

Prairie Land Talk

Grandma Is 104 Now

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, 4110 South 51st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

August draws to a close, autumn days come soon, the landscape touched by nature's artist and prairie land robed in all its beauty.



Romaine Saunders

Paved streets, traffic lights, street lights, streets named and houses numbered, your mail brought to your door—O'Neill has it all now.

Fifty in five minutes, ten every sixty seconds rushed by with a driver at each of the fifty steering wheels.

Her pet dog became the mother of a litter of puppies. Told me today she had sold all but three of the pups.

Editorial

Again, We Hope

Although the size of the crowd at Chambers' first quarter horse show might not have indicated it, the show was successful.

In the estimation of many a horse lover, nothing equals the high sensitivity of the western quarter horse ridden by a person who has a very delicate relationship with his or her steed.

Far more popular in the western section of the state, quarter horse shows are comparatively new here, but we venture to predict that we will be enjoying this type of entertainment more and more.

Kitchen Comfort Index

One of the most recent "gimmicks" pushed by large cities in resort areas is what they call a "weather comfort index."

You might have heard of it. What it amounts to is a mathematical formula, not to tell you how it is outside, but to tell you how comfortable it is.

Chambers of Commerce in these cities, realizing the temperatures reach well over 100 degrees many times, began by asking the Weather Bureau to come up with the formula, and then have asked newspapers and radio stations to publish the information periodically.

The U. S. Weather Bureau did it, and there are several Chambers who pushed it before, now ready to squelch it.

Some of these Chambers have suggested other formulas that make their cities look a bit better "comfort wise."

It reminds this writer of his grandparents. Grand Dad, who we called "Old Cold Blooded" used to sit smoking a pipe in the parlor with a sweater on—some days when it was quite warm.

It was a summer evening in the long ago where others make their home today. Brother and sister sat hand in hand on a side porch, hearts too full for talk.

Wages and salaries and other earnings at all time high. Takes it all to meet living costs. It always has—food, clothing and shelter have ever cost money.

The outfit that turns out those little stickers with your name and address to paste in the corner of an envelope moved me from 51st street to 31st, twenty blocks across town.

Farmers in the vicinity of our Capital City were looking on their fields of late planted corn quite discouraged, the crop a failure? Then by mid-August, weather put on rain coats and the heat of summer was chilled—so there will probably be a fair crop of "late corn".

I cannot reach out a hand to pluck a rose on distant prairie land. But by reason of memory's treasured store that is where I am again with roses red and golden rod, bright blooming, where I stand.

Walk again down your memory's lengthening lane; step over troubled spots along the way to linger where poetic beauty and the honeyed bits of life still remain.

Well Trained, But...

The question is constantly asked—"Are we falling behind the Russians in education?"

There are, of course, many theories about why this should be the case. There are equally as many philosophies regarding just what a student should acquire while in school.

One of the strong objections has been that students get more "trade school" training than they do "fundamental lessons (readin', 'ritin', and 'rithmatic).

Glancing at a subject schedule for seniors in a neighboring town, we're inclined to agree with those who complain of "trade schoolism."

Subjects in the "trade school" class were: Auto Driving, Typing I, Journalism, Vocational Agriculture, Bookkeeping, Physical Education, Secretarial Training, Typing II, Vocational Home Economics, and Shop.

"Fundamental Courses" were limited to: Geometry, Spanish, English, Physics, and Sociology.

Obviously, the graduates of this school will be well-trained. But will they be well-educated?

Good Golf Year

Another golf tournament is over and most participants in the sport believe that the O'Neill course has never looked better.



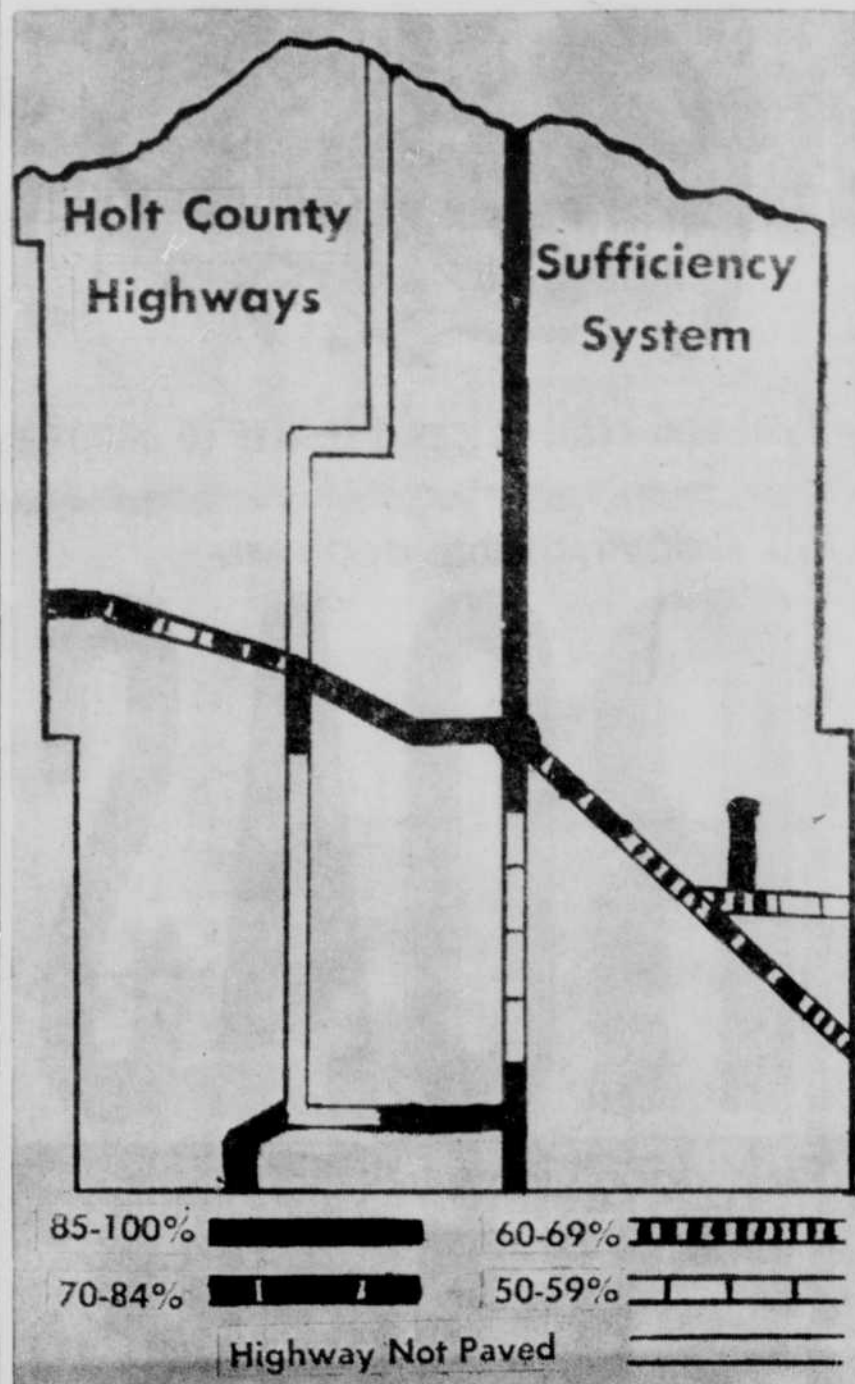
JAMES CHAMPION, Co-Publisher JERRY PETSCHKE, Editor

Terms of Subscription: In Nebraska, \$2.50 per year; elsewhere in the United States, \$3 per year; rates abroad provided upon request.

Entered at the postoffice in O'Neill, Holt county, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.



Paved Highways Third in a Series



This map shows the "sufficiency system" set up by the state department of roads in 1952. It shows the present condition of the roads in the estimate of the engineers.

Holt's State Roads And How Sufficient?

BY JERRY PETSCHKE EDITOR

Would it surprise you to know that if there were just one-tenth the number of people in Holt county or just one-tenth of the number of automobiles in the county, the state would still give us the same number of miles of road improvement next year?

And if we had twice the number of people and automobiles they would still give us the same number of miles of improvement? It's true.

Sometime in 1952 a few men sat down in an office in the statehouse and worked out what they called a "system" to determine what state maintained roads would be given first attention.

Whether or not these men had ever seen this county or had the chance to understand its problems is doubtful—and it seems apparent after you consider their system.

They called it a "sufficiency system," and here is the way it is supposed to work:

Every two years the State Department of Roads sends out engineers to determine the condition and adequacy of all state maintained roads. That law established rating system is set so that the "perfect road" has a rating of 100.

This is what a "perfect road" would look like on their books:

Table with Sufficiency Rating Condition and Maximum Point Value Paved/Gravel columns. Rows include Economic Factors, Safety and Service, and Consistency.

The system was made, according to those experts, on the basis of "urgent need." Needs are considered urgent for all roads which have a sufficiency rating below 70, and for all adequately graded gravel roads with traffic of more than 300 vehicles per day.

Now at first glance, the sufficiency system might appear to be a fair method of determining which roads should be repaired first, and also to determine how much money should be spent in each county.

But some big questions can be raised. First let us get some arguments out of the way that can, no doubt, be used to show that the system is a "fair one."

According to R. L. Cochran, state engineer, Holt county highways are somewhat better than the average for the state—but again this is based on his sufficiency system.

According to Cochran, the sufficiency rating shows that only 25 percent of the state highways in Holt county have a rating below 70 while 37 percent of the state highways in Nebraska have a rating below 70.

It may also be argued by the state department that population, the number of vehicles registered and the amount of gas tax paid will "automatically" be included in the sufficiency system since the more cars and trucks that cross our highways there are the more repair will be forthcoming because they will tear down the roads quicker.

First, about this business of how we compare with the state. Cuming county, one-fourth our size in area, the same size in population received the most (38) number of miles of improvement in the years 1957 to 1959.

In Cuming county the state saw fit to spend \$1,885,000. In Holt county they try to make us satisfied with \$673,000.

Fortunately for the state, the 10-cent gas fee is not broken down by counties (for known as far as Cochran is concerned) for few arguments would be better to bust the sufficiency system wide open.

Why must we be saddled because we are a big county? Why is it that we must help "pave the way" for eastern counties when our own transportation is so vital to us and those eastern counties?

What might be sufficient for the eastern counties, might not be sufficient at all for ourselves.

Next week's article will deal with the number of miles of paved and unpaved state maintained roads, what was done, where it was done and what it cost. It will also deal with what is planned in the future for Holt county.

Frontiers Ago

60 Years Ago

During a severe thunder storm, lightning killed one of P. J. Kennedy's big mules. The work of excavating for the post office building was completed and Andrew Schmidt, who had the contract for brick work, began laying brick.

30 Years Ago

The Tri-State Produce company announced that it had the largest payroll of any business institution in the city, fifty-four being on their payroll, which for the year averaged \$5,000 per month.

10 Years Ago

President Melvin Ruzicka of the Chamber of Commerce said that the O'Neill chapter will be represented at a national meeting of the highway 281 association held at Red Cloud.

5 Years Ago

Miss Frances Gotschall, Atkinson, was chosen queen of the 1954 annual Hay Days celebration. Dr. R. L. Sutcliffe, who practices dentistry at Ewing, has taken over the dental office belonging to Dr. C. M. Eason.

DR. H. D. GILDERLEEVE OPTOMETRIST Northeast Corner of 4th & Douglas O'NEILL, NEBR. Ph. 167 — Office hrs. 9 to 5 Eyes Examined—Glasses Fitted Monday Thru Saturday Closed Wednesday

State Capital News Gov. Appoints State Air Men; Advisory Group

By Melvin Paul Statehouse Correspondent The Nebraska Press Association

LINCOLN—Five men are meeting once monthly to make decisions that have a great influence on Nebraska's future.

They comprise the State Aeronautics Commission. C. H. Fliesbach of the Scottbluff is chairman. Members are Jess Quinn of Goshen, M. M. Meyers of Omaha, Alton B. Hill Sr. of Alliance and Francis Casey of Plattsmouth.

Supervising and directing allocation of state and federal funds for construction and maintenance of airports. Designating sites for airports. Authorizing purchase of aircraft for the state.

Funds for operating the department come from a tax on gasoline sold in the state for use in airplanes.

Nebraska is in the middle of an aviation boom, spurred by a network of local airline service. Fifteen communities went before the Commission asking \$170,300 in state and \$2.4 million in federal airport funds for 1960-61.

Herrington Resigns

The resignation of State Tax Commissioner Fred Herrington will become effective Dec. 15.

Herrington was appointed to the \$10,000 per year post in 1955, filling out two years of a previous term. He was reappointed for six years in September, 1957.

It is known that Herrington, for years active in private tax and appraisal matters had wanted to return to non-public work.

Traffic Safety

Gov. Ralph G. Brooks says the problem of traffic safety is a vital one that "Nebraskans have failed to solve."

Despite that, however, the governor said, citizens have expended more effort to try to whip the problem in the last eight months than ever before.

The governor urged civic, religious and educational leaders to assume personal responsibility for saving lives on the highways.

Brooks pointed out that the eight-month traffic death toll in Nebraska has surpassed the Montana earthquake — "a disaster the whole country is talking about."

The chief executive again cracked the Legislature. He said "there were even people in the Legislature who would turn 14-year-old kids loose on the highways."

Robert Conrad, administrative assistant to Brooks and head of the governor's traffic safety committee, said 15 recommendations were made to the Legislature and only one was not realized — increasing penalties for first-offense speeders.

Nursing Homes

A survey by the State Health Department shows there are 5,667 persons in nursing homes in Nebraska.

Of that total, the department commented, 3,502 are women.

The survey showed nearly half the homes for the aged and infirm in Nebraska are less than five years old.

Try the Frontier Want Ads. For quick results phone 788

Electric Motors Rewinding — Rebuilding Call 243-W — 24-hr. Service

Northwest Electric O'Neill

Co-Ral LIVESTOCK INSECTICIDE

Kills cattle grubs with just one spraying

Simple spray treatment requires minimum handling and labor.

Distributed by Woodbury Chemical Co. St. Joseph, Mo. Available at

CORKLE HATCHERY O'Neill, Nebraska

NEBRASKA'S HIDDEN PARADISE Long Pine, Nebraska DATE: August 30 BAND: Sammy Stevens STEAKS, SEA FOOD AND CHICKEN 5-9 p.m. Daily Sundays 11:30-2 and 5-9 Closed Mondays

STOCKERS & FEEDERS wanted at OMAHA! With good pasture, and evidence of another bumper corn crop, cattle feeders in the Omaha area will be looking for thousands of stockers and feeders. They need your western range cattle and calves. They're coming to Omaha to buy. Ship yours to Omaha... where greater demand means a better price. As a supplementary service, the Omaha Market offers carload Stocker and Feeder Auction Sales to be held every other Friday starting September 11th... 10:00 A.M. Each sale limited to 5,000 head. Early consignments will be heavily advertised in the Corn Belt area UNION STOCK YARDS CO