

Prairieland Talk

"Cuban Situation No Better"

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

Off the Florida coast about the distance from O'Neill to Long Pine in the waters of the Atlantic lies the island of Cuba and things grow no better fast down there. When Henry Grady, Charley Hall, Charley Harding, John Oleson, Martin Cronin, John Maher and the others left O'Neill that day in the 1890's to help Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders subdue the Spaniards and give Cuba to the Cubans we had no suspicion that it would all turn out this way. The mistake we made was that we did not take over Cuba as United States territory. Those beautiful islands far out in the Pacific became ours and now form one of the states of this great country of ours.



Romaine Saunders

In the long ago a few miles out from town in the days when I was a lad on the open prairies of Holt county in the community we called home there were seven or eight homestead families living. Now not a one. Where are they—dead, gone to other states or moved into towns. Not a homestead house now standing, herds of cattle have taken over where once dwelt Corbet, the Bently family, Lathrups, Barnes, McTaggart, my people and the others. And then in my own one-section homestead days 27 miles south of O'Neill there were some fifteen families living. Today none. And there too herds of cattle have taken over. And when this pilgrim was but a lad and first came to O'Neill it was a "wild west" town of some 400 citizens. Today some four thousand boys and girls, men and women strut about on the streets of O'Neill. Where are the pioneers, where are the booted and spurred gents and their six-shooter guns drawn at times to kill? Like Billy Reed, Doc Middleton, Kid Wade, the Dutchers, and that charming Belle Shields of horse thief fame—all now no more.

Winds hit it off 102 miles an hour in sections of prairieland a day in the last week in April. Gentle breezes across the Capital City much of the month of April.

A gathering of preachers of the Southern Baptist body of church people who claim a membership in this country of about ten million communicants, in a recent gathering commended President Kennedy for his public stand on the traditional American principal of the government keeping hands off of religious setups, church and state go their separate ways. Mr. Kennedy is a Democrat and Roman Catholic, so we understand he follows the instruction of the Lord who said we are to "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesars, and unto God that which is God's."

Members and friends of the State Historical Society who have the price of admission will gather about the banquet tables for the annual spring feast and get together down in Omaha the first Sunday in May. The day this is written a group of ladies and gents who have traveled life's lane from babyhood to old age get together in their yearly Old Folks Party, shake hands and friendly eyes look into friendly eyes not over in Omaha or other distant groups of human dwellings but here in our Capital City. As we of the genus homo are social creatures there is joy in this coming together from time to time.

Yes, the winter is passed, spring and summer again on prairieland. The song of birds, the buzz of flies and insects aplenty. A mild winter. What will the summer be—just another period of pleasant days, the roaring thunder, the south winds steady roar and the products of earth that keep mortals on the go. And another Fourth of July with its bit of fun.

Walking down the street on my way home I came upon him, a very small boy, greeted him and then gave him a bit of candy which I most always have for such as he that I meet by a home along the street. He expressed his joy upon getting the candy, then remembered his little sister. Can I have one for my sister? This he said, and I was pleased to learn that the little fellow thought of his sister. Sure—here's another for sister. Was he holding me up for two sticks of candy for himself? No. He ran at once to his little sister, and exclaimed, See what the Candy Man gave us.

O'Neill's Fourth street south of Fremont street is a lonely sorry sight today, but in the years now gone it was different. Along that street we went to see the passenger trains come and go, greet incoming friends and bid goodbye to departing loved ones. Now no trains except the freight and livestock cars rushing by. In other days business activity along that street, and on south of the railroads down to the Elkhorn, cast in hook and line and catch a three-foot pickerel; strip off to the nude to plunge in and have a swim. Only a memory today to a few remaining in the community.

A Mrs. Gray living in Hastings has been selected by our governor as the Mother of the Year for Nebraska. If it were put up to me to name the Father of the Year I would crown Cal Stewart, lately editor of The Frontier, with that honor.

They are going to "educate" us so all will favor doping our good Nebraska water with rat poison. The high brows need to be educated to understand that the Creator knew how to make water as well as the dry land.

Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO William Lavolette came up from Omaha last Friday evening to look after his property interests. Miss Lulu Wilcox of Inman went to Fremont last Sunday where she will attend school. Farmers have their small grain about all in, in this locality. Neil Brennan advertises Flanders 20 4-cyl. three styles body cad at \$725. H. J. Hammond elected president of the O'Neill Fire department.

25 YEARS AGO Ira Moss, R. M. Sauer, W. J. Biglin, P. C. Donohoe, L. A. Burgess, W. J. Hammond and F. M. Gallagher are named to Country club board. Mesdames J. J. Harrington, R. R. Morrison, Max Golden and Ira Moss entertain 45 ladies at a seven o'clock dinner, the first post-Lenten party. Annual Niobrara Valley field and track meet held in this city. Margaret Gaughenbaugh of Emmet becomes bride of Joseph Ziska of Atkinson April 20 in Emmet Catholic church.

10 YEARS AGO M. B. Huffman, vice president of Farmers State Bank at Ewing, is named president of Group III, Nebraska State Bankers association. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Schommer of Spencer observe 50th wedding anniversary. O'Neill junior, Donald Calkins, delegate to Boys State. Mary Jane Froelich and William Montgomery exchange vows. O'Neill Eagles capture Holt county track meet; Kloppenberg sets new hurdle mark.

The Long Ago At Chambers

50 YEARS AGO Arthur Noble has rented the Ingersoll farm in Harold and will work the same this year. Presbyterian aid met yesterday with Mrs. Reed Bell. Sheriff Henry Grady offers \$10 reward for information leading to arrest of parties who stole windows and doors from Reitelweid house near Chambers. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Pierce have moved into the Frank Dyson house. LaPretoria Cigars for sale, 3 for 10 cents. T. S. and B. C. Ingersoll offer their farm at public sale.

25 YEARS AGO Twenty-one men file notice of incorporation for forming of Chambers Sales company; directors are A. B. Hubbard, Leo T. Adams, W. A. Smith, W. H. Russ and T. E. Newhouse. John Arthur and Joann, children of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Alderson, receive bruises and cuts when thrown from horse. First sale of North Central Nebr. Hereford association brings \$140 average on 32 older bulls, while 10 yearlings average \$94 each.

Orchard News

Mrs. Wilbur Mahood Phone TW 3-3185

The St. Peters Lutheran Ladies aid met for the second quarter LWML meeting April 27 in the church parlors. The meeting opened with singing. This was followed by scripture reading and prayer. A skit "A Christian Woman's Stewardship" was presented by Mesdames Bill Mettelis, Bill Kruger Jr., Robert Schwager, Leland Stelling and James Meyer.

Pastor Walter Seefeldt lead the lesson discussion. During the business meeting the president reported that the committee for buying the rug and shades for the parsonage have completed its work. Mrs. Seefeldt expressed her thanks to the Aid for these items. A Mother's Day Tea is being planned for May 9 to honor certain members in the Aid.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer in unison. Mrs. Henry Letterman was honored at the birthday table. Lunch was served by Helen Mitteis, Mary Montgomery and Marguerite Mosel to the 30 members present and the visitors, Sandra Stelling, Mrs. Eldon Schacht and Mrs. Jan Curtis.

Mrs. Cora Cannenburg spent several days with her mother, Mrs. Lottie Van Ostrand. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stelling left Thursday for Chico, Calif., to spend a few weeks with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Knece. Mr. and Mrs. Milo Gorgen of Inman were Monday visitors in the Raymond Hossie home. Mrs. J. W. Mahood visited Ne-ligh Monday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Barton and Kevin of Columbus were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Schacht. Mr. and Mrs. Barton were supper guests of Mr.

and Mrs. Homer Barton and Linda. Ted Berry returned home from the Veterans hospital at Grand Island to spend several weeks, before undergoing more surgery. Mr. and Mrs. Keith Thelander and family spent the weekend in Omaha. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Auman and Jeri Wells, all of Norfolk, were weekend guests in the Howard Johnson home. Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Clifton and Danny spent three days visiting Mr. and Mrs. James Clifton. Mrs. Ralph Shrader and Mrs. Pearl Johnson attended the funeral of Philip Campbell at Osceola Wednesday.

WCSM met Wednesday afternoon with 70 persons in attendance. Six persons from Royal attended. Mrs. Harold Mitchell, president, presided over the meeting. The feature for the afternoon was a talk given by Mrs. Cora Cannenburg on the "Leper Colony in Hawaii." Mesdames Gail Brodie, E. Bruce, Alfred Cleveland, Jessie Shaw, Oliver Dempster and R. A. Willats and Miss Marjorie Willats were honored at the birthday table. The table was centered with a birthday cake. Other tables were decorated with spring flowers.

Mrs. Lee Bjornsen and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bridge visited relatives in Spencer last Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Springer of Elba were weekend guests in the Raymond Stevens home. Mrs. Paul Kopp, Kathryn and Chuck of Sunnyside, Calif., have been visiting in the home of her mother, Mrs. Flora Young, for two weeks.

Mrs. Dwane Lenz and three children left Friday noon to visit the Rev. Mr. Lenz, who is a patient at the Kearney hospital. He plans to return home Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Pete Mitchell of Clearwater and son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Mitchell of Corvallis, Ore., were

Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tiede. Mr. and Mrs. Walter LaFrenz were Norfolk visitors Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. John Deines, Mrs. Herman Weiting and Mrs. George Johnson were Grand Island visitors Friday. Mrs. Lyle Jackson and Mrs. Elsie Bakacek of Neligh were visitors in the Henry Drayton home Friday. Mrs. Lester Withee entered the Methodist hospital in Sioux City Saturday and had major surgery. She is reported to be improving satisfactorily.

The Neighbors Birthday club was honored by Mrs. E. Bruce in her home April 21 with all members present. The afternoon was spent playing bridge. Prizes were won by Mrs. Allen Hill, Mrs. Blanche Fletcher and Mrs. Gordon Drayton. Mrs. Bruce served lunch. The cake was decorated in pink and white. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hansen of Sioux City visited in the home of Mrs. Hansen's sister, Mrs. Gordon Drayton Wednesday. Orchard was second high in the county for Heart Fund donations. Elgin was first.

Ocette Bridge club met Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. Cecil Lee, Mrs. Gurney Drayton and Miss Gertrude Gribble were guests. Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Gurney Drayton won prizes. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Kenneth Bruce. Mrs. T. Hurlig and Mrs. Henry Drayton were Norfolk visitors Friday.

The HYOVA club met with Mrs. Ray Hill Thursday afternoon with 15 members and one visitor. Mrs. Stewart from Page, present. Quilting was done for Sherry Hill. Mrs. Olive Everhart spent the weekend with her daughter, Mrs. George Voorhies of Elgin. Mrs. Bruce Fletcher and daughter, Connie, and Mrs. D. L. Fletcher visited Mrs. Olive Benie at Clearwater Friday.

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Editorial

Ain't Seen Nothin' Yet

The best way to solve community problems is to get all kinds of local organizations working together on a comprehensive, do-it-yourself program. That is the view of Arthur H. Motley, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

On the highly specific side, he said that legislation now pending in Congress "could kill chambers of commerce and other local voluntary organizations working for community development... (and) could eliminate independent local government."

That's quite a statement. But Mr. Motley has evidence to support it. More than 250 local subsidy bills are pending. They provide Federal aid for repairing streets, sidewalks, bridges, parking lots, recreation facilities, garbage disposal facilities, sewage and sanitation facilities, police and fire protection, and many other local matters.

The thinking behind such proposals can only be that the Federal government should do everything. If that is to be the case, local government along with civic groups might as well shut up shop and call it a day. Then, in the matter of Federal taxes, controls, and regimentation, it will be a case of "we ain't seen nothing yet."

Long May It Fly

The following appears at the masthead of a Texas newspaper:

"The Pecos Independent is a non-partisan, conservative newspaper dedicated to promoting the individual's freedom and the growth of Pecos and West Texas... We subscribe to the belief that freedom is a gift of God and not a political grant. We believe that Freedom is consistent only with Christianity. We believe that our welfare shall depend on our own initiative and ability; we believe in maintaining a society in which the citizen has fullest individual freedom and the government's primary and paramount role is the protection of that freedom."

In this objective lies the freedom of the press.

SHREVEPORT, LA., TIMES: "Hitler's first step was to seize the German school system, then the newspapers and radio stations, and then to burn the Reichstag. It was the seizing of the schools that put the Nazi state on its way. From then on Hitler and Goebbels directed the curriculum and thus the guidance of thinking, starting with youth."

Advertisement for marking devices including rubber stamps, stencils, and tags. Text: MARKING DEVICES, RUBBER STAMPS, THESE ITEMS SOLD AT THE FRONTIER, O'Neill, Nebr., 114 N. Fourth St., Phone 788. Includes images of stamps and stencils.