecast today (Thursday) calls for sunny and cool with the highest temperatures in the 60's.

	HI	LO	Prec.
September 15	.99	66	.08
September 16	.95	71	
September 17	.95	69	
September 18	.89	71	
September 19	.79	60	
September 20	.68	95	1.72
September 21	.80	52	.01
Total			1.81

Film Showing Interrupted

AMELIA—Films were shown at school Thursday evening. These were interrupted by the call for help to fight prairie fires which had been started by lightning.

There were no fires in the immediate territory, but several were started in the Delbert Edwards and Art Doolittle vicinities.

Spectacular Fires Caused by Nature

The tinder-dry countryside erupted into flames at countless points Thursday night.

The fires were touched off by an electrical storm, which failed to produce much moisture.

There were two fires immediately south of town. One at the Tom Matthews place, where between 15 and 20 tons of round baled hay was destroyed. There (Continued on page 6)