

THE WEATHER

Date	hi	lo	prec
Thurs., Dec. 31	28	8	
Fri., Jan. 1	29	27	.27
Sat., Jan. 2	18	9	.05
Sun., Jan. 3	10	1	
Mon., Jan. 4	23	-8	
Tues., Jan. 5	19	-20	
Wed., Jan. 6	36	18	

Precipitation was in the form of snow. Friday, Jan. 1, 4 inches; Saturday, Jan. 2, 2 inches.

Volume 79—Number 37

O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska, Thursday, January 7, 1960

Seven Cents

THE FRONTIER

"The Voice of the Beef Empire"

Ten Pages

In This Issue

Morris Pongratz, Nancy Wray Are Regents Winners

Nancy Wray, O'Neill high school senior, and Morris Pongratz, St. Mary's Academy senior, have been named the O'Neill winners of the Regents Scholarships to the University of Nebraska.

The students will receive their tuition for the full four years at the University. Miss Wray is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Wray and Pongratz the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Pongratz.

O'Neill high school also has four students who were chosen as alternates: Richard Ernst, Paula



NANCY WRAY

Reed, Connie Johnson and Janet Krugman. Alternates from St. Mary's are Marlene Peter and Bill Shoemaker.

Miss Wray has been active in band, girl's glee club, mixed chorus and pep club, in addition to many 4-H activities. Pongratz is a football letterman, co-editor of the annual, a member of the honor society and Sodality, and



MORRIS PONGRATZ

has participated in class plays, the Sodality play, and done 4-H and FFA work.

The scholarships are awarded to Nebraska high school seniors who rank in the upper one fourth of their class and who have good character and academic promise. The scholarships are also awarded on the basis of high scores in competitive examinations.

When scholarship winners do not accept the award, the highest ranking alternates are chosen.

Frontier's Coloring Contest Winners Announced Today

Some 56 area children entered the 1959 Christmas greeting and coloring contest sponsored by The Frontier and the quality of their work made choosing the winners a difficult task.

Judging is completed, however, and the winners in each division are determined.

Marlene Ann Poessnecker, 6, has been selected the winner in division I for her work in coloring the Lohaus Motor ad which appeared in The Frontier of December 24. She will receive \$5.

Bryan Osborn, 7, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Osborn of Atkinson, colored the Moore-Noble Lumber Co. ad and will receive \$3 as the second place winner in division I.

Division II, for children in the third and fourth grades, was won by Michael Lynn Doolittle. Michael is in the 3rd grade at Stuart and is 9 years-old. He will also receive \$5. Michael colored the Wm. Krotter Co. ad.

Second place prize of \$3 was won by Rose Mary Osborn, 9, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Osborn, Atkinson. Rose Mary and her brothers and sisters were the only contestants who painted any of the ads. She painted the Meadow-Gold Products ad.

Winners will receive their prizes sometime next week.

Corn Program Farmer Meeting

Two meetings have been scheduled with the 25 farmers who are cooperating on the Extension Regional Corn Program in this area to complete cost records collected this year on corn production.

The first meeting will be January 14 at 10 a.m. at the courthouse in O'Neill and the second meeting January 15 at 10 a.m. in Atkinson at the Galven Steak house.

The program is for the purpose of comparing costs of producing corn under irrigation and dryland production and to study production costs under different management conditions.

Patrol Records Given for 1959

The year 1959 closed with eight traffic deaths recorded in Holt county according to the Safety Patrol activity report for the O'Neill, Ainsworth, Valentine area.

Traffic deaths in surrounding counties included Rock, 1, Boyd, 1, Brown, 1, Cherry 5 and Keya Paha, 1. A total of 128 traffic accidents were recorded in this area.

The patrol also reported they collected \$11,267.50 in traffic fines in the area in 1959. The six area patrolmen traveled a total of 325,965 miles during the year.

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Pierce Slide Over Embankment

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pierce of Amelia know what "flying" in an automobile feels like.

As they were returning from Omaha Tuesday their car went out of control on icy roads near Dodge and slid off the road. The car went over a 25-foot embankment and lit in the ditch.

No one in the car was hurt and the automobile did not even receive a scratch.

The Pierces said they were shaken up quite a bit but the only damage was to their nerves.

Pre-trial Hearing Set for Today In Boyd Court

The pre-trial hearing for Nyal Franch, who has been held in jail for six months in connection with the killing of his half-brother, Frank Vanderlinde, will be held this morning at the Boyd county courthouse in Butte.

Judge Lyle Jackson, Neligh, will hear the information at the equity court session. Attorney John R. Gallagher, O'Neill, is defense counsel for Franch.

Boyd County Attorney William Wills will present the state's case. Speculation runs high that the first degree murder charge against Franch will be lowered to assault and battery charges or that the case will be dropped altogether.

Franch's mother, Sadie Dickerson, was cleared of all charges in Vanderlinde's death. Franch was the state's key witness against his mother at the trial.

Andy Closson, Ewing Pioneer, Dies Monday

Andrew Rupert Closson, 87, Ewing, died Monday at St. Anthony's hospital here in O'Neill. Funeral services for Mr. Closson will be held this afternoon at 2 from the Ewing Methodist church, pastor Elliott officiating.

Mr. Closson was born the son of Andrew W. and Phoebe Kidder Closson at Chippewa Falls, Wisc., December 31, 1872.

He moved to Ewing with his family as a small boy and has lived there most of his life.

He was married to Viola M. Foster at the home of John Closson who lived near Ewing in 1895.

Four children, three sons and one daughter, were born to this union. Mrs. Closson passed away in 1909 at Naper.

September 25, 1947, Andrew Closson married Emma Stanton of Ewing.

Survivors include his widow, Emma; two sons, Paul and Anson, and his daughter, Mrs. Audrey Ewing. One son, Earl, preceded him in death. Also surviving are ten grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren and a great number of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services for Mr. Closson are Ralph Clyde, Clifford Halbeck, Kermit Jeffreys, Charles Good, Ernest Norwood and Willis Rook.

Council Meets; Grants Permit

The O'Neill city council met in regular session at the city hall Tuesday night with all the councilmen except George Janousek present.

The council approved payment of some \$15,000 to pay off the balance of the new well. They also paid another part of the storm sewer money.

A building permit was granted Paul Sheehan for the new building. Marcellus Schaaf reported that the new ditch purchased by the city about a year ago did a total of \$4450 work for the city during the summer months. This did not include the work done by the machine during the recent snow storms. The equipment originally cost some \$8,000.

BABY DAUGHTER BAPTIZED

The baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Sehi was baptized Sunday at the Catholic church in Neligh. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Funk were the sponsors.



Kevin Roy Klabenes is shown Monday afternoon as he becomes more acquainted with his mother. You'd think the first baby of 1960 would show a little more concern, but Kevin just snuggled up and went back to sleep.—The Frontier photo and engraving

Kevin Klabenes Is First Of '60; Born In O'Neill

Oldest Page Resident, Miss Merryman, Dies

Funeral services for Miss Grace Elmore Merryman, 90 and the oldest resident of Page, were held Monday at her home with the Rev. Mina Smith officiating.

Miss Merryman had suffered a stroke on December 20 and her health became worse until her death on New Year's day.

The daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Ira Merryman, she was born at Brunswick, Me., in 1869. Ten years later her family moved to Scranton, Ia., where they farmed.

When she returned to Maine for a visit in 1909 she found herself comparing the Maine way of living with her own midwestern life.

In an interview with The Frontier editor in June of this year, Miss Merryman stated that she earned quite a reputation for "being as fast as a horse could trot" for her comparisons between the size of Iowa and Maine farms and the Iowa methods of farming.

Following the death of her parents and sister, Annie, Miss Merryman accompanied her brother, Frank, to Page where they lived on a farm. They retired to Page in 1925.

Miss Merryman was active in church work as long as her health permitted. Her brother died in 1948 and since then Miss Merryman had been seriously ill several times. She suffered a leg fracture two years ago and was hospitalized through October of that year.

Donna Smith sang "Shall We Gather at the River," "Rock of Ages," and "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," at the funeral.

Funeral services for Miss Merryman were held at 2 p.m. Monday at the home of the deceased, Mrs. Mina Smith, 1001 N. 1st St., with the Rev. Mina Smith officiating.

Bishop was charged with two counts of unauthorized loans. Walter Pluge was charged with two counts of conspiracy to commit a felony and seven counts of unauthorized loans.

The bank was taken over and liquidated by the state banking department after a routine check by state examiners revealed more than \$170,000 missing.

Funeral services for Floyd Prater, 65, a lifelong resident of the Clearwater community were conducted on Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Clearwater Christian church with Rev. Charles Soderstrom officiating. Burial was at Clearwater.

Floyd Prater was born October 8, 1894, the son of Charles W. and Frances Prater on the old homestead seven miles north of Clearwater. He had never married. He resided for a time at an Elgin rest home where he died on Sunday, January 3.

Survivors include a brother, Fred, of Clearwater; sisters—Mrs. Jessie Hill and Mrs. Effie Henderson, both of Portland, Ore.; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Monday at the Clearwater Christian church with Rev. Charles Soderstrom officiating. Burial was at Clearwater.

Salvation Army Fund Drive Now In Progress

The Salvation Army fund drive in Holt county has set a goal of \$1300. The O'Neill goal is \$500, announced Ted McElhenny, local service unit chairman.

The campaign is now in progress with firms and citizens being contacted by field representative V. S. Bentley, Omaha, and volunteer solicitors. The money is deposited with Archie Bright, local service unit treasurer, who is also accepting contributions by mail.

Other committeemen are George Hammond and Bill Petsche. Funds go to the Salvation Army Hospital in Omaha, veterans in need of assistance, local families, needy school children and others.

Minor Accident Occurs On New Year's Day

Police Chief Chris McGinn reported that only one minor accident occurred due to the slippery ice and snow during the week.

The accident happened on New Year's day at the intersection of Everett and Madison streets and involved William Conrad and Mrs. Fred Appleby. Little damage was done to either car.

Sale Dates Claimed

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9th—Hereford sale of 35 coming 2-year-old bulls. Sale to be held at the Atkinson Sale barn beginning at 1 p.m. Charles Corke, auctioneer, Vernon Hixson, Neligh, sale manager.

Glen Sprague Dies Quietly At Home Here on Wednesday

Funeral services for Glen William Sprague, 50, who died quietly at his home in O'Neill Wednesday, will be held from the Presbyterian church here Saturday afternoon at 2. He had been ill nearly 2 years.

Rev. John Hart will officiate and burial will be in Prospect Hill cemetery.

Mr. Sprague was born at Star on April 5, 1909, and spent all but 10 years of his life here in Holt county. He lived near Omaha for those 10 years.

He was united in marriage to Grace Allen at Butte on December 26, 1933 and to this union two sons were born. Ramon lives at Woodlake and Russell is at home.

The body will lie in state at Biglin's Chapel in O'Neill on Friday.



Glen William Sprague

day from 3 until 9 p.m. and at the church from 11 a.m. until the funeral hour on Saturday. Funeral services will be held at the funeral home of McCabe, Charles Cole, Jim Gallagher, John Alder, Leo Harte and Michael Gallagher. Memorials are requested by the family.

Survivors include his widow and both sons; four sisters—Mrs. Ruth Pederson of Ashland, Ore., Mrs. Verma Gattenby of Kansas City, Mo., Mrs. Althea Taylor of Pullman, Wash., and Mrs. Sylvia Rose of Salem, Ore.; three brothers—Raymond of Kansas City, Mo., Kenneth of Kilgore and Otto of O'Neill. Donald Sprague is also a survivor.

His parents, one brother, Winfield, who was killed in action in World War II, and three sisters, Mrs. Bessie Gattenby, Mrs. Hazel Noble and Myra Sprague, preceded him in death.

Mr. Sprague also leaves a great number of other relatives and friends.

YOUTH ATTEND BANQUET

Six O'Neill youths attended a New Year's Eve banquet for the CA's of the Assembly of God Church North Section in Springfield. Those attending were Gloria Krogh, Marian and Delores Rosencrans, Ruth Young, Connie Brockman and Bill Fricke.

INFANT DAUGHTER DIES

Funeral services were held Tuesday for the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Diane Finch, Osmond. Rev. Jehriko officiated. The burial was at the Osmond cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Finch of Page are the paternal grandparents.

Oran Long of Omaha and Curtis Collins spent the New Year's week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Long. Also spending last week with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Long was Coleen Collins.

Along Mainstreet . . .

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Jaszowski, who two Scotch Western Auto, plan to be in Kansas City, Mo. this weekend to attend the Spring merchandise show. While there they also plan to visit with their daughter, Nyla, who attends college in Kansas.

Winnie Barger, owner of the Apparel Shop, was in Omaha over the weekend to attend the style makers.

Bob Roberts, manager of the Lee Store is in Grand Island to attend a buyers convention. Before Roberts left he presented a check from the Lee store for \$250 to St. Mary's Academy for the fuel fund.

Extension Fun Night Set for Saturday Here

The Annual Holt County Extension meeting and the annual 4-H family fun night will be held Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in a combined meeting at the O'Neill high school gymnasium.

The program will include musical entertainment, 4-H awards, a movie and the Extension meeting. Two board members will be elected for two year terms at the extension business meeting. Mrs. Ora Yarges and Mrs. Floyd Butterfield are the members up for reelection.

Refreshments will also be served.

Local Lions Club Buys Equipment For Emergencies

Two hospital type beds and a child's size wheel chair were purchased last week by the O'Neill Lions club to be used for emergencies in the area.

The equipment was given to the O'Neill Legion club for care and distribution and brings the total amount of equipment now in the care of the Legion Club to seven wheel chairs and five hospital beds.

Various organizations have donated the equipment—the last being the O'Neill Junior Chamber of Commerce. Other donations included crutches, walkers, leg braces, arm braces, and an oxygen tent which is now in use.

The Legion Club began the program a number of years ago and it was supported by the Chamber of Commerce, the Legion Auxiliary, and now the Lions Club.

Legion spokesmen stated that anyone may use any of the equipment available by contacting the Post Commander, Jim Earley, or by checking at the Legion club.

Peters Celebrate

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Peter will celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary on January 11 at their farm home south of O'Neill. The couple will receive neighbors and friends from 2 until 4 p.m. on that day and they request no gifts.

O'Neill Post Office Shows 1959 Increase

Postmaster Ira Moss reported this week that the O'Neill post office did a "land office" business for the calendar year 1959.

Computation of receipts shows a total of \$57,000, highest in the history of the O'Neill office. The figure was an increase of approximately \$3000 over the year 1958.

Christmas mailing in the month of December showed a slight increase over the previous year.

Mrs. Mary Bazelman spent New Year's at the J. Davis'.

25 Charges Filed Against Bartlett Bank Officials

Deputy Wheeler county Attorney Harold Connors filed a total of 25 charges against three men Tuesday at Bartlett in connection with the closing of the Bartlett State Bank last May.

The charges were filed against Clifford C. Bishop, a former director, Walter Pluge, and his son, Walter C. Pluge. Federal charges have also been filed against several persons in connection with the closing of the bank.

Bishop was charged with two counts of embezzlement, two counts of false entry and four counts of unauthorized loans.

Walter Pluge was charged with two counts of conspiracy to commit a felony and seven counts of unauthorized loans.

The bank was taken over and liquidated by the state banking department after a routine check by state examiners revealed more than \$170,000 missing.

Clearwater Resident; Floyd Prater, Succumbs

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Survivors include a brother, Fred, of Clearwater; sisters—Mrs. Jessie Hill and Mrs. Effie Henderson, both of Portland, Ore.; and a number of nieces and nephews.

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Collins Waives Hearing; Bound To District Court

Edward Lee Collins, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Collins, Atkinson, was bound over to district court Monday after he waived a preliminary hearing in a charge of motor vehicle homicide before Holt County Judge Louis Reimers.

Collins was charged with driving a car at the time of the accident. The car went into a ditch and overturned.

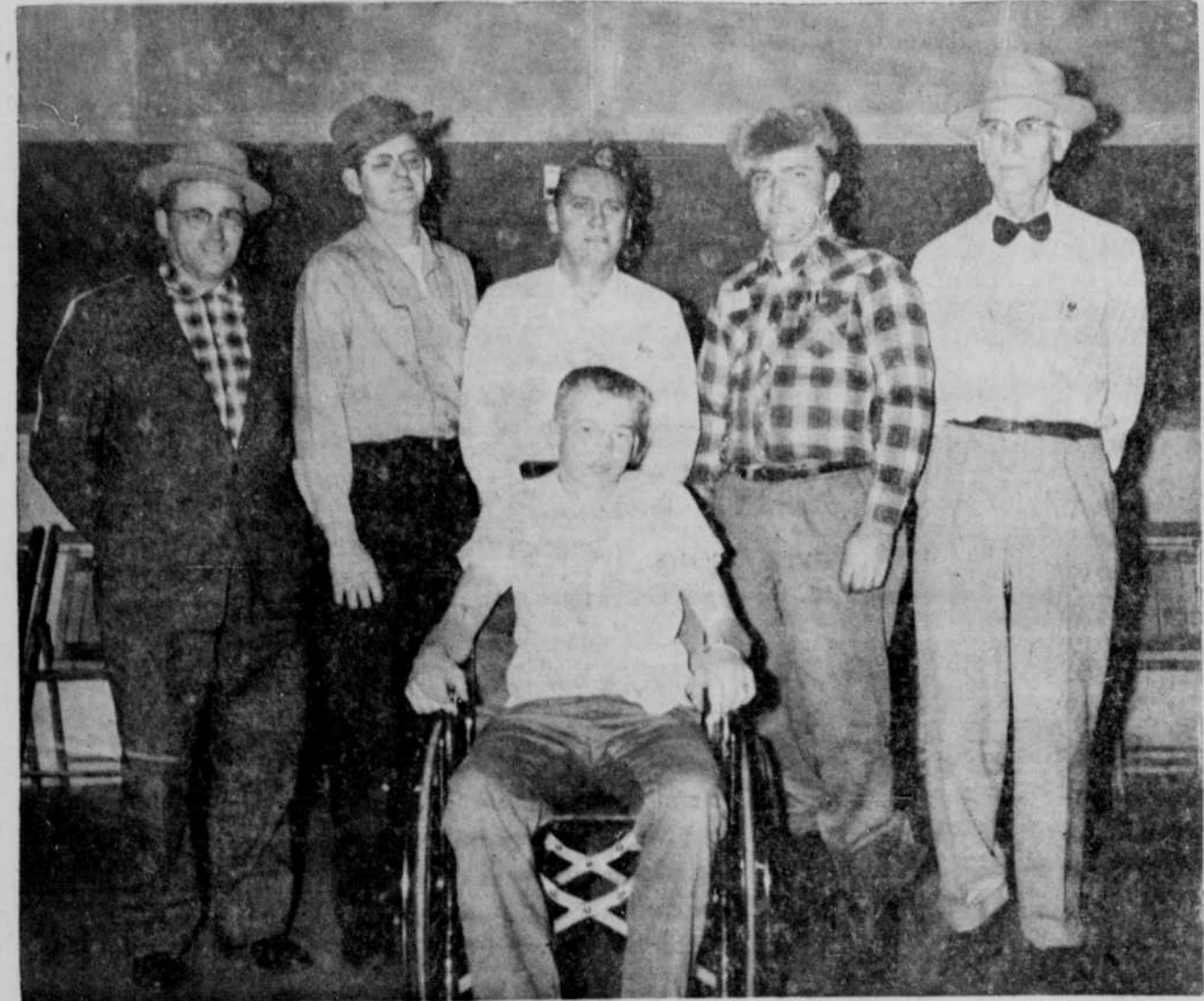
Collins was alleged to have been driving the car at the time of the accident. The car went into a ditch and overturned.

Attorney J. D. Cronin will represent Collins. Judge Reimers released Collins to the custody of his parents. A trial date has not yet been set in District court.

Carrier Position Vacant In Inman Post Office

The Civil Service Commission has announced an opening for a Rural Carrier at the Inman post office. Applications for the position will be accepted until January 26.

In addition to a written test, applicants must have resided in the area for one year and be at least 18. Additional information is available at the Inman post office. Application forms should be filed with the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C.



Members of the O'Neill Lions club and the Legion club are shown with the new child's size wheel chair recently purchased by the Lions club for emergency use. Pictured are, from left, Howard Manson, Lions President Ken Curten, Legion club manager Bill Jansen, Legion Commander Jim Earley and Harry Peterson. Manson and Peterson are past Lions club presidents. Jim Dusatko, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Dusatko, was walking along the street and "volunteered" to pose in the new chair.—The Frontier photo and engraving

Kevin Roy Klabenes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Klabenes, is a boy of distinction.

He's the first baby born in Holt county for 1960. Kevin was born at 8:58 p.m. on New Year's day.

Kevin claims the honor of being the first baby in Holt by only 77 minutes. Jeffrey Carter Gotschall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest J. Gotschall of Atkinson was born at the Atkinson hospital and was at first reported to be the first baby of 1960 in Holt county.

The husky 8 pound, 8 1/4 ounce addition to the Klabenes family who ranch near Chambers, has also fallen heir to a great number of gifts donated by O'Neill merchants.

The new baby will be no stranger to Mrs. Klabenes. He is the sixth child and the fifth boy in a row. Ray Klabenes says that he hadn't had a girl the first time he's afraid that he would be out of luck.

Sandra, the oldest, is seven. She is followed by Stanley, four, Kenneth, three, Gregg, two, Billy, one, and now Kevin.

The Klabenes' ranch is located 5 miles north and 1 1/2 west of Chambers. Both Kevin and Mrs. Klabenes are doing fine and Mrs. Klabenes went home Monday afternoon.

Firms participating in the baby derby were M and M Cafe and Bakery, Gambles, McCavilles, McIntosh Jewelry, Coyne Hardware, Western Auto, Envoy Rexall Drug, McDonald's, Ben Franklin, Gillespie's, Safeway, Johnson Drug.

The New Outlaw, Meyer's Mid-west Furniture, Mori's, Pepper Bottling Co., Shelhamer Jack and Jill, A and M Shoe Store, O'Neill Photo Company, Dankerts, Harding Creamery, and The Frontier.

Chamber Names Irrigation Committeemen

O'Neill's Chamber of Commerce met in regular session Monday night at a local cafe and heard reports from various committeemen.

A film "That Others Might See" was shown to members to open the meeting. The movie depicted the processes involved with transplanting eyes from eye donors to persons suffering from eye conditions.

The Lions clubs of Nebraska are the organizers and backers in the eye donor program.

Dale Wilson, chairman of the membership drive for the Chamber of Commerce, reported that there are 135 members to the organization for 1960 representing a 33 percent increase over last year.

Although Jim Rooney, chairman of the irrigation committee could not attend the meeting, it was pointed out that representatives of the Portland Cement Company and a retired Burlington railroad man met with Rooney and scheduled a meeting with the newly formed irrigation committee on January 18.

Stutz then named the new irrigation committee members. They are Jim Rooney, Lyle Dierks, John Watson, William Griffin, Elmer Jurecek, Neil Dawes, Harry Ressel, Gil Posee, Daryl Wilson, William McIntosh, Don Meyers, Arlen Miles, Jim Champion, Ben Grady and L. D. Putnam.

These men will meet at an early date and elect chairman for the committee. Purpose of the committee is to steer action on the proposed Atkinson-O'Neill irrigation project which might make it possible to irrigate 71,000 acres of land north of Atkinson and O'Neill.

O'Neill public school superintendent Milton Baack then asked the chamber to underwrite the cost of the second place trophy to be given in the Holt county basketball tournament scheduled for O'Neill on January 18 to 22. The chamber approved this request.

Baack then asked the chamber to pay for the district music contest programs. Baack stated that more than 3,000 school children are brought to O'Neill in the spring due to this contest and that the contest had not been paying for itself until last year when the chamber also paid for the programs.

Baack said that there was a good chance of O'Neill losing the contest until it showed last year's profit. The chamber agreed to pay for the programs.

Dale Wilson then expressed the thought that O'Neill should have road signs announcing to the traveling public that they are nearing or entering O'Neill. The plan was well received by all members present and the project was turned over to Harry Peterson, chairman of the advertising committee.

Milton Baack was again given the floor and at this time he requested that the O'Neill chamber promote and back the O'Neill Invitational Track meet scheduled for May 4. The chamber passed the resolution and members will now act as timers and officials at the meet to be held both in the afternoon and evening. The evening finals is a new experiment in track meets for the area.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Cavanaugh and son, Danny of Dubuque, Ia., returned home after spending a week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Cavanaugh and Gene.