

Prairieland Talk

"A Visit To Holt County"

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

The steering wheel in the capable hands of a native son of the Nebraska prairies, Lew Nissen, we pulled out early on a calm October morning for Holt county. Rolled along the highways for more than 200 miles of the green and golden road tinted prairie, two former Holt county gentes away for a few days from the crowded human haunts of our Capital City. At about 11:30 that day we came to the charming and hospitable ranch home of Lew's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pierce in that beautiful land of flowing wells and endless miles of open prairie that makes up the Amelia neighborhood. Mrs. Pierce gave us the glad hand, Frank having gone down to the Amelia post office for their mail. But brother and sister visited and chatted away as she prepared dinner. Frank was soon home and we gathered about the festal board where two guys from the city had a part once more in a good country dinner. Frank and Prairieland Talker visited while sister and brother "did up" the dinner dishes. Then we four got into Lew's car and pulled up at the Amelia center of trade in the efficient hands of Mrs. Lindsay and her daughter, Miss Florence. A brief visit with them and a handshake with another pioneer of that community, Mr. Sagar, they rolled away to stop again at the old Riley Brothers Shorthorn ranch for a visit with Tom and Ruth Baker, Mrs. Baker being a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Riley. And that is my former neighborhood. The land of silken green, prairie roses and tall cottonwood trees. Home again for a moment, then we head for O'Neill via Chambers. I remain in O'Neill with friends a few days, again in my old home community, where I landed as a kid more than 75 years ago. Are there any left now of the long ago? Yes, a few. Friend Lew returns with his sister and Frank for a few days and comes to pick me up and we head for Lincoln.

At the Commercial Hotel in a village called O'Neill in the days of John O'Neill with Rosco at the receiving desk a bed for the night was 25 cents and a meal 25 cents. That village of O'Neill is now the city of O'Neill, where a bed for the night is \$1.50 to \$3.50, roast beef dinner \$1.05. And we see no one today parked on a wagon seat in the alley eating his dinner of crackers and cheese that cost him a dime.

A bushel and a half of walnuts, three bushels of apples, a bushel of grapes, baskets of red ripe tomatoes, and still room for the clothes line on which to hang the family washing. Where is all of that—just out there in the back yard of the lot as I look out of my window by which the typewriter that does Prairieland Talk is parked. Apple pie for dinner today and bunches of grapes.

Editorial

A Credit To All Nebraska

Singular honors were bestowed recently on a bright young Frontier-land farmer.

The title of Star Farmer of America, awarded each October at the National Future Farmers of America convention in Kansas City, Mo., is perhaps the most coveted award that can be received by a young farmer.

The 1960 award went to a Knox countyman, 20-year-old Arden W. Uhler of Verdigre.

Mr. Uhler has brought great credit to Frontier land and to himself with his remarkable record. Starting his farm career with a registered Hereford cow 10 years ago, he now farms a section of Knox county soil. He has a registered herd of 78 beef cattle, 20 sows, and three Holstein cows. He has a full line of farm machinery.

Mr. Uhler didn't accomplish all this without a lot of work, a lot of imagination and a lot of skill.

When Arden was elected president of the Nebraska FFA following his final high school year, he was interviewed by the Frontier. He said from his childhood on he had one ambition: He wanted to be a farmer.

Arden never entertained the idea of leaving the farm in favor of city living, which has been a popular trend in the past generation. He told the Frontier several years ago he wanted to stay on the farm and make good. He has done just that.

Nebraska has had two other Star Farmers. Likewise they were from the northeast sector. Norman Kruse of Loretto won the honor in 1939 and Duane Munter of Randolph won the award in 1941.

Kruse is still a farmer, still enthusiastic and still happy. Munter applied his well-grounded agricultural sense to the financial world and now is president of an Iowa bank.

Speaking of all-Americans, Verdigre is the home of another from a different realm. Dr. L. F. Lovely, longtime dentist there, won all-American basketball honors at Creighton University back in the twenties, and his press clippings, like Arden's, are voluminous.

Every Vote is Essential

Many a moon has waxed and waned since there was a truly close Presidential election in this country. The last was that of 1916, when almost complete returns gave Charles Evans Hughes every reason to believe he had won. But the next day it was learned that Woodrow Wilson had carried California, an almost totally unexpected event, and that was enough to put him in the White House.

Subsequent elections have been won by wide and often overwhelming margins. But, many people think, something like the 1916 pattern may appear in 1960. The standard polls, as of now, certainly indicate that. They have the two tickets running absolutely neck and neck with only a percentage point or two separating them. These polls also indicate that a comparatively small number of voters—five or six per cent or so—are undecided in their choice.

Yet, there are dissenters, who doubt the accuracy of polls this early in the game, and who also doubt if the undecided portion of the electorate is so small. For instance, a leading columnist writes, "one of the most astute strategists in the Kennedy camp scoring the current polls, estimated that as

The Nebraska State Historical Society put on its annual meeting this year October 22 at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln, some interested in the historical talks, all delighted to gather at the banquet table and have a square meal for a buck and a half. History—we are making it day by day. Doc Middleton, Kid Wade, Dutcher Brothers, Belle Shields and a few others made record of evil deeds in Holt county. Hugh O'Neill, Neil Brennan, John McCafferty and many others did part contributing to the interesting history of Holt county.

I have stood again on hallowed ground, the ground where my boyish feet had stood and tramped about in the long ago. It is only five miles out from O'Neill to where I spent my youthful days on the prairie that was the homestead of Father Saunders. It is still a long stretch of open prairie, the homes of pioneer homesteaders no more; now the grazing ranges of countless herds. But memories still linger, memories of the struggles and privations of pioneer men and women. And as I stood there a day recently I saw again my father come in who had walked out the five miles from town carrying a 50-pound bag of flour on his back. We had bread again. And I saw again my mother seated on the wagon seat a cold winter day going to town to get a few things for the home. She had got a little money from somewhere. And memories of happy care free days out there where the sunshine bathed the vast open prairie in golden glory.

During my recent visit in O'Neill I had the thrilling pleasure of grasping the hand of Walter O'Malley, that sturdy rancher of the charming north country where the silver waters of the Eagle and other streams flow. Mr. O'Malley is looking well. He told me he had recently gone to the city for a specialist to give him a medical examination. The specialist pronounced him sound and healthy throughout. Walt was glad to hear that and so are his many friends. He may go to California for the winter.

The ball games have ended, soon we elect a president and governor as well as other officials to carry on the affairs of state and nation. I learned from a visit with Printer-Editor Cal Stewart that he is in politics promoting the candidacy of Dave Martin for congress in the Fourth district. For the next county election Holt county voters are asked hereby to consider these patriots as candidates: Sheriff, Walter O'Malley; clerk of the district court, Leo Adams of Atkinson; assessor, Ray By of Swan township; county treasurer, Jim Rooney; county clerk, Pat Donohoe; county judge, Frank Nelsen; county superintendent, Mrs. Quig; county attorney, Attorney J. R. Gallagher; County Agent, Editor Kelly of the Atkinson Graphic.

of today the strength of the two tickets is roughly Nixon 34 per cent, Kennedy 30 per cent, with a whopping 35 per cent undecided. That is a wholly subjective judgment, but it may come closer to the fact than the pollsters.

He also says, "With a total of 77 electoral votes, New York and California, the two giant states on opposite coasts, can mean the difference between defeat and victory." Both teams and their organizations are, therefore, pulling out maximum effort in those states. Special emphasis is laid on the political grass-roots—that is, the precincts. Everything short of kidnapping has been done in some places to get people registered and to strengthen organization.

It's no secret that there is worry in the Kennedy-Johnson ranks. After the Senator's enormously successful experience in the primaries, many believed his campaign would go along on a jet-propelled basis. But it hasn't. The post-convention Congressional session was a bitter disappointment. Senator Johnson, for all his parliamentary skill and his position as majority leader, just couldn't wield the expected influence. The two measures which Senator Kennedy pushed most urgently—an expanded minimum wage bill, and a bill providing medical payments to elderly people through the Social Security system, both failed of enactment. Conservative Democratic leaders, such as Senator Byrd, have shown a definite lack of enthusiasm for the ticket, even though they haven't bolted.

In this area, Mr. Nixon has had better luck. His party, with few exceptions, is about as united as anyone could ask. The conservative wing, of which Senator Goldwater is now the leader, certainly doesn't follow Mr. Nixon all the way, but its members are working hard to elect the ticket. That is also true on the liberal side, where Governor Rockefeller is a prime force. The Nixon team has high hopes that the Governor, who is sparing no effort on the party's behalf, will prove a decisive influence in the all-important state of New York.

In any event, Mr. Nixon has said that this election may be the closest of the century. Mr. Kennedy is reported to hold a similar view. Both, it's safe to say, will continue to campaign on the principal that every last obtainable vote is vital.

THE FRONTIER

BILL RICHARDSON, Publisher
BRUCE J. REHBERG, Editor

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL
ASSOCIATION
AFFILIATE MEMBERFrontiers
Ago

50 YEARS AGO

The "Rogues," a local organization of duck hunters, left upon their annual duck hunt last Sunday morning and expect to bring back enough mallards, green heads, spoon bills and canvases to treat each of their friends to a good meal. J. D. Lee of Lynch, candidate for state senator from this district, was in the city last Monday and Tuesday looking after his political fences. One of the prettiest weddings of the season was that solemnized at the Catholic church last Wednesday morning when Rev. M. F. Cassidy performed the ceremony that united Miss Anna L. Matthews of this city to Matthias H. Criley of Bonesteel, S. D. Former deputy sheriff and old time resident of Holt county, Charles "Buck" O'Neill died Monday at Columbus. A snow storm is raging in the western part of the state today, extending east as far as Long Pine.

25 YEARS AGO

Committees of the local post of the American Legion are making elaborate plans for the observance of Armistice Day, Monday, November 11. There will be a parade, program at the K. of C. hall, noon luncheon, football game in the afternoon and a grand Armistice ball in the evening. Prof. Jordan and a young lady teacher, both of the Valentine schools, while returning to their homes from the Teachers' Association meeting at Lincoln last Sunday night ran into a horse on the highway about eight miles south of town about 8:30. Another bubbling well has just been brought in at Amelia, a town without a pump. It is for the use of patrons at the Floyd Adams filling station and others who wish to partake of its refreshing flow. Mrs. Elizabeth Gatz died at her home in this city Wednesday afternoon.

10 YEARS AGO

John Warner, DN2, who was a crewmember of the navy's minesweeper, which went down in Korean waters on October 12, survived the disaster. Kenneth Fleck, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fleck of Loretto, was taken to a Norfolk hospital Friday afternoon after being sprayed by gunshot while hunting ducks near Chambers. Miss Nancy Catherine Froelich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Froelich, was a countess in a mythical realm of Quivera coronation in Omaha Friday night. The O'Neill municipal band took music to the Friday activities at Lincoln Saturday. Deaths: Mrs. R. E. Gallagher, 64, of O'Neill died Saturday; Mrs. Peter E. Nissen, 60 of Page, died Sunday; James W. McDermott, 66, a longtime resident of O'Neill, died Saturday. Extension club women from all corners of the country will gather in O'Neill today for the annual achievement day program.

5 YEARS AGO

The O'Neill High school student body staged its first annual homecoming Friday evening at the American Legion auditorium following the O'Neill-Neligh game. Miss Shirley Schultz, senior, was crowned queen and Kenneth Backhaus, senior, was crowned king of the 1959 homecoming dance. Four young persons, including a 23-year-old former O'Neill youth, Lowell A. Callaway, perished Saturday night when a car in which they were riding skidded into a Norfolk gravel company pit at the southeast corner of Norfolk. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Ellis, 82 and 81 years old, respectively, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sunday, Oct. 16.

A total of 3,431 Aberdeen-Angus calves and yearlings were sold at Atkinson and O'Neill on successive "black Fridays" under the auspices of the Holt County Aberdeen-Angus association.

The Long Ago
At Chambers

50 YEARS AGO

The townships of McClure and Shamrock are having new 15 horsepower engines put on their graders and will now be equipped to do a rushing business in road grading. F. H. Charles killed five ducks with one shot yesterday. Clint Elkins is in Sioux City taking a course at the barber college. What a fine time it would be to put that grade north of J. D. Grimes house. The pond in the section line has dried up and the grade could be made on the line instead of going around as it now does. Bessie Frary is teaching school in the Gled district. Edward Adams is preparing to put in cement walks at his residence on Main street.

25 YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Hunt, aunt and uncle of Mr. Edward Adams, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary Sept. 29, 1935 at their home in Hastings, Ia. Two brothers die within two days of each other. Phil Robertson of Chambers died on October 21 and Walter Robertson of Mt. Liberty Ohio died on October 23. Dr. and Mrs. E. J. Oxford left Sunday via Lincoln for Omaha where the doctor will attend the Midwest Medical and Clinical society in that city from Oct. 28 to Nov. 2nd. Mr. Richard Jarman and children accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Everett Jarman as far as Fullerton, Saturday morning where they will visit Dick's parents. Mr. and Mrs. Wood Jarman, a number from here went to Meadow Grove Wednesday to attend the funeral of Mrs. David Scott.

Smoke from
"Brandin'
Iron" Crick

By J. C. Fudd

Well, things have quieted down considerably along the Crick this week with the prairie chicken and grouse hunting season being over and all. Everyone was tickled to see it happen but Old Man Chinn. Outside of the game wardens and the license sellers he was the only guy that took in any money on the deal. Says he didn't have to pinch anyone to get the job done either.

Where that old buzzard gets his ideas, can't anyone tell but he sure came up with a lulu this time. Two years ago when the Sportsman's Inn, up in the County Seat went flunk and they had to sell off all the belongings at public sale, Old Man Chinn was there. Folks just about died laughing when he bought all them stuffed birds and fish and animal heads. Whole jeep load of the dusty, moth chewed things. Never failed the old guy a mite, just jiggled his loose lower plate and said it might be a hard winter and he might be forced to eat 'em before spring!

Come hunting season this year he had a scheme, a real money maker, all worked out. First off he posted every acre of his land, specially that along the roads, then the night before season opened he was busier'n a beaver. Just a little too far for shootin'.

distance from the road in some short grass or along trees he'd throw out some short sticks of stove wood or lumps of coal or old shoes—anything to show up a little, then out in the open he'd put one of them stuffed game birds in plain sight. When he got done, By Grab it would have fooled an expert, let alone one of them city shooters.

Then the old coot filled the jeep with gasoline for a quick take off and caught himself a little shut eye so as to be ready and rested when the shootin' started. Come daylight the bombardment began.

Didn't take him more'n two minutes (seems like) to come steamin' up madder'n a spooked bull, with his hand out. Didn't take the trespassers half that long to take a quick gander at the "NO HUNTING" signs and dig down in their pockets for some long green.

"Never had no set price," he said, "just took whatever they had a mind to dish out." From the way he licked his lips we gathered it paid off pretty good. Pretty nearly wore the old guy out collecting on Saturday and Sunday, after that business was slow but steady.

Now the excitement is over he's busy patchin' them stuffed criters back together again (some of 'em got blasted pretty bad) so's to be ready for next year. He's got a few mangled decoys on his pond over by Goreys hill. Might pick up a stray neckel now that duck season's open," he says.

See you next week.

"The
EDITOR"

Last week we made a previous oversight in The Frontier. In the page dedicated to the Frontier staff and our correspondents we failed to list one of our main contributors to The Frontier. The person to whom we refer is of course J. C. Fudd, who each week sends us a report from Brandin Iron Crick.

People along the Crick were quick to let us know of our oversight and so we would like to take this opportunity to apologize to Mr. Fudd for the error.

We are sorry that we do not have a picture of J. C. to print right now (the only picture we have in our files is of Fudd's Daddy and although some people have a hard time telling Fudd from his Daddy we will endeavor to a secure a recent picture of Mr. Fudd for our next issue.)

Colors can raise our spirits, impart serenity or kindle excitement. Automobile drivers feel a greater challenge to pass a red maroon or yellow car than a blue or green one. The report doesn't mention it, but we've noticed that a black car with a white door seems to have quite a negative effect on most driver's desire to pass.

And speaking of color, have you noticed that it is nearly impossible to buy anything that is simply brown, blue, green or any of the other old standby colors we learned in our early years at school?

Unless you are an expert on the color of fruits and vegetables in

RICHARD H.
LARSON
Republican for
RAILWAY
COMMISSIONER

varying stages of ripeness it is nearly impossible to go into a store and order the color you want. Avocados, olives, plums, limes, the list of colors sounds like a grocery list, or perhaps a winning combination on a slot machine.

We have a little trouble ordering the color we want, because we sometimes get the color of

the cooked vegetable confused with the color of the raw variety. We've found it is easier to clip a sample of the color we want from the seed catalogue and take it with us.

A baby sardine saw a submarine for the first time and was very frightened. "Don't worry," said the mama sardine. "It's only a can of people."

Capitol News—

Financial Support for Colleges
To Increase During Next DecadeBy Melvin Paul
Statehouse Correspondent
The Nebraska Press Association

LINCOLN—Nebraska will have to house in the next 10 years 15,600 more students in institutions of higher learning. And that, says Dr. Lyman Glenn who is surveying the problem for the Legislature, is equal to two complete Universities of Nebraska.

An 80 per cent increase in students predicted by Glenn is based on the assumption that there will be a boost of eight per cent in the number of high school graduates wanting to go to college.

Glenn made a report to a special committee of the Legislature which in turn will present information to the 1961 Unicameral which meets in January. Glenn says the fastest growing educational institutions in the state are the University of Omaha and the four junior colleges at McCook, Fairbury, Norfolk and Scottsbluff. Of those in colleges in Nebraska, 50.3 per cent are in state financed institutions—30.7 per cent at the University of Nebraska and 19.8 per cent at the teachers colleges in Wayne, Chadron, Peru and Kearney.

There are 1,243 full time faculty members in Nebraska colleges which had an undergraduate student population of some 20,000 last year, Glenn said. The picture painted by Glenn raises the problem of state financial support in the next decade for institutions which are already big users of property tax dollars.

Health Department

The State Health Department has hired a public relations firm to tell why the department needs 44 per cent more in state property tax money. At a State Board of Health meeting, Leonard L. Larson of Lincoln said the firm, John B. Quinn and Associates, was engaged by the board July 6 for \$500 per month.

Larson will contact legislators and doctors in connection with a proposed reorganization of the department as recommended in a report by the U. S. Public Health Service.

By law the board can carry on a health education program and make plans on organization of the department. Several state agencies, notably the highway department, game commission, and University of Nebraska, have their own public relation staffs.

Aeronautics

Repercussions were expected to continue this week over the firing of State Aeronautics Director

Jack Obbink by Gov. Dwight Burney. Burney claims Obbink was on a trip made by the state plane in the early morning hours of Sept. 24 to Kansas City which carried Robert Kennedy as a passenger.

Kennedy is campaign manager for his brother, Sen. John Kennedy. Democratic presidential nominee, Burney says Obbink is unable to prove that the plane was on state business. Obbink says he can't without violating the confidence of someone he had business with in Kansas City.

Burney is a Republican, Obbink a Democrat. Political charges and counter-charges flew all last week from both parties over the incident.

Obbink declined to recognize Burney's firing and said he had a valid appointment until Jan. 3. The State Supreme Court ordered Obbink, however, not to interfere with department operation.

Motor Vehicles

The State Motor Vehicle Department has taken in more than \$1 million in new revenue, its director, Alvin Scissors, says. Scissors says \$174,000 (of the money came from interstate registration of commercial vehicles required by a law passed by the 1959 Legislature and the remainder, or \$239,419, from permit fees required by the same bill.

In addition, the director reported, he collected \$46,325 in fees for re-instatement on drivers' licenses as provided under the new financial responsibility law passed by the 1959 Legislature.

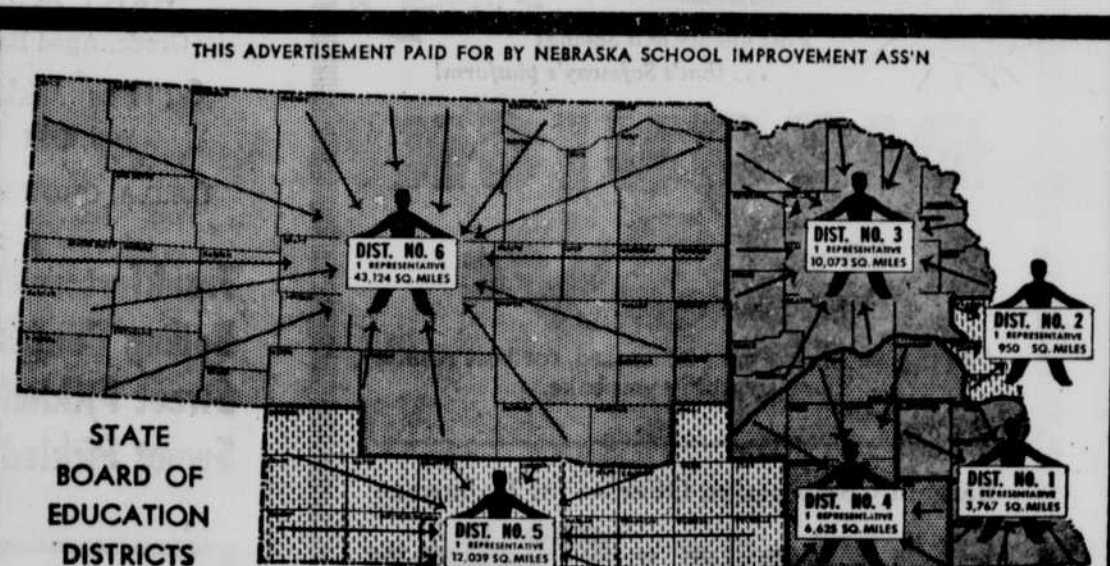
Also collected by the department, Scissors said, was \$44,171 in fees for getting driver information for credit bureaus and insurance companies.

Disabled

During September, 55 disabled persons completed rehabilitation activities and 12 were employed as teachers. That's the report of Fred Novak, director of the division or rehabilitation services for the State Department of Education.

Novak said that is an "exceptionally high" percentage of disabled persons going into the teaching field. Total monthly expenditure for the 55 persons in September was \$23,552, Novak reported, for an average cost of \$428 each.

At the end of September 1,654 persons were in active rehabilitation program in Nebraska. Novak said the division will need more money the next biennium to handle its cases and make use of available federal funds.



Who is your representative on the State Board of Education?
Do you know your representative's position and stand
on major controversial educational issues?

A local school board is close to the people they serve and are known by them, being elected by all the voters.

The members of the state board of education are far removed from those they represent, unknown by 90% of the voters, and elected by districts for six-year terms on a staggered basis.

The chief school official is appointed and accountable only to the six-man board—not the general public he serves.

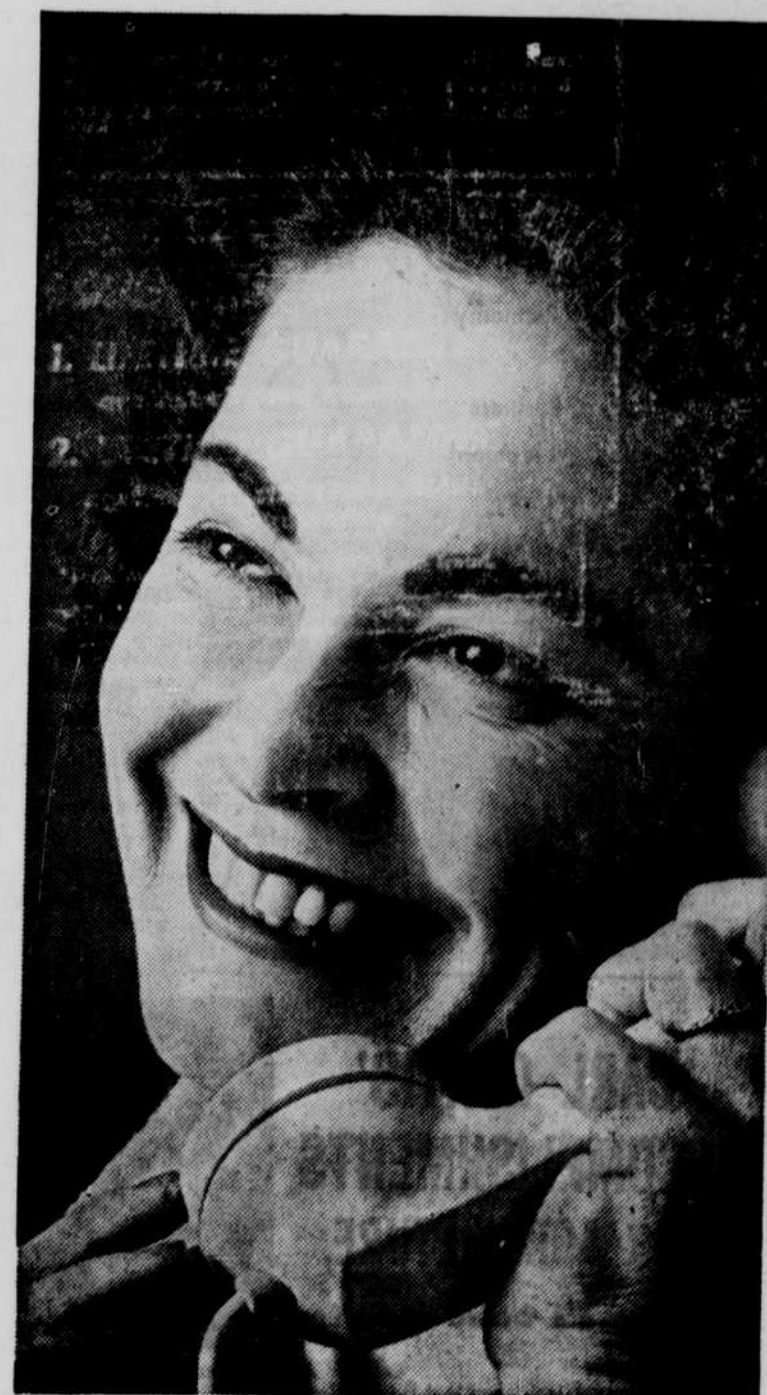
There is no direct parallel in the two systems. Wherein, then, lies your true representation and the assurance of consideration.

It is a dangerous buck-passing system without a means of pin-pointing responsibility with the disillusioned and frustrated public chained to a merry-go-round.

The proposed Constitutional Amendment does not in any way affect the present statutes which establish the requirements and qualifications for Commissioner of Education.

A vote 300 for will insure you a real and meaningful voice in education not the imaginary and inaudible one you have today.

Your vote is urgently needed to correct this condition.

Vote 300 For
November 8

A telephone is for
getting cheered up
when you feel lonesome...

... and it's for ordering the
groceries and arranging parties
and calling the plumber and
doing a thousand other things.

NORTHWESTERN BELL
Service First