



Mr. and Mrs. Ed. M. Leach on their golden wedding day.—The Frontier Photo.

## 175 Honor Couple on Golden Wedding Day

### Herbert Stevens, 70, Rites in Atkinson

### Dies Following Year's Illness

ATKINSON—Herbert O. Stevens, 70, died Friday, September 23, at Atkinson following a lingering illness.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p. m., Monday, September 26, at the Methodist church at Atkinson. Burial was at Page. Pallbearers were Gene Livingston, Duane Beck, Victor Frickel, Kenneth Jones, Harvey Groff and Lyle King. Rev. E. G. Hughes officiated.

Singers were Audrey Coxhill and Artha Pacha, who sang "The Old Rugged Cross," "Under His Wings" and "Beyond the Sunset." The pianist was Mrs. E. G. Hughes.

The late Mr. Stevens came to Holt county as a young boy from his birthplace in Iowa. He attended Wesleyan university in 1908 and on November 2, 1909, he was united in marriage with Nelle M. Gray at Page.

They settled on a farm near Page, later moving to Inman in the 1920's.

In 1933, they moved onto a ranch north of Atkinson where they lived until the early 1940's, when they moved into Atkinson. He was employed for several years with the Atkinson Livestock Market.

The couple left the farm when their sons entered military service during World War II.

The late Mr. Stevens had been a member of the Methodist church here since May 9, 1943.

Survivors include: Widow — Nelle; sons—Dale and Dean, both of Atkinson, Leo of New Orleans, La., and Ivan of Omaha; brothers — Ralph of Page, Guy of Scottsbluff and Lloyd of Lancaster, Calif.; sisters — Blanche Darr of Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. Evelyn Gray and Mrs. Ray (Leila) Snell, both of Page, Mrs. LuLu Townsend of Eugene, Ore., and Mrs. Florence Nell of Kansas City, Kans.; six grandchildren. One daughter, Helen, died in infancy.

## Sale Calendar

Wednesday, October 5: Frank and Melba Spath, 17 miles south of O'Neill on U.S. highway 281; 172 head of cattle, feed, machinery, household goods; Col. Ed Thorin, O'Neill, auctioneer; Chambers State Bank, clerk. (Details on page 9.)

Tuesday, October 18: Morris L. Harmon, one mile north of northeast corner of O'Neill city limits; livestock and machinery; Col. Wallace O'Connell, auctioneer; First National Bank, clerk.

Wednesday, October 19: Lloyd Bausch close-out, 48 head of cattle, poultry, feed, machinery, household goods; nine miles north of Bazelman's station; Col. Ed Thorin, O'Neill, auctioneer; O'Neill National Bank, clerk.

## Ainsworth Man Buys Rieck Ranch

Joseph Alberts of Ainsworth paid \$85.50 per acre for the 409-acre improved Melvin Rieck ranch, which was sold at auction Friday afternoon, it was announced by Virgil L. Laursen of O'Neill, broker, and E. C. Weller of Atkinson, auctioneer. Mr. Rieck plans to move his family to Washington state.

A large crowd attended the sale, 117 head of cattle selling strong. The Rieck ranch is located 6 1/2 miles south of O'Neill on U.S. highway 81.

### TAXES MUST BE PAID

Publication of the delinquent real estate list is scheduled to commence next week. Payment of delinquent taxes must be made before noon Saturday, October 1, at the county treasurer's office to avoid publication.

Half Hour Show!  
"Voice of The Frontier"



Mon. — Wed. — Sat.  
9:30-10 A.M. — 780 k.c.

Volume 75.—Number 22.

## Seek Names For Fire Petitions

### 40 Farmers, Ranchers Hear Fire Marshal; Boundaries Talked

Preliminary plans for a rural fire protection district in the O'Neill locality were developed Tuesday night during an informal meeting at the American Legion auditorium. Forty farmers and ranchers were present. E. C. Iverson of Ponca, state fire marshal, outlined the history of successful rural fire districts in the state. He said over two hundred districts are either now in operation or in the planning stage.

Iverson said the maximum mill levy for fire protection purposes is one mill and maximum indebtedness cannot exceed 10-thousand-dollars.

Iverson appeared at the request of O'Neill Fire Chief G. E. Miles.

Andy Clark, former Holt county supervisor, informally canvassed scores of farmers and ranchers in a half-dozen townships in helping to setup the meeting, and declared there is "considerable enthusiasm" for a district. Clark was made temporary chairman of the organization.

Tentative plans for the district embrace all of Grattan township, all of Shields, south half of Paddock, all of Rock Falls west half of Willowdale, all of Antelope (except a portion that might be incorporated in a Page district at a later date), virtually all of Inman, north half of Shamrock, eastern part of Emmet (which is not presently a part of the Atkinson district), and a small portion of Fairview (not in the Atkinson district).

Among those who volunteered to circulate petitions and explain procedures for establishing a district are:

Rock Falls—William Clausen; northeast Grattan—Robert E. Hanley; southwest Grattan—Andy Clark; northwest Grattan—John Dick; Willowdale—Walter Young; east half of Shields—Lloyd Whaley; west half of Shields—Alfred Drayton; south half of Paddock—Harry Lansworth; Emmet—Homer Maring; Inman—Harvey Tompkins (in cooperation with Inman Community club).

Antelope and Shamrock were the only townships not represented.

Iverson suggested the proposed organization work closely with the city officials here. He said customarily the rural districts provide and maintain the fire-fighting equipment but staffing and housing of the equipment usually is worked out in a contract with the city.

In exchange for staff and housing, the city is entitled to use the equipment when necessary within the city.

"Economic losses due to fire are important to everyone in the community, rural and city dwellers alike," he explained. "Coordination and cooperation reduce losses of life and property."

The history of rural districts proves the loss ratio is reduced the moment protective districts are formed.

If 60 percent of the freeholders in the various townships affix signatures to the petitions, the papers will be submitted to the Holt county board. The board then will conduct hearings and follow a legal procedure necessary to create a district.

Mr. and Mrs. Ora Philbrick of Stuart were Saturday guests at the Dwayne Philbrick home.

(Another photo on page 12)

One hundred seventy-five persons, many of them coming from Pierce county, defied Sunday afternoon's rain to help Mr. and Mrs. Ed M. Leach of O'Neill observe their golden wedding anniversary. The Leaches received their friends and relatives in the parlors of the First Methodist church.

Mr. Leach, 78, and his wife, 71, enjoy "pretty good health." Mr. Leach was born at Gracehill, Ia., and moved with his parents to Pierce county. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Leach. Mrs. Leach, whose maiden name was Ida Manzer, was born near Pierce, her parents having taken a pre-emption there. She taught rural school in Pierce county for three years and attended Wayne Normal school during 1902-'03.

One of the highlights of college (then equivalent to a high school) was a 16-week quarantine for smallpox. It wasn't until she returned to Wayne after a vacation that she broke out and then she was obliged to go to the "pest house."

Mr. Leach was the oldest of 11 children. She has two brothers and four sisters living.

Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Manzer.

The couple was married September 27, 1905, in Pierce at the home of a minister, Rev. M. Inhelder.

They established their home on a rented Pierce county farm where their only child was born. In 1914 the family moved to Holt county. They have lived continuously on this 156-acre farm for 42 years. The place is located two miles east of the O'Neill Livestock Market and is the first house south.

In recent years the Leaches have rented the farm but continue to occupy the house and buildings. They have raised up to one thousand Leghorn chickens in a single season and always tend a large garden.

They are members of the Methodist church and "we usually call for the republican ticket," explains Mrs. Leach.

For 28 years Mr. Leach was a director on the school board in district 5.

Mr. Leach said this year is one of the few in which his Elkhorn valley farm hasn't produced a good corn crop. "It's been terribly dry here—and everywhere," he observed.

Their daughter, Mrs. Russell (Margaret) Weingartner, resides in Tulsa, Okla. Mr. Weingartner, who is a native of O'Neill, is a geologist with an oil company. The Weingartners have two daughters and one son and the family was present for Sunday's celebration.

Mr. Leach has three living brothers.

Mrs. Henry Peterson of Armor, S.D., spent the weekend at the Don Peterson home.



## Free Merry-Go-Round Rides for Kids

The Continental Baking Company, bakers of the famous Wonder products, will provide free rides for kids on a musical merry-go-round Saturday, October 1, in O'Neill, 11 a. m., until 8 p. m. The portable fun machine will be set up north of Eby's Conoco Station on North Second street. Free tickets are available at the food stores: Bright's Red & White, Council Oak, Fourth Street Market, Neighborhood Grocery, New Outlaw Store, Shelhamer's Super Market and Stannard's Store. "Howdy Dooddy" flip pins will be given to the youngsters, according to E. S. Muxfelt, who is district supervisor for Continental.

# THE FRONTIER

North-Central Nebraska's BIGGEST Newspaper

O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska, Thursday, September 29, 1955.

TWELVE PAGES

Pages 1 to 12

Seven Cents



State Fire Marshal E. C. Iverson (right) addresses group of 40 farmers interested in rural fire district here. Kenneth Barthel of Chambers, Holt supervisor (left), and Ira Watson of Inman study map.—The Frontier Photo.

## Newtons Quietly Note 63d Wedding

### Couple Enjoys 'Quite Good' Health

EMMET—Mr. and Mrs. William Newton on Friday, September 23, quietly celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary at their home here. Both enjoy "quite good" health despite their advanced ages.

Mr. Newton makes a daily trip to the postoffice for the mail, and Mrs. Newton performs all the household work.

Mr. Newton and the former Ida Peck were married at Hartington on September 22, 1892. They became the parents of 11 children—seven of whom are still living.

Mr. Newton, 85, was born in Tama county, Ia., April 23, 1870. Mrs. Newton, 80, was born at Coleridge March 14, 1875.

The Newtons resided on a farm three miles east of Coleridge for three years following their marriage. They later lived on different farms in Cedar county and spent a short time at Ainsworth.

Twenty-eight years ago the Newtons came to Holt county and made their home south of Emmet. They made their home on the Maring place 15 years and for the past six years have maintained a home in Emmet.

Their four children deceased are: Mrs. Fred (Mabel) Perry, Dewey, who was killed in action during World War II; Bud and a daughter, who died in infancy.

Their living descendants are: Sons—Clyde of Emmet, Alvin of Laurel, Paul of Emmet and Howard of O'Neill; Mrs. Marvin (Hazel) Clouse of O'Neill; Mrs. E. (Inez) Lindberg of Laurel; Mrs. Gladys Brittle of Laurel; 20 grandchildren, and 37 great-grandchildren.

## Ralph Carlson Joins Safety Patrol Here

Ralph Carlson of Friend, newly-recruited Nebraska safety patrolman, has been assigned to the O'Neill station and will assist veteran Patrolman Robert Gude, who recently returned to O'Neill after having been stationed at Plainview.

Carlson was among 53 men who satisfactorily completed five weeks of training at the national guard camp at Ashland.

Donald Fiala of Columbus, also a new patrolman, will assist at Ainsworth.

## Congressman Miller, Aide Visit O'Neill

Rep. A. L. Miller (R-Neb.) and his secretary, Wayne VanNorman, were O'Neill visitors Wednesday evening. They conducted a clinic at the courthouse assembly room and listened to problems of constituents. Earlier they visited Butte. Today (Thursday) Doctor Miller and VanNorman will visit Bartlett and St. Paul and on Friday they will be at Greeley and Taylor.

## DOG TROUBLE AGAIN

Mayor Marcelus said Wednesday the city police and officials have been receiving complaints about dogs molesting pedestrians. "Either the owners will have to be responsible for the conduct of their dogs or our police will have to take a hand," the mayor declared.

## 5,300 LICENSES ISSUED

Holt County Treasurer J. Ed Hancock reported Wednesday 5,300 driver's licenses have been renewed since the sales began September 1. Two years ago approximately 8,000 licenses were issued to motor vehicle operators in the county.

## O'Neill Woman's Club Plans Year's Schedule

The O'Neill Woman's club schedule for the 1955-'56 season follows:

October—Book review by Mrs. Henry Canenberg of Bassett; library talk by Miss Bernadette Brennan.

November—Travelogue by Mrs. J. LaVerne Jay.

December—Members serve refreshments to "The Messiah" cast. January—China and silver talk by William McIntosh.

February—Old-fashioned Valentine party.

March—Travelogue by Miss Elja McCullough of Blair, formerly of O'Neill.

April—Musical.

May—35th anniversary party. Anyone interested in joining the O'Neill Woman's club is invited to call Mrs. Vernon Lorenz, Mrs. Cecil Baker or Mrs. H. D. Sandersleeve.

## Stock Horse Race Planned at Inman

INMAN—One of the features of the annual fall festival and community sale, to be held Saturday, October 8, will be a stock horse race at 11 a. m. Francis Anderl is receiving entries.

Another feature will be a greased pig - catching contest. There will be band music, a parade, free movies for children, concessions, bazaar and memorial stand.

George Coleman and Harry Moore will be auctioneers in connection with the sale. Items to be sold include saddle horse, Angus heifer, canned goods, furniture, feed, hay, calves, pigs and chickens. (Complete details in next issue.)

## Two Iowa Women Are Hospitalized

ATKINSON — Mrs. Florence Smith and Mrs. Doris Parson, both of Charles City, Ia., were injured Sunday when their car overturned three times at a point three miles east of Stuart. They were taken to the Atkinson Memorial hospital where Mrs. Smith is being treated for a fractured shoulder. Mrs. Parson suffered only from shock.

Dean Mosher of Creighton stopped Tuesday morning to visit the Gordon Watsons.

## Peterson to Test Vehicle Tax Law

Charley W. Peterson, Atkinson rancher has decided to test the constitutionality of the Nebraska motor vehicle tax law.

Peterson has filed a petition in Holt county district court. He is asking the court to order County Treasurer J. Ed Hancock, defendant, to issue license plates for Peterson's 1955 Cadillac before he (Peterson) pays the taxes for the balance of the current year. Hancock had refused to issue the licenses until Peterson had paid approximately \$19 in taxes due in advance on the new car, under Nebraska statutes.

## 9-County P-TA Meeting Planned

O'Neill will be host to a nine-county meeting of the Nebraska Fourth District Parent-Teachers' association. The all-day conference will be held on Wednesday, October 19. Details will be discussed at the next regular meeting of the O'Neill chapter on Monday evening, October 3, at the band room of the O'Neill public school.

The Fourth district embraces Holt, Rock, Keya Paha, Pierce, Antelope, Knox, Madison, Boone and Boyd counties.

State officers of the P-TA plan to be present. The program will be announced.

## Jaycees Plan Steaks for Stockmen, Buyers

At the Junior Chamber of Commerce meeting Tuesday night, plans were completed for entertaining the Sandhills Cattleman's association members, buyers, guests and members of their families. A steak fry will be held at the Country club Tuesday evening, October 4. This will be on the eve of the annual Sandhills stocker-feeder sale to be held Wednesday, October 5, at the O'Neill Livestock Market.

Serving will be from 6:30 until 8:30 p. m., out-of-doors if the weather permits.

Cecil Baker, Jaycee president, said the organization has undertaken the fry as a gesture of hospitality. Tickets are on sale at the O'Neill Agency and O'Neill Livestock Market.

Around two hundred persons will be served, according to advance estimates.

The Jaycees discussed plans for a "welcome" sign at the O'Neill outskirts, they looked back on considerable progress that has been made toward restoring Carney park, and they conducted routine business.

To Live in Wisconsin—REDBIRD—Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wells and son of Battle Creek were weekend guests at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wells of Bristow and Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Anderson of Redbird. They departed Tuesday morning for Monticella, Wisc., where they have employment. Keith Anderson accompanied them and plans to stay for a short time.

Airman on Leave; Visits Dakota—S/Sgt. John J. London of Offutt air base is home on a 30-days' leave to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mike London, and other relatives. Sergeant London and his parents returned from Colome, S.D., last Thursday where they had spent a week visiting their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Tarr, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Bridge and family spent Saturday at Hastings.

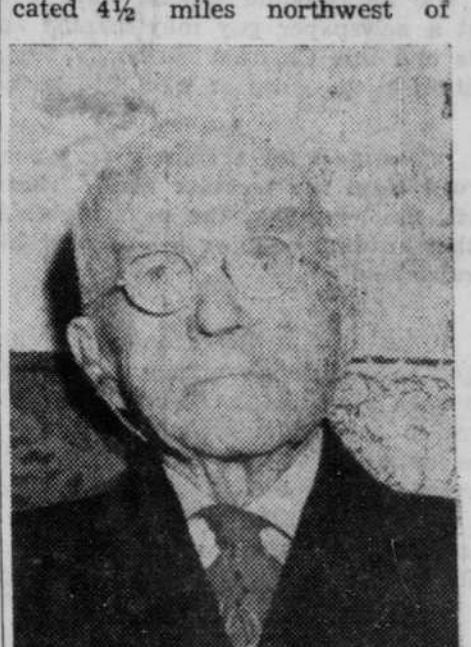
## Page Pair Married for 57 Years

### Lewis Downey, 90, Is Vet Down - Rapper; Mrs. Downey Active

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

PAGE — Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Downey quietly noted their 57th wedding anniversary Thursday, September 22, at their home in the northwest part of Page. Mr. Downey is 90 and hard of hearing. His wife is 78.

Lewis Henry Downey and Miss Bertha Tavenner were married at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas Tavenner, located 4 1/2 miles northwest of



Mr. Downey . . . pioneer.



Mrs. Downey . . . no excitement.

Page, on September 22, 1898, by Reverend George, who was presiding elder of the Methodist church at Neligh.

Their wedding trip included a week spent at the Omaha exposition.

Upon their return, Mr. and Mrs. Emory Downey were hosts at a reception for the newlyweds at the Downey home in Inman.

The Downeys lived at Star for 10 years. They spent six years in O'Neill, they operated a hardware and lumber yard at Inman, and conducted a general store at Page. They spent 20 years of their Page sojourn on a 20-acre acreage on the southwest edge of town. They have been at their present location three years.

Mr. Downey came here at the age of 15 with his parents from Binghamton, Wisc., where he was born.

He vividly recalls an incident that happened at Star. It was in the late fall. He and his father were putting up the last of the hay crop. He had a borrowed horse hitched to an eight-foot rake. Because the weather was very warm, he drove the horse over to Mr. Fike's place for a drink.

Lewis fully intended keeping the horse close enough so a runaway could be prevented. But while in the process of bringing up a bucket of water from the open well by windlass, the horse took off.

Lewis felt it necessary to bring the full bucket up to the top instead of letting it plunge to the bottom. This he did, enabling the horse to get a good start. The horse headed for a corn field and reached it in spite of Lewis' efforts. The corn was so tall he couldn't keep the nag in sight. (Continued on page 11)

## Aldersons Moving to Arizona City

CHAMBERS—Fifty relatives coming from Lincoln, Omaha, Genoa, Elgin, Atkinson, Wood Lake and Chambers spent Sunday at the Everett Jarman home. The occasion was a farewell dinner honoring the Jack Alderson family. The Aldersons are leaving today (Thursday) to establish their home in Tucson, Ariz.



O'Neill high frosh were a rakish appearing crew at Monday evening's initiation. Left-to-right: Ruby Passieux, Elaine Krugman, Rose Walton, Connie Kurtz (with windblown basket-type hat), Nancy Fetre (with goggles), Darrell Dexter, Ronnie Smith (partially hidden), Cheriann Knepner, Merle Pease and Nancy Deval (in overalls).—The Frontier Photo.