

Prairieland Talk

# "No More Country Stores"

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

Community centers in Holt County far from the railroad towns, these community centers with a store, blacksmith shop, mill and one or two of them had a newspaper, as at Dustin and Mineola. Gone today are the country stores and O'Neill has become a city of big stores and centers of trade. No business going on now at Dustin, at Keya Paha, at Phoenix, Eagle Mills, Scottville, Dorsey or Middlebranch. And Mineola, once a town out there northeast on the prairie to which at least once a week Grandma Addison would go on her pony (Indian) on a gallop to get a cake of soap or a sack of sugar, and Mrs. Henry would come driving in from the Henry homestead to the west, stock up on household necessities at the Mineola mart of trade 75 years ago. And in southern Holt no store now at a spot called Inez, once a trading center. So it is at Green Valley, Swan Lake, Harold, Bliss, Little and Deloit. But Amelia survives with two stores, a post office, a filling station, a loafers headquarters and the flowing wells. And Chambers remains the metropolitan center of trade of southern Holt county.



Romaine Saunders

My home at that time with my beloved life companion was in southern Holt county. One day neighbor Jay and I went on a business mission to the ranch layout of an aged gent we wished to see. And there he was old bachelor compuncher in his abode making doughnuts, a pile of the rich brown freshly baked goodies in a dish on a table. He was not happy to learn of our mission to see him, but hospitality forever in the land of grazing herds. So we had from John's open hand a feast on doughnuts. Yes, that old puncher could make good things to eat as well as rope and brand a steer.

One red ripe tomato for one dime. The hand that plucked that tomato from the vine may get one penny of my dime.

Over 100 in the shade the last few days of June. Then the evening of July 1 dark clouds, the roll of thunder and an inch or more of cooling showers here in the Capital City. And the sun shines again this morning out of a cloudless sky as airplanes go roaring by.

A night on the prairie in the long ago—a throbbing that ebbs and comes and the night marches on to the beat of Sitting Bull's Ghost Dance drums. And Sitting Bull and 85 Sioux shot down at Wounded Knee.

After a little more than six months in session at our million dollar State House the legislature adjourned at the end of the first week in July and the law makers headed for home. Senator Frank Nelson now back home doing his bit to wind up another summer's work on the ranch but maybe to loaf away the days out in the shade of a home-grown grove of trees.

Clinton Lowrie, son of the Rev. and Mrs. N. S. Lowrie, thought he had to make a trip north to the Eagle creek country a week in the early 1890's. Induced me to go with him. Toward evening came to where Clint had a mission of some sort, stopped at a home to learn that we were at the right place, the home of the parents of Will H. Spindler of "Yesterdays Trails," as I guess it now. We were taken in, fed and lodged for the night—hospitality of the horse and buggy days. Clint was a Presbyterian preacher's son. We got up in the morning preparing to go to church services held in a school house. And at that service the preacher's son from Ewn told the few that came out that Sunday morning what he had come there for. What it was I know not now.

Civil defense hideout when in danger hunt your hole in the ground, a shelter under ground. Pioneer prairieland patriots had their "storm cave." Yes, just to the north of my homesteading father's dwelling out on Holt county prairie was the cyclone cave and when those dark threatening clouds off to the west brought on a raging storm into the cave we could duck and spend the night in peace and safety. And it wasn't a bad place for sister and I to go to on a hot July night. No air conditioning those days, no electric fans, no indoor toilet or bathroom. But we survived and are here yet.

July 4, 1961 a calm, hot day. And again memory look me back 80 years to the Independence Day when my elder brother, who had come home for a visit from where he had a job on a farm, handed me, his 10-year-old brother, a 25 cent coin for my 4th of July fun. Now, 80 years from happy childhood days and the afternoon of Independence Day I sat on a bench in the shade with my good friend from Holt county, Low Nissen, at my side. We visited and watched the boys playing ball, grownups pitching horseshoes and gents and ladies parked here and there on benches or on the sod of the campus of Union College, where a 4th of July picnic gathering was held. An unusual Independence Day celebration, friends visiting with friends and kids having their fun. At the evening lunch hour there it was spread on tables, a free feed for all. And later in the evening a bit of fireworks, motion pictures and watermelon "bedtime" treat.

federal, all desperately seeking new taxes and heavier taxes. "The cost of government, like everything else," our taxing bodies tell us, "has gone up." Most any citizen will agree with that, of course. But these governments make it sound as if they're leading a hand-to-mouth existence, that it's the duty of the taxpayer to cough up, tighten his belt and make-to.

It's about time that a few citizen committees did a little probing themselves into how their tax money is spent. This discharged clerk, for instance, was fired only because of a payroll scandal that disclosed several workers were merely signing in and signing out, never doing any work. The scandal did not blossom from any government investigation, of course, but was brought to light by some digging on the part of newspaper reporters. The clerk says no one ever gave him any duties.

This is just one case of local government corruption, one that was brought to light. Chicago has no corner on such goings-on, we can be sure. With a little prying, similar cases could be brought to light in almost any city, county, state government, and of course, at the national level, too. One can't stand at a polling place and give a voter \$2 to vote his way. He'd end up in jail. But taxpayers are gullible enough to go right on paying taxes to pay salaries to political henchmen for doing nothing at all.

President Julius A. Stratton of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology observes: "The world into which we were born is gone; we have little or no idea of the world into which our children may grow to maturity. It is this rate of change, even more than the change itself, that I see as the dominant fact of our time."

Sioux City Journal Stockman

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# Frontiers Ago

**50 YEARS AGO**  
Fred Barclay, down from Stuart last Monday, says they have had three good rains and that the corn crop will be much ahead of the average yield. Miss Bess E. Cotterill, graduate of the eminent pianist Emil Liebling of Chicago, announces that she will take a limited number of pupils.

Paul Humphrey of this city, private secretary to Congressman Kinkaid, was married at Vernon, Tex., June 23 to Miss Blanche Stevens, daughter of Congressman Stevens of Texas. The German Lutherans living northwest of this city and south of Emmet are building a new church in Emmet. The members of the Epworth League at Inman will give a pie social at the Opera house next Thursday.

**25 YEARS AGO**  
The County Assistance committee offices will be moved from the Gatz building to the jury room upstairs in the courthouse. H. L. Lindberg took over the bulk station of the Eby Oil company and Chauncey W. Porter took over the filling station on West Douglas street. O'Neill Food Center advertised 1 can salmon, 9 cents, pound coffee, 19 cents and 32 oz. Park and Berens at 10 cents. Emil Snigg returns from blacksmith shop after 55 years. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Vail and son move to Miles City, Mont. Demand for new cars still continues. Thomas Donlin topped the South Omaha market last week when his hogs sold for \$10.35 per hundred.

**10 YEARS AGO**  
John Berigan, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Berigan, will conduct the Municipal band at the June 30th concert. Mother Mary Bertrand has been appointed superintendent for St. Anthony's hospital. Mr. and Mrs. William Napstrek and daughters leave today for Plainview where he has purchased a drug store. Misses Veronica and Mary Kathryn Coyne this weekend will be visiting the Low Countries of Europe.

Over 10,000 people expected at Neigh's annual July 4th celebration. Lions club seeks more sidewalks in city. Miss Carol Pofahl, Ewing, becomes bride of Willis Rockey. Henry Reimer, son of County Judge Louis W. Reimer and Mrs. Reimer, successfully passed the Nebraska State Bar examination.

**5 YEARS AGO**  
Ezra Moor, pioneer of Holt county, dies June 23. Funeral services held at Inman. The marriage of Marjorie Sire and Richard D. Johnson performed June 22 at Butte. Richard E. Tomlinson has signed to teach "ag" class at Wagner, S. D. Mrs. Frank Clements is installed as president of St. Patrick's Altar society. James Luft escapes injury in car-truck collision west of Norfolk. 4,000 turkey poulters and perish in blaze. Holt county oats crop "pretty sick". Charles W. Sloan, Atkinson, dies unexpectedly.

## The Long Ago At Chambers

**50 YEARS AGO**  
A three act Drama will be played in Chambers July 4, and will be given by the Band Boys in their new tent. Admission 15 and 25 cents. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Starr June 29 a 12 pound boy. Hazel Kapple fell from a

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**SPORTS SHELF CORP.**  
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wagon yesterday morning breaking her arm just below the elbow. B. T. Winchell and E. E. Ferrin were inspecting roads near Jesse Frarys last week. Mrs. F. H. Charles spent a few days with Mrs. Gus Hoppe in Francis last week. The Union District Sunday School convention will be held in Chambers July 14. H. F. Dyke, secretary. A double wedding took place in O'Neill Monday when Miss Myrtle Wood and Mr. Jas. Horton, and Miss Emma Horton and Joe Bradshaw were married by Judge Malone.

**25 YEARS AGO**  
Art Rowse and son are trucking blue grass seed this week. Mrs. R. A. Ballagh returned home Sunday from Chambers where she has been caring for her mother, Mrs. William Gumb. Attorney George Clark was to return home yesterday from several cases being held at Lincoln, Norfolk and Wilber. Ivan, one of the twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Walter of this city underwent an appendectomy June 23. Swan Lake in South Holt county is being restocked with almost 10,000 goodsized bullheads. A miscellaneous shower was given at the home of Mrs. Jennie Wilcox Saturday afternoon in honor of her daughter, Dorothy, who will soon become the bride of Nelse Rasmussen of San Francisco, Calif.

## Inman News

By Mrs. James McMahan

Mr. and Mrs. Duaine Krueger of Woodward, Ia., spent a few days last week visiting Mr. and Mrs. Karl Keyes, Mrs. Amelia Moore, Mrs. Pauline Anderl and Francis. Mr. and Mrs. Krueger, Mr. and Mrs. Keyes and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Sholes and son were Fourth of July guests of Mrs. Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sholes and family of O'Neill and Mrs. Helen Sholes of Buhl, Ida., visited Rufus and Violet Sholes Wednesday evening.

Mary Morsbach, who is employed at Neigh, spent the weekend visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Morsbach.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rogers of Granite Falls, Wash., came Saturday to visit Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Clark and other friends and relatives. Mrs. Rogers and Mr. Clark are sister and brother.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Johnson and family of Omaha spent the Fourth of July visiting Mrs. Johnson's mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Morsbach.

Yvonne Smith of Aurora, Colo., spent the weekend visiting Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Smith and Mrs. Anna Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Cadwallader and son of Newport spent the weekend visiting Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cadwallader and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Smith.

Inman Commercial club met Monday evening at the Watson Hay office for the regular meeting. Several matters of business were discussed.

Mr. and Mrs. David Morsbach attended Campfire services at the RLDS church in Clearwater Sunday evening. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Mearl Sparks and son at Clearwater.

Mr. and Mrs. Rex Oberle of Minneapolis, Minn., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. R. B. South and also relatives at O'Neill and Emmet.

met. Mrs. Albert Anthony, Mrs. Leo Harte, Mrs. Walter Fleck and Mrs. T. G. Hutton attended a Top club meeting at the Sam Burtwig home near Ewing Wednesday evening.

Joe Peters, who is employed at Norfolk, spent a couple of days last week at his home here.

Fay Brittle of Atkinson was an Inman caller Thursday.

Mrs. Elizabeth Morsbach went to Fremont Tuesday where she will spend some time visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hackett and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Broecker and son and John Scheller of Bloomfield where Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Anthony and Terry and Gaylene.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Kelley and daughter and Ned Kelley of Norfolk spent the weekend visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Kelley and daughters.

Ann Kelley is spending a few days visiting Mr. and Mrs. James Kelley, who are employed at Madison.

Bill Duncan left Thursday for Nogales, Ariz., after spending a few days visiting Mr. and Mrs. John Gallagher.

Mrs. Merle DeLong and Mildred Keyes have returned from Blair where they had taken a five-week course at Dana college.

Mrs. Vaden Kivett spent the weekend with her family. She is attending summer school at Wayne.

Mrs. James Coventry, Mrs. Kenneth Coventry and Mrs. Leo Harte and Donna attended a bridal shower for Regina Vitt at the home of Mrs. Robert McGowan in O'Neill Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Coventry and Bob, Mr. and Mrs. James Coventry and Bill and Joe Harte were Fourth of July guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sullivan at O'Neill.

Mrs. Mayme Harte and Bea Gallagher were Fourth of July guests of Mr. and Mrs. Matt McCabe and family at Page.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Clark visited in the Tom Clark home at O'Neill Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Anthony and family and Tom Harte joined Mr. and Mrs. Otto Mutschallat

and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Mutschallat and family of Page at the O'Neill park Fourth of July for a picnic.

Neal Kelley of the USMC is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Kelley, and also with the W. E. Kelley family. Neal is stationed at El Toro, Calif.

**Servicemen's Notes . . .**

Army Pvt. Harry E. Bellin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bellin, O'Neill, recently arrived in Korea and is now serving with the 1st Division's 5th Cavalry.

The 1st is the only U. S. division presently manning a front line in Korea.

Bellin, a clerk in the cavalry's Company A, was last stationed at Fort Riley, Kan.

The 19-year-old soldier is a 1960 graduate of O'Neill public high school.

Cadet Keith R. Knapp, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Knapp, Clearwater, is receiving six weeks of training at the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) summer camp at Fort Riley, Kan. The training is scheduled to be concluded July 28.

He is a 1958 graduate of St. Joseph's high school and is attending Creighton university.

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The Marriage-Go-Round

and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Mutschallat and family of Page at the O'Neill park Fourth of July for a picnic.

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## O'Neill National Bank

Report of the condition of the  
O'Neill National Bank  
JUNE 30, 1961

Published in response to call made by Comptroller of the Currency, under Section 5211, U. S. Revised Statutes.

| ASSETS   |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Cash, balances with other banks, and cash items in process of collection | \$ 676,900.71       |
| United States Government obligations, direct and guaranteed              | 1,399,706.25        |
| Obligations of States and political subdivisions                         | 513,570.49          |
| Corporate stocks (including \$7500.00 stock of Federal Reserve bank)     | 7,500.00            |
| Loans and discounts (including \$1071.72 overdrafts)                     | 1,185,893.77        |
| Bank premises owned  | 3,000.00            |
| Other assets   | 53.60               |
| <b>Total Assets</b>  | <b>3,786,624.82</b> |
| LIABILITIES  |                     |
| Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations           | 2,840,263.26        |
| Deposits of United States Government (including postal savings)          | 59,707.08           |
| Deposits of States and political subdivisions                            | 251,105.19          |
| Deposits of banks  | 187,464.24          |
| Total Deposits   | \$3,338,539.77      |
| (a) Total demand deposits  | \$3,338,539.77      |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>   | <b>3,338,539.77</b> |
| CAPITAL ACCOUNTS   |                     |
| Capital Stock:   |                     |
| Common stock, total par \$100,000.00                                     | 100,000.00          |
| Surplus  | 150,000.00          |
| Undivided profits  | 198,085.05          |
| <b>Total Capital Accounts</b>  | <b>448,085.05</b>   |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Capital Accounts</b>                            | <b>3,786,624.82</b> |
| MEMORANDA  |                     |
| Assets pledged or assigned to secure liabilities and for other purposes  | 659,625.00          |

I, O. D. French, Cashier, of the above-named bank do hereby declare that this report of condition is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

O. D. FRENCH, Cashier

We, the undersigned directors attest the correctness of this report of condition and declare that it has been examined by us and to the best of our knowledge and belief is true and correct.

F. N. Cronin, J. B. Grady, Julius D. Cronin, Directors

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If thrift-size is your size, then Corvair's the car for you. Ten budget-pleasin' models to pick from. And, of course, every Corvair is a driver's delight thanks to the nimble, sure-footed going that's yours with Corvair's superb rear-engine design.

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Corvair 700 Club Coupe. A 2-door budget-minded beauty with thistle-down handling, rear-engine traction and quick-stepping, sassy performance.

Nomad 9-Passenger Station Wagon. Chevrolet's the full-sized wagon more people are picking. A choice of six to save on nifty Nomads to thrifty Brookwoods.

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