Prairieland Talk . . .

# Last of Drummerboys

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN- When Albert Woolson was laid in his grave up there on the shore of Lake Su-Republic passed into history, at the age of 109

Every state north of the Mason-Dixon line had their men in blue wearing the GAR badge, over two mil-

lion of them. Comrades Mack, Skirving, Slattery, Towle and many others in Holt county wore the blue and the badge. None left who marched through the streets of O'Neill, stepping in unison to the drumming of martial music. Neil Brennan, John McCafferty, Charley Millard, Moses P. Kinkaid, Doc Mathews and other boosters for a Holt county fair that got underway in 1884 with a race track, grandstand, livestock pens and barns and exhibition hall a mile east of O'Neill.

And survivors of the bloody field of Antietam where Gen. George McClellan's 70,000 blue clad soldiers put to flight the forces of General Lee marched up to the grandstand with fife and drum and thrilled us kids with their strains of martial music, beat and blown out on the calm evening. Fife and drum have passed with the GAR. American Legions now muster when the bugle call blares forth. The Legion succeeds the Grand Army. It, too, will pass away.

Can there be any good thing come out of Nasareth? . . Come and see! We Tom, Dick and Harrys are so set in our ways we can not come and see; tied to our way of life, hidebound, going along in our little groove heedless of the good things along the way that call out, "Come and see!" Traditions, customs, forms and ceremonies have a place in life but should never be a barrier closing the soul to "come and see" what precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little, there a little can do to enrich life. Come

Miss Mamie Cullen, formerly of O'Neill, whose address now is 324 Livingston street, Elizabeth, N.J., and who continues a Frontier reader, writes of her interest and treasured memories of places and friends in prairieland. Miss Cullen is a niece of the late Father Cassidy, who for nearly a century was pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church in O'Neill and with whom she made her home. She is now employed at office work in a hospital in the New Jersey city where she lives. But memories of other days out here tinted with the pleasures of life among her young friends are now her cherished heritage. She was last among O'Neill friends on a visit here seven years ago. And now those treasured ties of human friendships throb anew for Miss Cullen as she reads her paper from O'Neill each week. Maybe, too, a thrill of delight would be hers if some former

Twenty miles south of Atkinson on highway 11 you come to a prairieland trail leading west. A perior amid military rites of burial, the last of the mile or so along that trail and you see a gleaming drummerboys who beat the roll call in the Union | white seven-room house in a setting of stately army of the 1860's responded to the drumbeat of trees, floral bloom and green verdure—the home eternity, and the last of the Grand Army of the of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Baker and the site of Holt county's first purebred Shorthorn cattle ranch | C. M. Hunt of South Omaha for functioning still after more than 70 years. It was \$25 per acre for 800 acres and known for more than a half-century as Riley Bros. \$20 an acre for the balance. ranch. Mrs. Baker is a daughter of the last surviv- E. L. Chapin and wife of Chicaor of the three Riley brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Baker may have been knocked off of their pins by surprise when Prairieland Talker's son, Romaine, and his wife, Roberta, of Marion, Ind., came to their door recently. The bogus Hoosiers had been on a stroying his crops and some of Thiele, Mrs. H. Werkmeister and trip to the Canadian Rockies and that mysterious the hail stones were driven Judy something that forever haunts our memories lured through the roof of his new barn. son back to where he had lived as a lad, the Berry schoolhouse where his scholastic career got a start and the Baker home being places visited. After service on the high seas before and during the Japanese war and graduation from the Uni- struck a match which flared into versity of Colorado, he is with the Radio Corpora- a blaze and was applied to the tion of America as research engineer. But prai- little white fag held between rieland has attractions still, and I don't know of a seasoned lips, while nervous more charming couple to visit out there than Tom glances and hesitant movement and Ruth Baker.

> There have come forward one or two of the military figureheads with avowed approval of marching recruits to their death as a feature of training. Fathers and mothers of America give their sons to defend the flag but not to march to death in snake and crocodile infested swamps.

Miss Helen Peterson, daughteen of the late Mr. and Mrs. August 8, guests with them.

A group of clerygmen went before anyone interested via TV to expound and display their interested via TV to expound and display their linear temper.

Miss Helen Peterson, daughteen With them.

Wednesday, August 8, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Don Peterson Sunday with Judge and linear temper.

Mrs. In Wolfe Feturned With them.

Wednesday, August 8, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Don Peterson Sunday with Judge and linear temper. wisdom, understanding, whys and wherefores of ness buildings completed: Mar- George Padrnos of Lake Andes, this thing we call a cold war. The nation's honorable secretary of state, with President Eisenhower, appeared on TV to tell us what they know about Egypt's claim to that international canal. Gambles, A. Marcellus Buick,

A humble citizen bearing no official title, who American Gear Co., West O'-A humble citizen bearing no official title, who had been there in person, told me that same day that Egypt and the near East are the world's pow-der keg that may blow up any day.

store. . The Niobrara Valley Sunday, August 5, Mr. and Electric corporation has received Mrs. V. J. Tielke and family of der keg that may blow up any day.

Today a 15-year-old lad is paid \$6 for a day's Page; Mrs. William Reige, 74, Philbrick and family. work, 8 hours of the 24 being counted a working formerly of Page. day. Six dollars a day for a youthful roustabout, master of no trade or profession. Six dollars a half-century ago paid for four days' work of skilled hands. Ten hours then reckoned as a work day. Times have changed. Do the times produce any better workmen, improved and polished men

New moon rose over prairieland August 6. Stepping then out of a summer furnace that had been heated "seven times more than it was wont to be heated" into the deepfreeze of north winds and cooling showers. The weather-wise prairie dweller discovered long ago that new moon time is the time for change. "God made two great lights and let them be for signs and seasons and for days and years."

The mind has a lot to do with body ailments,

Editorial . . .

# Nuts to Interstate Highway

Two important moves in the realm of transportation affecting Nebraskans leave us cold:

1. The Chicago & North Western railway eompany declares it is going to take formal action to discontinue the last two passenger-mailexpress trains serving much of north-Nebraska.

2. The interstate super highway scheme as it affects Nebraska and costing several hundred million dollars.

The renewal of the railroad's plan to curtail service comes nearly two years following an ear-Her, informal effort. Train-saving enthusiasts in the area served-and they are legion-are going to oppose the C&NW's efforts before the Nebraska railway commission, if and when a hearing is set. (More on this subject will be discussed in subsequent issues and much train-saving opinion already has been published herein during these past two years.)

About the interstate:

We don't give a good hoot if an interstate highway is ever built across the state; at least not until unprecedented improvements have been made on present federal and state highways and most of our farmers and ranchers have decent access to their mail boxes and trading points.

It is utterly ridiculous for any Nebraskan to get all steamed up about the interstate. This general statement includes the governor, senators and congressmen (who already have jumped on the interstate bandwagon with both feet).

We envision as the interstate a 200-ft. wide corridor across the state, lined on either side with a steel fence. Motorists will have access every 10 miles or so. All service stations will be staffed and operated on a lease basis by one petroleum firm; all eating houses by one restaurant chain; everybody else will help pay for the highway under the administration's super highway program.

The interstate across Nebraska will be eastwest and farmers and ranchers whose places are sliced in two will have the opportunity to clear the snow daily at the underpasses.

The interstate, primarily, will benefit transcontinental traffic and the volume of that type of traffic will, without doubt, alarmingly diminish on the prescent across-state routes-highways 20. 2, 30 and 6.

If the federals have oodles of dough to blow on highways, why not widen, straighten and rebuild portions of highways 20, 30 and 6 and be of a whale of a lot more benefit for everyone?

Then, by skipping the interstate colossus, perhaps we could nickelplate good ol' highways 20, 30 and 6 with the funds leftover.

## Hints on the 1957 Models

A few hints about the 1957 model automobiles are out. Some of the features are expected to include smaller wheels, wider tires, lower pressure, fuel injection systems, and different head lamps.

The new head lamps on some models are expected to feature two lights in each front fender. so that drivers on long trips will be able to use all four lights on the highway.

CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher ARTHUR J. NOECKER and ESTHER M. ASHER, Associate Publishers

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When You and I Were Young . . .

## Hail Measuring 11-In. at Ewing

Jack Taggart Says Crops Ruined

50 Years Ago Born Friday, July 27, to Mr. a swimming party in O'Neill. nd Mrs. Lester Lamison of Page, baby boy. . . Doctor Caldwell Deloit Clubbers old 1,760 acres of his ranch to go, Ill., departed after visiting his ister, Mrs. Sam Barnard. . . Hail that measured 11 inches in cir- ing made the trip: Mrs. Frank cumference fell at Jack Taggart's Miller, Mrs. Charles McDonald place in Ewing, completely de- Mrs. Paul Funk, Mrs. Carl

20 Years Ago Three feminine figures occupied the rear seat of a public tember. conveyance. The one in the center indicated that, common as it has become, just as soon the man on and Elsie and Lillian, "Grand-

10 Years Ago Neill locker plant, Ben Franklin 27 where he is stationed. store. . . The Niobrara Valley

Dr. H. L. Bennett, active in Burned Crops Seen city, school and civic affairs, died. . . Roylin L. Boshult of at Elgin, ach died from injuries received when he and his horse were struck by a car on the crest of a

One Year Ago

coln and Miss Joann Beed of

August 2, at Norfolk. The follow-

Drivers were H. Werkmeister, Dana Sisson and Paul Funk.

Deloit received a few drops of

O'Neill News

Bert Shoemaker left over the

Porters, arrived in Iceland July

The Frontier for Printing

Chambers and Dennis Kaup

hill. . . Miss Helen Engler of Stu-art and Harry C. Stokely of Lin- Deloit Area 'Looks Much Better'

Stuart were married. . . Dale Fullerton of Amelia celebrated Reimer on a trip to Hastings last weekend. They attended a family week, observed the burned crops reunion on Sunday. his 13th birthday anniversary at south of Elgin and in the Albion, Greeley and St. Paul communities as well as south of Hastings. Ash Grove Auxilary The crops in the Deloit com-nunity "look much better," Mrs. Feted at Norfolk Reimer stated. DELOIT-Members of the De-

Haying is in progress and the hay is "much better" than last loit Pinochle club were guests of Mrs. Louis Pofahl on Thursday,

Grover Shaw is helping hay at he Max Pofahl ranch.

### Other Deloit News

Mr. and Mrs. Web Napier were Sunday dinner guests at the Glenn Harpster home in honor of Mrs. Napier's birthday anniver-Next meeting will be at the Charles McDonald home in Sep-Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Beaudin

and two children and Vicky Ray hall. of Omaha arrived at the Ralph Tomjack home on Monday, August 6. The children stayed at the Tomjack home while the Beaudins vacationed in Colorado. of O'Neill, Mrs. Sidney Anderson

the Frank Peter home on Sunday and Donald, in Denver, Colo., for were Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Peter a week. Bob Matthews went to Fuiler- ple home in Hastings. They were ma" Peter, Mr. and Mrs. John
Peter and children and Vine

mother, Mrs. Alice Matthews, went to Funermother and children and Vine
who will visit here for a week.

Matthews went to Funerto Sutton to attend the mother and Fred Timmerman families, Mr. and Mrs. Ewalt MilThe HEO club will meet at the ler and Barbara, Mr. and Mrs. Mrs. Ina Wolfe returned with Maynard Stearns home in Sep-

> were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mrs. L. W. Reimer in O'Neill. Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Hupp of Norfolk and Mr. and Mrs. Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Merriman Rose of Grand Island attended were in Norfolk Monday. John's Wednesday, August 8. Allen Porter, son of the C. W.

Bob Knapp is home after com-

pleting his time in the armed

service. Electric corporation has received a 520-thousand-dollar REA loan.

Deaths: E. Roy Townsend, 70, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne

Mrs. V. J. Tielke and family of southwest of Atkinson were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lew Belling and Rex of Orchard and Mr. and Mrs. Ewalt Miller home.

Electric corporation has received a 520-thousand-dollar REA loan.

Sunday evening visitors at the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne at the Glenn Harpster home on Sunday, August 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Thiele left coln.

Friday for Arkansas to attend the August Birthdays wedding of their daughter, Geraldine, which is to take place on August 25. Mr. and Mrs. Lambert Bartak moved to their new home across

from the Deloit schoolhouse last week. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller went to Grand Island on Friday. Their daughter, Mary, who at-

DELOIT-Mr. and Mrs. Henry turned home with them for the

# Plans Square Dance

STAR-The Ash Grove auxwas filled by Mrs. Howard John- asek and Mrs. Leonard Juracek.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4, at the

Other Star News

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Miller entertained about 50 guests at an out-Mr. and Mrs. Howard Manson Friday evening. Present for the occasion were: Mr. and Mrs. Dick the street didn't see. . Guests at weekend to visit his sons, Lester of Elgin and Mrs. Ivan Briggs Keilholz, Miss Sherry Stewart, the Nels Linquist, Soren Soren-sen, jr., Lysle Johnson, Albert Derickson, Irven Miller, Roland ler and Barbara, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Joe

Forejt, Miss Joyce, Melvin and Harold Miller and John Christ. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Dick Keilholz spent last Thursday with relatives in

South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Ewalt Miller visited at the Charles Bellin home in O'Neill Saturday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Boelter and Merle and Mr. and Mrs. Lysle Johnson and sons were

Marvin Miller left Sunday to attend coaching school in Lin-

Complete assortment fine quality filler paper to fit all binders.

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Large package.

Are Noted at Meet

STAR—Mrs. Ewalt Miller was hostess to the Star Get-Together club at her home Wednesday afternoon, August 8, with 10 members and four visitors present. The visitors were Mrs. Clayton Nelson, Mrs. Nels Linquist, Mrs. tends business college there, re- Dick Keilholz and Mrs. Fred

Mrs. Leonard Juracek and Mrs. William Derickson demonstrated the handicraft lesson in part, to be completed at the September meeting which will be held at the home of Mrs. William Derickson

n September 12. The luncheon table was cenliary met at the hall Tuesday tered with a calendar cake and afternoon, August 7, with Mrs. two vases of garden flowers to Lysle Johnson in charge. Plans honor the birthday and wedding were made to have a square anniversaries of six of the club dance this month. Plans for a ba- members who celebrated these zaar and entertainment to be dates in August. They were Mrs. eld later on were also discussed. Dale Revell, Mrs. William Der-Mrs. Otto Matschullat, secre- ickson, Mrs. Lysle Johnson, Mrs. tary, resigned and the vacancy Albert Derickson, Mrs. Ben Von-







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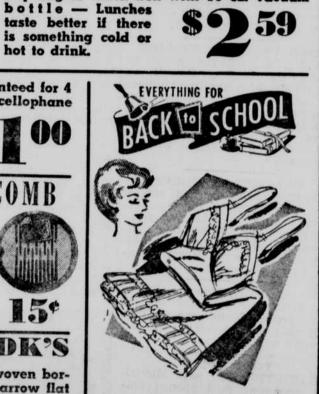
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that pony

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