

Prairieland Talk

The City Council--and Booze

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, 4110 South 1st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

The Citizens of Oklahoma voted to have their liquor on tap in that state. One state only in our country, Mississippi, remains dry, O'Neill, where booze has flowed in unending stream through the years, turns down an application of one concern to fill the bowl, the action of city authorities inspired, perhaps by liquor dealers already here with a monopoly on the business. If other dealers of alcoholic drink are granted licenses, why not another?

Dorsey, Star and Red Bird communities of north-east Holt survive where human footsteps pressed the virgin sod from the beginning of things in north Nebraska. Is the hello by telephone now to replace the neighborly handshake, personal contact one with another where Mary looks into Ann's friendly eyes, speaks face to face. Telephone if you must, but forsake not the friendly personal visits.



Romaine Saunders

In the pioneer village of O'Neill, six hotels made a go of it. The Valley House, run by the pioneer O'Donnell family was the first to open its doors to the public, and stood on east Douglas street about where the Davidson concern now stands. The Mitchell hotel, two doors west of where the bus depot now functions, the Evans Hotel later known as the Potter Hotel and the Commercial on lower 4th street, the Arcade that stood where the K. C. hall now stands and another in a building that stood where the O'Neill post office building now stands. In addition to these, Jim Campbell and Tom Grant each had public eating places on the south side of Douglas street between what now are known as 3rd and 4th streets. At all of these hotels you would get a whole of a feed for two-bits and a night's lodging for 50 cents. Hotel Evans where the Western now is, was in operation in the early 1890's and was the classic place to dine and hole-up for the night until the Golden opened up some 40 years ago.

Two young women and two young men of our prairieland 4-Hers have been selected for outstanding achievements in that youths' organization to attend the 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C., June 13-19. They are Elaine Bath of Auburn, Kathryn Sides of Loup City, Kenneth Swartz of Fairmont and John Zarha of Lexington.

The sun shines in golden glory out of the deep blue sky spread across prairieland this calm day in mid-April. A day to walk abroad, to meet a fellow traveler along the trail of life here and there; to look into friendly eyes and speak a word face to face. A bright spring day, children out to play, birds gathering twigs to build a nest where they may rest out of sight of man and bring forth a brood of young as others can. Human hands raking lawns, planting gardens, impatient now to pluck the first sprouting rose and loiter again along the stream where crystal water flows. And human hands at work again--what will the harvest be?

Wind fanning from out of the frozen Arctic, the sun shining bright, he found the south side of a

Editorial

Fuel To The Fire

A severe split of opinion will soon face the communities in and around O'Neill. Discussion of school redistricting is becoming more and more prevalent. Referred to as a "double headed monster" by some, and the only way to solve our educational problem by others, the actual result of redistricting is as old as education itself. Any time that imaginary school boundaries are changed, "redistricting" has taken place. But the special kind of redistricting that is being discussed now is not just the changing of boundaries. The rearrangement of children's lives is at stake. To give you an idea of just how hot an issue this one is, consider this: The Nellig Chamber of Commerce voted to take a "hands off" policy where redistricting is concerned. In effect, the Chamber voted to leave the matter with the school board. Why it ever got to the Chamber in the first place is more than can normally be understood. Those who are against redistricting have been worried for years that the small communities would "dry up" at the hands of those towns who were "fortunate" enough to get the children. Although this is, perhaps, only partially true, no Chamber in its right mind would go on record favoring it, regardless of what each individual thought. There are so many advantages and disadvantages in redistricting, and to ask a group of merchants to give a "group opinion" on an educational problem just adds fuel to the fire.

A New Crop

(From the Stuart Advocate)

Don't lose heart, you skinheads. Read in a rival paper the other day where a 98-year-old man in Buffalo, Wyo., is sprouting a new crop of hair. Not only that but a new tooth is pushing through his lower gum. Imagine that, he is probably going through his second childhood, don't you?

It has been called to my attention, to call to your attention, that it is mandatory, according to law, to pull to the side of the road and stop when meeting or being followed by a fire truck. In fact, the law states to do so the minute you hear a vehicle with a siren. The rule has been flouted locally many times in the past when the fire department is making a fire run. Please pull over and stop. Don't stare them up. It is much more important that they get there as soon as possible, than for you to. Another thing that saves many minutes, and consequently possibly much property, is for someone to guide the boys when they near the destination of a fire. An opened cattle gate or two, and a ladder may save that stack of hay or house.

Frontiers Ago

THE FRONTIER WAS YOUNG

The O'Neill Grocery Company with F. M. Raymond manager, had a coffee advertisement in the April 13, 1899 issue of the Frontier. It read: Coffee-8, 10, 12 1/2, 15, 18, 20, 25, 30 and 35 cents per pound. Walter O'Malley still holds the trophy as the best shot in Shields township, by shooting two geese. One weighed eighteen pounds. This correction item appeared in the April 13, 1899 issue of the Frontier. An item last week in this column relative to some trouble between Mike Fallon and George Gaughenbaugh was slightly incorrect. George was not in it, but a brother of his. H. W. Woodward of Ainsworth rented the Doyle building occupied by the postoffice and put in a stock of general merchandise. An article in the April 13, 1899 issue of the Frontier stated that most farm implements had been shipped into O'Neill this spring than any time for the past ten or twelve years. Tom Hopkins got mixed up in a runaway and bruised a hand slightly. He bought some hogs from Germany and drove them to the pens to unload, the team started to run. Tom scrambled out of the wagon, sustaining the above bruises, while team, driver and hogs rushed onward. The horse were brought under control without any serious damage occurring.

MOST OF US REMEMBER

On April 7, 1953, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Snelson, former residents of the Chambers and Ewing localities, observed their 63rd wedding anniversary at Long Pine. Mrs. Snelson's high school friend, Mrs. Mabel Miller, was in the home of Mrs. Alvin Vorce. Lt. Bryan T. Postman, liaison officer for the air force research center at Cambridge, Mass. and Dr. Guenter Loewer, a renowned meteorologist from Germany were in O'Neill on a preliminary visit discussing plans for the wind tests conducted in August of 1953. Two hundred and three persons attended the K of C Jubilee banquet held April 12 for Charles Carroll of Carrollton county, Va. The Misses Marilyn Lindberg, Janice Holsclaw, Charlotte McVay and Marjorie Norman were the four O'Neill high school Future Homemakers of America who attended the 1953 state FHA convention in Lincoln. Coach Chandler Miller's high scoring O'Neill high eagles flew to an easy victory over Neligh and Norfolk, April 10, 1953 in a bone chilling 40 degree weather. A freakish spring storm moved into the O'Neill region late Tuesday, April 14, 1953. High wind gusting up to 70 miles-per-hour. DEATHS: Cheri Kaplan, 3 1/2, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vere Kaplan of Atkinson, fatally burned, April 13, 1953 at their farm home, died en route to Omaha hospital; Mrs. Robert Keating, 34, wife of an Atkinson implement dealer, April 12 at her home, of a heart attack; Nebraska State Safety Patrol Sgt. John Meistrell, in an auto accident at Fremont March 31, 1953, died April 10 at a March hospital.

THE CENTURY TURNS

A meeting of the local organization of the Isaac Walton League was held at the band hall Monday evening, April 14, 1930. The choir of the First Methodist church of O'Neill, under the direction of Miss Ruth Kramer, came down April 15, 1930 and sang at the service held here that night. Willis Johnson has sold the Sanitary Meat Market at Page to Mr. and Mrs. Fretwell Muller, who took possession April 14, 1930; Mrs. Robert Keating, 34, wife of an Atkinson implement dealer, April 12 at her home, of a heart attack; Nebraska State Safety Patrol Sgt. John Meistrell, in an auto accident at Fremont March 31, 1953, died April 10 at a March hospital.

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Labor Fight Breaks As Brooks Writes Act

CAPITOL NEWS By Melvin Paul Statehouse Correspondent

The Nebraska Press Association LINCOLN -- The labor-management fight has broken out into the open in the Nebraska Legislature. The scrapping revolved around basically the measure to outlaw secondary boycotts until Gov. Ralph G. Brooks stepped into the picture. Brooks introduced a measure calling for a State Labor Relations act, governing both employer and management situations. Labor and management has been testing strength on several bills of less importance overall than the secondary boycott bill. Most of the early maneuvering has been the silent type--in the nature of lobbying of senators, done by both labor and management.

Brooks says his bill, LB 708, would apply to activities within Nebraska and "guarantee the right of employees to join or refuse to join labor organizations without retaliation by management or by labor unions." Also, the chief executive commented, it would define "unfair practices by both management and labor." A commissioner of elections would supervise and administer elections involving union problems. Said the governor: "This proposal also seeks to substitute orderly procedure for economic combat and provides that an employer and a union can agree to submit to arbitration any issue which is a proper subject of collective bargaining."

There is no question but what the Brooks proposal will provoke some heated discussion among state senators. Brooks said all persons involved in a State Labor Relations Act had publicly stated the need for it, but that a Legislative Council committee studying the problem could not come up with a proposal that it felt would be fair to everyone. The governor said he introduced the legislation since both management and labor publicly had expressed a need for the law.

Legislature Sessions

The Legislature should swing in to all-day sessions in about two weeks. This will start taking a healthy bite out of the heavy load of bills backed up awaiting first debate. Thirty-one measures were slated for public hearing this week. Most committees have completed their work. The Legislature's budget committee expects to wind up its calculating in about two weeks. Roughly, the Nebraska Legislature is half through the session. Most observers do not hesitate to say it will be the last week in June before the lawmakers can go home. Of the first 708 bills introduced, 147 have been killed in committee or on the floor, as against 116 for the same period two years ago when there were only 615 bills introduced. This, however, was the record until the current session.

Veteran observers say the reason for so many bills each year is that annually lawmakers are representing more people than they did 10 years ago and also that government is becoming more complicated.

Harr Resigns

State Aeronautics Director Roland Harr's resignation caused considerable fussing. Harr quit his \$10,200 per year job with a blast at Gov. Ralph G. Brooks, stating that the governor's "indecision" in announcing who would be aeronautics director "hurt" the department. The governor was told in a letter from Harr that the aeronautics staff could not obtain and keep qualified personnel because he did not know "from day to day" whether he was in or out of office. Harr also charged Brooks had asked him to fire Asst. Atty. Gen. Clark of North Platte, who with Harr, helped bring Nebraska into national prominence in the local aviation service picture.

"If the situation continues much longer," Harr warned, "the state will certainly lose some of the air-line service which has been granted it on a trial basis." Brooks said he has assured members of the aviation industry that Harr's replacement would be made "only in the interest of advancing aviation in Nebraska," and denied he asked Harr to remove Clark. Harr was appointed two years ago by former GOP governor Victor Anderson. A bill was recommended for introduction to remove the aeronautics department from the jurisdiction of the governor. The bill had been prepared long before the Harr resignation, however. Under the proposal, the aeronautics commission would appoint the air chief and set his salary.

home of his mother, Mrs. Clara Johnson.

Guests at the Marion Woldneck home Sunday were Mrs. Minnie Higgins and Mrs. Rosa Bowers.

Dale Sterns, Hastings, was here over the weekend to visit with his mother, Mrs. Nina Sterns. Also here from Grand Island was Forrest Smith, whose wife is caring for Mrs. Sterns.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tharnish attended the First Communion of their godson, Randy Tharnish, in Columbus Sunday.

At the George Van Every home Tuesday was their son, Marvin, from Norfolk.

Mrs. C. E. Jones and Mrs. Esther Morgan spent Monday afternoon in Sioux City.

Mr. and Mrs. Norris George and family recently spent a weekend at the Darol Switzer home, Omaha. Mrs. Sidney Anderson, Elgin, spent the weekend at the Howard Manson home.

The J. C. Bazelmans were guests at the Louis Vandevsnick home in Ewing Sunday.

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