

Prairieland Talk

"A Cheerful Note"

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

A cheerful note comes to me from my good friend Claude Hancock of Los Angeles. Claude and his good wife are both of pioneer Holt county families, Claude's father being a pioneer homesteader on the open prairie some six miles east of O'Neill in the long ago, later moving to Inman. Claude was for some years connected with the O'Neill National Bank. With his note he sends me newspaper clippings which tell of Francis Whelan being selected for appointment to the job of Federal Attorney serving in southern California. Francis is a son of Edward Whelan, at one time head of the O'Neill public schools, then going into law practice and some fifty years ago took off with his family for California. While in O'Neill the Whelans lived on First street between Everett and Fremont streets. Those here today who remember the Whelans will be pleased to learn that one of the family gets this appointment from our new national president. Very glad to hear from you, Claude and cordial greetings from Prairieland Talker.



Romaine Saunders

Throat and lung cancer. From scientific sources the information comes that a little thing many put into their mouths, suck on and blow out smoke makes it. Members of a church organization in our land are free from cancer, their religious faith being such that they do not put into their mouths those little smoking things. A considerable group of our citizens that do not smoke, members of the Seventh Day Adventist church.

The Frontier will soon reach the 81st year of its service to this community. Established in the year 1880 by W. D. Matthews and has not missed a single week in all that time and has survived two fires and one attempt to wreck the plant. Today is bigger and better than ever. Now is the time to subscribe.

The first gent to serve as mayor of O'Neill was John McBride. That was back in the 1880's when the frontier town stepped over the village line to become a city. McBride defeated Doc Matthews, founder of the town's newspaper that has remained through the years. Doc lost the first city election by a few votes. The first mayor and everyone since has sought to hold the saloon owners and bartenders in line and it is noted city dads are at it today. Mayor McBride had a way of his own to deal with the saloons—just stand at the bar there on lower Fourth street and "set 'em up" to his friends as he raised the flowing bowl to his open jaw. Neil Brennan, Ed F. Gallagher, Clyde King, Dr. Gilligan, D. A. Doyle were on the dry side and Col. Doyle at his first session in an upper room at the Gallagher

building on south Fourth street told the dispensers of fire water to keep within the law or else. But Gus could down his share of fire water, not at the bar but at a table in private quarters. No doubt the honorable mayor of O'Neill today knows how to go at it. Down here in the Capital City the dispensers of the "cup that cheers" are made to behave by the blue coated gents going about with club in hand. O'Neill's first mayor McBride also served as a county official, lost that job and could not then make a living, sold his home and moved to Utah to join the Mormons.

Sign in the window of a barber shop: Come in, hair cut while you wait. A young lad was at his arithmetic and ran onto a problem he wanted his father to solve—A carpenter gets three dollars a day, how much does he get in four days? That, said dad, is not arithmetic, that's ancient history!

Two teenagers killed on the highway in Saunders county. My son-in-law is home again after a week in a hospital for treatment of injuries sustained when his car was hit by a speeding motorist.

Lena Shelhart, Jennie Norval, Rosa Meals, Laura Meals, Mary Heinerson, Etta Saunders, Masey Darr, Minnie Sul Kirk, Ines Smith, Jane Bowen. Girls of "Our Crowd" some 67 years ago in O'Neill. I know of but one of them living today—Laura Belle Meals, an aged lady living near her brother Will Meals in San Diego, Calif. But I count five still living of the young gents of that crowd of long ago.

In some countries of our fair land the Negro suffers abuse. In far distant Africa the children of Ham are after the white people who have settled among them. Let the colored race of mankind have their country to carry on as they see fit. One group of human beings at war with those of another group. We had it here once, the Indian and the pale face.

At 2:30 the afternoon this is written the sun crosses the equator coming north and spring in 1961 is here. But out there it lays across the land—a blanket of snow. No blooming roses yet.

Seven business concerns in O'Neill today that date back to the 1880's but the persons now connected with these ancient concerns are of later date. The Frontier heads the list having been established in 1880. The two banks, the two lumber yards, the hotel at Fourth and Everett streets and Biglins are the others. And one I know of still connected in a small way with one of these institutions, Prairieland Talker, was a part of The Frontier force starting in 1888, in the days of Editor James H. Riggs. Is there another still at it that was doing his bit in 1880's—hold up your hand.

Editorial

H For Hooray

Our hat is off this week to a fine young 4-H farmer who personally advised President Kennedy and Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman to end farm supports.

Howard Werkheiser, who's only 21, owns 976 hogs in partnership with his father in Kewanee, Illinois—"the hog capitol of the world." Recently Howard, along with other 4-H members, visited Washington to tell the nation what's doing down on the farms. Here's Howard's report:

"I told Secretary Freeman in President Kennedy's office—in a nice tone of voice, of course, I didn't sass him or nothin'—the Government should try to get out of the farming picture in 10 or 15 years, slowly.

"The hog market has no price supports and they're doing fine, but the corn market has and is getting messed up.

"A few minutes later, I met the President, who said, "Howard, what do you think about the farm situation?" I said the same thing, and he looked a little disturbed."

It's interesting to note that these four H's of the 4-H Club stand for head, heart, hand and health. It's also pleasant to report that Howard is in excellent health; his hands are large as skillets; his heart is big; and he certainly used his head when the chips were down.

Don't Blame The Retailer

Inflation! ! ! Don't think you can escape it as federal taxes, debt and wages keep rising. Commenting on this the Bradenton, Florida, Herald says: "Every month we read the cost of living index has risen one or two-tenths of a per cent—but long ago we stopped paying any attention."

The retailer is the buffer from which rising costs must bounce off to the consumer—he has long absorbed a percentage of cost increases. He is the first one blamed for high prices, a condition over which he has no control. For this reason he has to be alert to price-raising practices such as the 25-cent an hour increase proposed under the Federal Wage-Hour Act. He knows that would force costs up another notch, and that he would stand the brunt of complaints about increases for which he was not responsible.

To bring inflation into perspective, the Herald editors went to the paper's files of 25 years ago and checked advertised prices with those of today. If inflation continues at the present rate, here is what they would be in 1985: Round steak, \$6.25 a pound; pork chops, \$3.50 a pound; can of corned beef, \$2.95; tooth brush, \$2.25; 1985 Ford two door, \$8,900; hamburger, \$2.15.

"Suppose" says the Herald, "what many economists fear does actually happen—inflation quits crawling and runs away!" What a price to pay for public profligacy!

Too Much Medicine

Dakota County Star

Farm experts from every state in the union seem to have an opinion on what ails American agriculture and most of them have expressed those views, it seems.

We don't pretend to know the solution, but it seems quite evident that there seems to be two lines of thought. One favors more government controls and the other suggests that we already have too much government.

A Star letter writer, who apparently supports the latter view, commented on one farm organization's swoop on Washington requesting higher price supports and more government control. The letter writer makes this comment:

"In 1920 there lived a family in Nebraska. The wife got sick and went to the doctor. The doctor gave her some medicine and told her to take it until she felt better.

"In a week she was well, but there was quite a bit of medicine left. Papa had paid good money for the medicine so she just could not throw it away. So she kept on taking it and then she got more sick than she had been in the first place.

"The farmers and the nation are just like that farm woman. Both were a little under the weather in 1932 and the shot in the arm given us by President Roosevelt was just what we needed. If we had just quit taking the medicine in a year or two it would have been just fine."

The writer says farmers have been taking the same type of medicine for 28 years and the longer they keep taking it the worse off they'll be.

The writer concludes that it's not going to help the farmers if he gets higher prices for his corn and soybeans if it continues to buy less than he is getting now.

Senator Byrd recently pointed out that gasoline taxes now total almost 50 per cent of the retail price of the fuel. He added: "Highway users are paying these tremendous sums to build a network of modern, high-speed state and Federal highways. I am not altogether convinced that they are getting their money's worth. I am, in fact, gravely suspicious that some of their money is being wasted in gingerbread design and extravagances and, what is worse, some of it disappearing in loose administrative practices, irregularities and profiteering. And the costs, far from going down or even remaining the same, keep going up and up."

Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

Ladies white lawn dresses trimmed with lace and embroidery advertised at \$3 at J. P. Mann & Co. A contract has been arranged for the replacement of the old Elkhorn river bridge at Ewing with a new steel span bridge and the price is \$5,274. Seventeen year old lad, Ellis Siders, killed by accidental shotgun explosion.

25 YEARS AGO

T. T. Wade is first man in Holt county to receive old age pension check. Tom Coyne is around town again but with the aid of crutches since sustaining a bad injury to his right knee while cranking a car. Gas war on in O'Neill with prices ranging from 13 to 16 cents, tax included, per gallon. Without opposition the names of Ben Winchell and Hugh Birmingham are nominated by petition for re-election to school board.

10 YEARS AGO

Twenty-four applications received for post of O'Neill city school superintendent. Mr. and Mrs. George Tuch of Lynch will celebrate wedding anniversary March 27. Frank Kazda sr. dies March 18 at his home in Atkinson. Guy Harris will spend the Easter vacation with his mother, Mrs. Esther C. Harris.

5 YEARS AGO

Former senator, Mrs. Hazel Abel, presents \$1,000 gift to Youth Center at O'Neill. McCarvilles stage grand opening sale in new building at 308 East Douglas street. Mrs. Anna Donlin is honored on 81st birthday. Alice Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Young of O'Neill, has been elected a junior board member of Barb Activities Board of Women at Nebraska university.

The Long Ago At Chambers

50 YEARS AGO

On March 28-29 5000 feet of moving pictures will be shown at the Chambers Band Hall—all up-to-date, all clean moral and refined. Misses Lavina Adams and Gladys Baker came home from O'Neill Wednesday. Mrs. F. S. Taylor of Sioux City visited her sisters, Mrs. William Gleed and Mrs. Clara Higgins over Sunday. Miller Porter, an old and highly respected resident of Holt county, dies March 26 at home of son, E. F. Porter.

25 YEARS AGO

Albert Harkins has purchased the old M. F. Harrington house and he plans to move the house on the Jordan land. Over two hundred applications were applied for old Age Pensions up to date for Holt county. A surprise party was tendered Mrs. Elmer Wadersee in honor of her birthday.

Atkinson News

Atkinson Civic Improvement Garden club met last Wednesday night at the home of Mrs. Ella Mack, with all members present but one. Two new members, Mrs. Dorothy Olson and Mrs. Charles Skopec, were added to the roll. Roll call was answered by naming "My favorite House Plant". Ella Mack presented the lesson "Growing Foliage Plants for Arrangements". This being the first meeting of the new year, dues were paid and year books presented to each member. The next meeting will be April 12.

Mrs. Shirley Leago of Houston, Tex. spent a couple days last week with her brother, Denton Colpack, near Bristow. Many from the Atkinson area attended the wedding and dance of Miss Sandra Putnam and Denton Colpack in Butte Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Miller and family of Jameson, Mo., came Friday and spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Oren Shippen and family. Mr. Miller is a brother of Mrs. Shippen.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Donaldson of Marathon, Ia. and Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Gordon of Manson, Ia. spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Nels Colpack and attended the wedding Sunday evening of their nephew Denton Colpack to Sandra Putnam. They returned to Iowa Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar McMullen of Grand Island and Mrs. Joe Andrews of Alda came Saturday to spend the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Claude Johnson. Mr. McMullen is a brother of Mrs. Johnson.

Stuart News

By Mrs. Herb Skala

A group of friends and neighbors charivariied Mr. and Mrs. LaVern Grenoble at the Fred Tasler home March 21. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Martin Miksch and son, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Miksch, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Greenfield, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Radcliff and family, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Heyne and daughter, Danny and Diane Greenfield, Mrs. Mabel Bernt and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gruenberg, Mrs. Frank Krysl and son, Melvin Krysl, Glen Miller of Newport, Cecil Radcliff, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Greger and family, Alice Page and Frank Janek.

Mr. and Mrs. Grenoble traveled by plane to Grand Island from Mobile, Ala. where Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tasler met them. They returned to Stuart March 18. Mr. Grenoble is in the Air Force in Florida and Mrs. Grenoble is employed at a bank at Mobile. They returned home Friday, Mr. and Mrs. Grenoble also visited his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Grenoble at Dallas, S. D.

The Birthday club met March 22 at the home of Mrs. Elgie Irish to help celebrate her birthday. Prize winners were Mrs. Max Weichman, Mrs. Elgie Irish and Mrs. Cliff Nelson.

Mr. and Mrs. Elgie Irish were hosts at a card party Friday. Prize winners were Earl Cadwallader, Mrs. Frank Johnson, Harry Cadwallader, Mrs. Clifford Nelson and Mrs. Charles Ankney. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnson will have the next party April 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mulford were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sire of Butte March 19. Also visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Phil Fisher of Huntsville, Ala. After dinner the group motored to Butte where they attended the showing of a movie at the Community Church.

Wednesday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tasler were Mr. and Mrs. LaVern Grenoble, Mr. and Mrs. William Tasler, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kubart, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Tasler, all of Atkinson, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Tasler of Stuart.

Cleveland Clackers Progressive club met Thursday at the Adams home as guests of Vesta and Mabel Adams. After the business meeting the lesson on "Arthritis" was given by Vesta Adams and Mrs. Charles Mulford. A lunch will be a Brownie Birthday party March 29.

The Rev. and Mrs. Herbert Young were March 22 visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tasler.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cadwallader entertained at a card party Friday. Prize winners were Mr. and Mrs. Herb Skala, Mike Cadwallader, Mrs. Glen Cadwallader and Joe Colson. The next party will be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Hoffman April 9.

Emil Johnson of Colon visited with the Rev. and Mrs. Herbert Young and Mark from Friday to Wednesday, returning home from a trip to Arizona.

The Brownie scouts meeting was called to order by President Connie Bahl March 22. Colors were advanced by Ann Ramm and Kathy Kunz. Pledge of Allegiance was given and roll call answered with Brownie Promise. They practiced the program. The next meeting will be a Brownie Birthday party March 29.

A Sunday guest of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Colson and Joyce was Bob Porter of Atkinson.

Rita Obermire, presently at St. Joseph hospital at Omaha, spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Obermire.

Mrs. Frank Welwel entertained at a party Thursday. Mrs. Callista Weichman and Mrs. Hubert

Kohle were guests. Prize winners were Mrs. John Miksch, Mrs. Anna Krysl and Mrs. Callista Weichman. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Ralph Minar.

Sunday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Welwel were Mr. and Mrs. Linus Judge and family of Atkinson.

Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Timmerman were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ankney and Rodney.

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