

Prairieland Talk

"A Woman Shoe Cobbler"

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

Looking back into the 1880's, 90's and early 1900's there comes to view a number of women in business in O'Neill. Mrs. Dan Conoly in a little bakery business west of Third street a half block on the main east and west drag through town. Mrs. Ziener of the Arcadia hotel, Mrs. Martin operating a millinery store up the street, her husband being the village clerk for several years. Kate Mann heading the towns leading merchandise establishment. Mrs. Cross venturing a thing before unknown to a lady's hand, shoe cobbler and half-soling. Flo Bentley in the grocery business and Mrs. Joe Horisky conducting the grocery business after her husband's death. Others followed in later years and others in earlier years did laundry work or kept a boarding house. And one old gal managed the Moffat livery and feed barn; and I count four of the gentler sex who were printers.



Romaine Saunders

You ought to meet him, a business man three blocks up the street from where I write. His charming wife gave out that she had never seen her "old man" get mad. A happy smile adorns his face as we meet him from day to day. Never gets mad? I wonder how he does it.

The first week of the month of August began with about 90 degrees of heat, and the morning of the 7th it was down to 68, but the sun still glows in golden glory on its way across the heavenly blue.

Some may have wondered why my youthful pal Homer Campbell has had to accept aid in his old age, mentioned recently in Prairieland Talk. His life's savings had been used in caring for his invalid wife, who for years was unable to do the home work or care for herself. Homer, like most of the men and women who gave to the world beautiful things of helpful literary products, was neither a money maker nor a spend thrift. But he was ever true to his life's companion and they reached old age near the end of the trail together.

Two women of Ames, Iowa, killed when their car was hit by an oncoming train, and three others over there in Iowa killed on the highway the same day. And out where Montana Jack spent the best years of his life, prairie fires sweeping the country. One day's "news". When it is lovely and U and I go about our daily doings it is not news. But we on prairieland are happy to live as we do and not make any news of the day.

History began with mankind getting about on foot. Then he rolled around on wheels. Now we get there on wings.

A half block west of the First National bank corner years ago was the business place of V. Alberts, harness and saddles. The oldest son of the family took over the business after the passing of his father and sold me one of my first cowboy outfits, saddle, bridle and throw rope. That young Alberts would not ride a horse but peddled a bike about town and went to Omaha and back at least once every summer on that two wheeled rig that he propelled by foot power. The flu took him some 35 or 40 years ago. And the Alberts harness store is no more.

Oh, in the shade these hot days. Like to make a snow ball? Well, about a half day's flight to the North Pole.

White, Black, Brown, Green. Four colors and also names of four groups of citizens we have known. Green - Guy, a printer in O'Neill who later turned rancher and lived in Wheeler county, then went to a Pacific coast state; and Guy had a brother, John, who spent his last years in O'Neill. Both are no more. Brown - Walter, a friend of mine in our Capital City some years ago, and a public official by that name I met in California. Black - O yes, Billy Black of our kid days. White - We all know those sturdy patriots down there in the beautiful Swan Lake country. And Blue and Pink. Yes, Blubaugh, the boss of things 75 years ago out at Mineola. Pinkerton, a northeast Holt county pioneer, maybe some of them still with us.

The darkness of another night has passed away, and morning dawns to start another day. We gather at the breakfast table to eat that which makes us able another day's duties to perform and life's responsibilities to carry on. And we trust a Heavenly Hand will lead the way today so we may extend a helping hand to some fellow traveler along the way.

A Russian space explorer says he circled this earth upon which we live 17 times and is glad to be back on solid ground. Did he circle the earth at the equator or at the North Pole? And now for a trip to the man they say.

Autumn days ahead. Prairieland dwellers at peace and plenty to sustain life on every hand. Here in our Capital City all goes well, as I understand from what Miss Lindsey writes that is the situation down at Amelia.

Editorial

Sad but True

The following item which was sent to us by one of our senior correspondents seems to sum up the feelings of a great many Americans today.

With apologies only to the Holy Bible we offer the following:

"The Government is my shepherd. I need not work. It alloweth me to lie down on good jobs; it leadeth me beside still factories. It destroyed my initiative; it leadeth in the paths of the parasite for politics sake.

Yes, though I walk through the valley of laziness and deficient spending, I will fear no evil, for the Government is with me. Its doles and its vote-getters, they comfort me. It prepareth an economic utopia for me by appropriating the earnings of my grandchildren.

It filleth my head with bologna, my inefficiency runneth over. Surely, the Government will care for me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in a fool's paradise forever.

TONASKET, WASH., TRIBUNE: "If today's taxpayers had some of the gumption of their forefathers who made history with the Boston tea party, it wouldn't take long to call a halt to the wasteful and extravagant spending by governments which grow bigger and bigger and which exact more and more taxes to sustain their constantly expanding operations."

PLAINFIELD, IND., MESSENGER: "If proposals to provide medical services to persons drawing social security benefits is carried out as proposed the possibility of taxing people for other services seems unlimited. This is a far different thing than a pension. If workers are to be taxed regardless for health insurance, why can't they be taxed for housing insurance? Certainly the guarantee of a place to live is just as important as paying the doctor. How about another quarter of one per cent to guarantee 'grocery care'? Some oldsters get involved in litigation. Who's going to pay the lawyer? "The point is that freedom of choice about personal matters is basic to our democracy."

FOUNTAIN, COLO., ADVERTISER: "In his speech commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Soviet Union . . . Nikita Khrushchev emphasized the success so far of Russia, but demanding that the people 'work, work work' for further success.

"Work alone is the source of the wealth of society and the wealth of every man," he declared. "Now we dislike everything about the Communist's line of chatter, but believe the group in this country which seeks shorter hours, less production, higher wages, higher unemployment benefits, etc., would do well to think over his ending phrase."

Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

The most successful race meet ever held in this city was brought to a close last Saturday afternoon and good purses went to H. J. McKenna, O'Neill and other owners of winning horses. . . Miss Lorena Powers, North Bend, is in the city the guest of Julia Biglin.

A very pretty wedding was solemnized Wednesday morning at the Catholic church united Edward Donohoe, Stuart, and Miss Nellie Brennan, O'Neill. . . Lenore Daley returned from an extended visit with relatives in Lincoln and Grand Island. . . Miss Kate Murray and Mrs. Conrad, Page, suffered injuries when their horse became frightened at some object in the street and turned over-throwing the buggy. . . Work upon the addition to St. Mary's Academy is about completed. . . Conrad C. Reka died at his home last Monday after an illness.

25 YEARS AGO

Last Thursday a business transaction was completed whereby Ralph Tomlinson becomes the owner of the U. and I. grocery store, having purchased it from Thomas Brennan who retired. . . P. J. O'Donnell, in golf foursome with Dr. G. E. Peters, J. M. Lieber and George Reed, had a 33 for first nine holes and a 31 for second round. . . The eighth meeting of the Elm Grove Poultry club was held at the Den Hynes home August 9. . . Reports of the threshers in northeast Holt give the rye yield from 3 to 8 bushels per acre most fields producing 4 bushels. . . The R. R. Morrison family departed Sunday for Casper, Wyo., for a mid-summer outing. . . Improvements are being made at the Ralph Mellor residence, a porch being built and stucco work done.

10 YEARS AGO

Record crowd watches Atkinson Hay Day parade. . . Number of North Holt county farms suffer crop loss from hail storm Sunday afternoon. . . Sister M. Emilia replaces Sister Fides at St. Mary's academy. . . Howard Dean principal at O'Neill school the past two years, has been elected superintendent of schools at Stanton, Ia. . . Miss Mary Lou Gartner weds James Butts in ceremony at St. Patrick's Catholic church August 13. . . The Atkinson Country Woman's club met at City park house for picnic August 9. . . Members of the John Pruss family reunite in the Ivan Pruss home Sunday. . . Championship flight pairings for city tourney are Jack Everitt vs. Max Golden, Henry Lohaus and Red DeWitt, Ed Campbell Jr. and A. P. Jaszowski, and Ben Grady vs. Joe McCarville.

5 YEARS AGO

Funeral services for Edward Hammond White, 88, Amelia, who came to Holt county 72 years ago, will be conducted at the Methodist church August 17. . . August 20 the stockholders of the Atkinson Cooperative Creamery association will vote on the proposition of dissolving the corporation. . . The 13th annual conference of the Wesleyan Methodist church is being



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held in Atkinson. . . 63rd Holt County Fair closes tonight. . . Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Grady receive friends at a reception August 19 in observance of their wedding anniversary August 18; they were married in Atkinson in 1906. . . Chicago & North Western Railroad to file for permission to discontinue Omaha-Chadron trains 13 and 14.

a ditch and crashed into the thrashing machine. . . Seymour Harkins recently had a well put down which throws water six feet in the air. . . The Chambers baseball team motored to Red Bird Sunday and took their team for a score of 4 to 3 with William Russ pitching for Chambers. . . George Kelly and H. L. Smith attended a meeting in O'Neill sponsored by the Nebraska Agricultural department in connection with produce dealers in regards to buying poultry by a grade basis.

last Sunday at the John Napier home. . . The Jolly Workers club met Thursday afternoon at the Dewitt Hoke home. Mrs. Lewis Shrader and Mrs. Grant Mott assisted the hostess with the lunch. The afternoon was spent with tying two quilts and some embroidery. Mrs. Willie Shrader, the president had charge of the business meeting. Twenty one members were present and four visitors, Mrs. Alvin Nelson, Ina Bennett, Mrs. Ruth Waples and Linda Hansen. Linda was honored with a "pound" shower. She is marrying Lavern Shrader the latter part of August and they plan to make their home in Wayne where both will attend college.

The Wayne Fry family visited with Al Gibson and the Keith Gibson family at the Lewis Vandersnick home last Sunday. . . Mrs. Fern Pollock visited Mrs. Bert Fink and helped can corn one day last week. . . Mrs. Alfred Napier, Steve and Glenda called on Mrs. Ralph Lindquist while in Neligh last Monday afternoon. . . Mr. and Mrs. George Montgomery were Neligh visitors Friday afternoon. . . Patricia Rotherham, Denver, Colo., visited Tuesday at the William Loquist home. Frances Rotherham was a supper guest. . . The Alfred Napier family visited last Monday evening at the G. D. Ryan home. . . The William Loquist family visited last Sunday at the Charles Rotherham home. . . Jimmy Gunter visited Leroy and Dennis Napier Saturday. . . Mr. and Mrs. James V. Gunter was a supper guest Monday at the George Montgomery home. . . Mr. and Mrs. James V. Gunter and Jimmy, Geneseo, Ill., were overnight guests Friday and Saturday at the Lionel Gunter home. A picnic dinner was held in their honor Sunday at the R. A. Hord home.

The Long Ago At Chambers

50 YEARS AGO

Mr. Ingram, the banker from Clearwater, came in on the stage Wednesday and is spending a few days here. . . Rev. W. E. Green will preach educational sermons next Sunday morning and evening. . . Mrs. Jesse Frary entertained a party of ladies at afternoon tea last Tuesday in honor of her mother, Mrs. Eggleston. . . Pete, the youngest son of P. J. O'Malley, in leading a broncho Sunday night got his thumb pulled out and so badly crushed that amputation was necessary. . . Little Isabel Putnam who lives with her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Noble fall from a wagon last week and fractured her right arm. . . D. D. Leonard is working for E. E. Perrin.

25 YEARS AGO

C. E. Tibbet is laying out a cabin camp on his half acre south of his home; there will be 15 in all with a shower bath in the center of the cabins. . . What might have proved to be a serious accident occurred to Ben Oetzer, Willow Lake, last Tuesday when his tractor reversed down

Riverside News

By Mrs. Lionel Gunter

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hobbs and Bobby and Joan Emsick, Omaha, came Tuesday evening for a couple days visit, the Hobbs returned home Thursday evening and Joan is staying at the Z. H. Fry home.

Diane Gunter, Geneseo, Ill. spent Wednesday night and all day Thursday with Glenda Napier. . . Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Mosel left Wednesday morning to spend a few days in the Black Hills.

Mona Mosel came home from Wayne Monday afternoon. She attended Judy Bartak's and Robert Eggerling's wedding. Tuesday morning at St. John's Catholic church, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Bartak took Mona back to Wayne that evening and the Bartak children stayed at the W. Mosel home.

Frank and Billy Emsick, Omaha, came Saturday evening to spend a few days at the Z. H. Fry home and left Tuesday for Newman Grove to visit the Duane Jensen family enroute home.

The Alfred Napier family and Duane Tinsley were dinner guests

day with Jacky Barnhart in Neligh. . . The Wayne Fry family visited with Al Gibson and the Keith Gibson family at the Lewis Vandersnick home last Sunday. . . Mrs. Fern Pollock visited Mrs. Bert Fink and helped can corn one day last week. . . Mrs. Alfred Napier, Steve and Glenda called on Mrs. Ralph Lindquist while in Neligh last Monday afternoon. . . Mr. and Mrs. George Montgomery were Neligh visitors Friday afternoon. . . Patricia Rotherham, Denver, Colo., visited Tuesday at the William Loquist home. Frances Rotherham was a supper guest. . . The Alfred Napier family visited last Monday evening at the G. D. Ryan home. . . The William Loquist family visited last Sunday at the Charles Rotherham home. . . Jimmy Gunter visited Leroy and Dennis Napier Saturday. . . Mr. and Mrs. James V. Gunter was a supper guest Monday at the George Montgomery home. . . Mr. and Mrs. James V. Gunter and Jimmy, Geneseo, Ill., were overnight guests Friday and Saturday at the Lionel Gunter home. A picnic dinner was held in their honor Sunday at the R. A. Hord home.

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