

Prairieland Talk

"We Are On The Go"

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, 4111 South 51st St., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

On Douglas street east of Fifth was E. M. Ward's livery and feed barn, taken over by George Jones, then by two Mullen brothers. And across the way the three DeYarman brothers had the classy Checkered Barn, where we got horses to ride or drive. On South Fourth street two more livery stables, and to the west of where the post office now stands was another horse and saddle institution. Yes, we specimens of the genus homo must be on the go. Now the bus depot has it where you may take a bus and go west, go east, north or south. And what household is there today without a rubber tired rig to roll the streets and highways. We must be on the go—look out, here she comes.



Romaine Saunders

Violent hail storms down in the Panhandle wiped out a million dollar wheat crop. Grass still grows in Holt county and Baby Beef thumbs a nose at you as you roll along the prairie trails.

On the TV Lincoln citizens saw it a night recently—the Elkhorn river a mile wide flowing across Holt county. It was just that at times in the 1880's, nearly up to the railroad tracks at O'Neill and south to the section line.

Before closing her eyes in death the dying lady out there in San Francisco said to bury her most any place but not in Los Angeles. So that's it in rival Pacific coast communities.

"And God said Let there be light and there was Light." And may that Light be our guide along life's journey to the end of it all.

Across the street to the west of where the KC hall now stands in the 1880's there was the Gidings building housing a bit of the stuff we call groceries. And attached to the west side of that building was a small one room structure that was O'Neill's first bakery. Another bake shop got going on South Fourth street between Biglin's and the post office building. The next bakery was on the north side of Douglas street a door or two west of where the bus depot is today. Then across the street Flo Bentley was turning out the baker's bread, pies and cakes, a whole good pie for one dime. Today the M & M has it and besides serves meals to the many who show up at grub eating time.

Doc Middleton, Kid Wade, Dutcher Brothers, Al Hellman and their kind are no more, their memories not recalled today as a lasting and guiding influence where these fellows once did their dirty work. But the influence of others lives on to inspire us of today to live as we should. Father Cassidy, long time pastor of St. Patrick's church, Rev. Bartley Blain founder and first pastor of the Methodist church in O'Neill, Rev. N. S. Lowrie first resident pastor of the Presbyterian church, and priest and preacher with devoted laymen men and women, fathers and mothers; memories of these have a part in shaping lives of those who walk the streets in Holt county towns today.

Vacation time. Off to distant parts, to distant lands and maybe city dwellers have not yet become acquainted with their next door neighbor.

Above Prairieland this calm June day the beautiful blue sky looks down upon us the sky lighted in golden glory by the sun. In a troubled world Prairieland people dwell well behaved amid peace and plenty. In lands afar and near the ghost of human we walks about. Look out today upon the green robed landscape, hear the birds sing and rejoice with the creatures of nature hopping about and be thankful for your happy home on Prairieland.

With long pole in hand to keep him properly balanced he started along the rope stretched tight from one high point to another high point. The tight rope performer. Where is he today? Gone to return no more. And the 4th of July big celebrations in memory of that great day in 1776. We see them no more coming along the street celebrating our birth as a nation. And Buffalo Bill on his white horse is hardly a memory today. Yet we are still happy as a clam in this land of Uncle Sam, just as that pioneer homesteader south of Inman was nearly a century ago.

Judge Dickson's new court house housing the official affairs of Holt county is still here while the lifeless forms of Dickson and Weeks and others who had to do with promoting the new court house are at rest in the abode of the dead up on the little hill. As a lad Prairieland Talker gaddled about on the streets of a little town called O'Neill City where there was neither courthouse or school house where these two fine structures now stand. And the little town of pioneer days is now a city the home of a few thousand patriots. But Dickson is gone, Meredith is gone, Smoot is gone, others are gone but Old Man Grady is still here.

Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

Misses Kathryn and Alice Barrett left Wednesday morning for Sioux City where they will attend school. . . S. J. Weeks, James F. O'Donnell and Mrs. James Ryan have had cement curbs placed next to the gutter on Douglas street in front of their residences. . . Dr. Pettibone has opened up a dental office in the office of Dr. J. P. Gilligan until his old office is repaired. . . St. Mary's Academy graduated nine, June 18. They were: Margaret Cronin, Frances Daly, Myrtle Fisher, Ruth French, Mary Gallagher, Lura Lewis, Agatha Lewis, Marcella Mattie and Anna Paul.

25 YEARS AGO

O'Neill post office moved to new modern building. . . Orville Winchell plays brilliant golf to take first in the tournament. . . Mr. and Mrs. Emmet Moore entertained about 40 guests at a cocktail party before the Country Club dance Monday evening. . . John Kersenbrock and son, Duke, returned from Lincoln where they spent Sunday and Monday with Mrs. Kersenbrock and Jack. . . L. E. Downey, local C. B. & Q. agent got a nice promotion.

10 YEARS AGO

Twister destroys drive-in screen, need for moisture grows urgent. . . Legion reveals plan for 70 to 90 thousand dollar pool. . . M. J. Golden wins 31st annual open golf tourney. . . Helen Bowden becomes bride of Frank McKenny June 16. . . Residents are asked to co-operate in conserving water, especially during hot days. . . Dance, American Legion auditorium, Dick Mango and his orchestra.

5 YEARS AGO

Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Embree arrived Friday to establish residence in the Methodist district superintendent's parsonage-office. . . Grover Shaw and wife wed 50 years June 16. . . O'Neill has fourth annual rodeo sponsored by the O'Neill Saddle club. . . Barbara L. Strong and Wayne W. Barnes exchange vows June 16. . . Max Golden again wins O'Neill open title. . . Cera Corkle ranks 2nd in dairy princess contest. . . Don't miss the greatest comedy show on earth, Womanless Wedding, you'll laugh till your sides ache.

making a good sanitary place to swim. . . Born to Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Adams, June 18 a fine 9½ pound son. . . The St. Paul congregation will observe its annual missionary rally Sunday with a double service. . . A son was born Wednesday to Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Burrell residing southwest of Chambers. . . Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Reminger and son, Normand, left Monday afternoon for a few days fishing in Cherry county. . . Each Sunday school is rendering their Children's Day program next Sunday.

Deloit News

By Mrs. H. Reimer

Mrs. Louis Pofahl, 61, died Wednesday, following a lingering illness. She had lived in this community since her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Tomjack were Norfolk visitors Friday. Ralph attended the sale.

Vicky and Jody Ray, Omaha, spent Friday at the Gene Tomjack home.

Mrs. Ewald Spahn and Mrs. Henry Reimer attended the land-

scaping tour at Page and O'Neill Thursday, conducted by Wayne Whitney, extension horticulturist from the Agricultural college.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ward, New York City and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Johnson, Winifred and Neil, Ne- ligh, visited Sunday afternoon at the Fred Harpster's.

We have had several days of sunshine, the men were happy to get the hay up.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Tomjack visited Florence Butler, Ewing, in the Neligh hospital Tuesday evening. Mrs. Butler was able to re- turn home Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ewald Spahn at- tended a picnic at Goose Lake Sunday.

Mrs. Martha Kinney, her sister and a friend are employed in Yel- lowstone park this summer.

Marilyn Burk was a dinner guest Thursday in the Glenn Harpster home.

Mrs. Paul Funk, who has been ill and hospitalized in Neligh was able to return home June 13.

The HEO club was postponed and will be held June 21 at the Werkmeister home.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Harpster were dinner guests in O'Neill Thursday and evening guests at the Richard Napier home, it was

Mrs. Harpster's birthday anniver- sary.

Mrs. Mary Stearns accompan- ied Mr. and Mrs. Homer Stearns of Norfolk on a fishing trip to Lake Travis.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Beaudin and four children, Chicago, Ill., are expected to arrive at the R. Tomjack home. Mrs. Beaudin and family will spend several days at the home of his parents, Mr. Beaudin will return to Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bollwitt and Mr. and Mrs. Ewald Spahn at- tended the wedding of a relative in O'Neill Saturday morning.

Mrs. Glenn Harpster spent Fri- day afternoon at the H. Reimer home.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Reimer and Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Larson, Ew- ing, were Sunday guests at the Don Starr home in West Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Pahl and Mary, Oakland, and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Conway and 3 daughters, Newton, Kan. visited recently in the Carl Christon home in Mid- land, Tex. and the Toni Christons at Colorado City, Tex.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Tomjack and family spent the weekend with the Jewell Tomjacks in Hastings.

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Editorial

Farmers Reap Bounty Crop

From all indications farmers and ranchers are going to harvest a bounty crop this year. Not necessarily of hay or field crops, but of arms, legs and lives.

Already the reports of farm accidents are coming in. From a handful of weekly newspapers this week we read accounts of the following accidents during the past week:

From the Neligh News—Roy Black, who lives north and east of Neligh was injured Monday evening in a baler accident on his farm. The accident happened at the end of the field near the barn and was discovered by the family dog, who alerted Mrs. Black. The doctor reports the right leg is badly damaged both below and above the knee and every effort is being made to save the limb.

From the Burwell Tribune—Jack Stevens was knocked unconscious and received severe scalp lacerations which required ten or 12 stitches to close, in addition to a concussion when hurt while adjusting a cultivator.

The Bonesteel Enterprise—Charles Tietgen, 14, had his leg injured this afternoon about 3 p.m. when he was raking hay. The tractor upset backward on a steep hill and fell on his leg.

The Albion News—Lloyd Myers was caught in a baler Wednesday afternoon. Myers was reported resting comfortably in the Methodist hospital in Omaha after having his right arm and part of his right shoulder amputated. No one really knows for sure just how the accident happened.

No one may know for sure just how any of these or similar accidents happen. But we are sure that every one who works with machinery has an excellent idea as to what may have been the cause.

Although few who operate farm machinery would admit to being reckless in their operation of the machines, we know of few operators who do not admit to being at least careless at times. And the dividing line between reckless and careless is very thin.

The lion tamer who enters the cage with the man-eating tigers draws applause and admiration from the crowd for his feats of daring. But the performance that makes us gasp and our hearts beat faster is seeing a farmer working to clear a clogged baler while the machine is running. For his efforts the lion tamer receives a handsome salary. The farmer simply bets his arms, legs or life against the few extra minutes it would take to stop the machine and do the job right.

The National Farm Safety Committee made the following facts available this past week:

Accident figures show that over 1,000 persons are killed each year in farm tractor accidents. One-third of these occur on public roads. Upsets and collisions lead the list.

Non-fatal accidents involving tractors are estimated at 45,000 a year. This type of accident can mean a loss of arm, leg or permanent injury that might force a person to be a bed patient the remainder of his life.

In a five-year study, 28 fatalities (17 percent of the total) involved children under 10 years of age. Eighteen of the deaths occurred among children 4 years of age and under.

It is facts like these that bear a little extra thinking and possibly a lot of "doing" . . . the type of "doing" to prevent these tractor accidents.

The Long Ago At Chambers

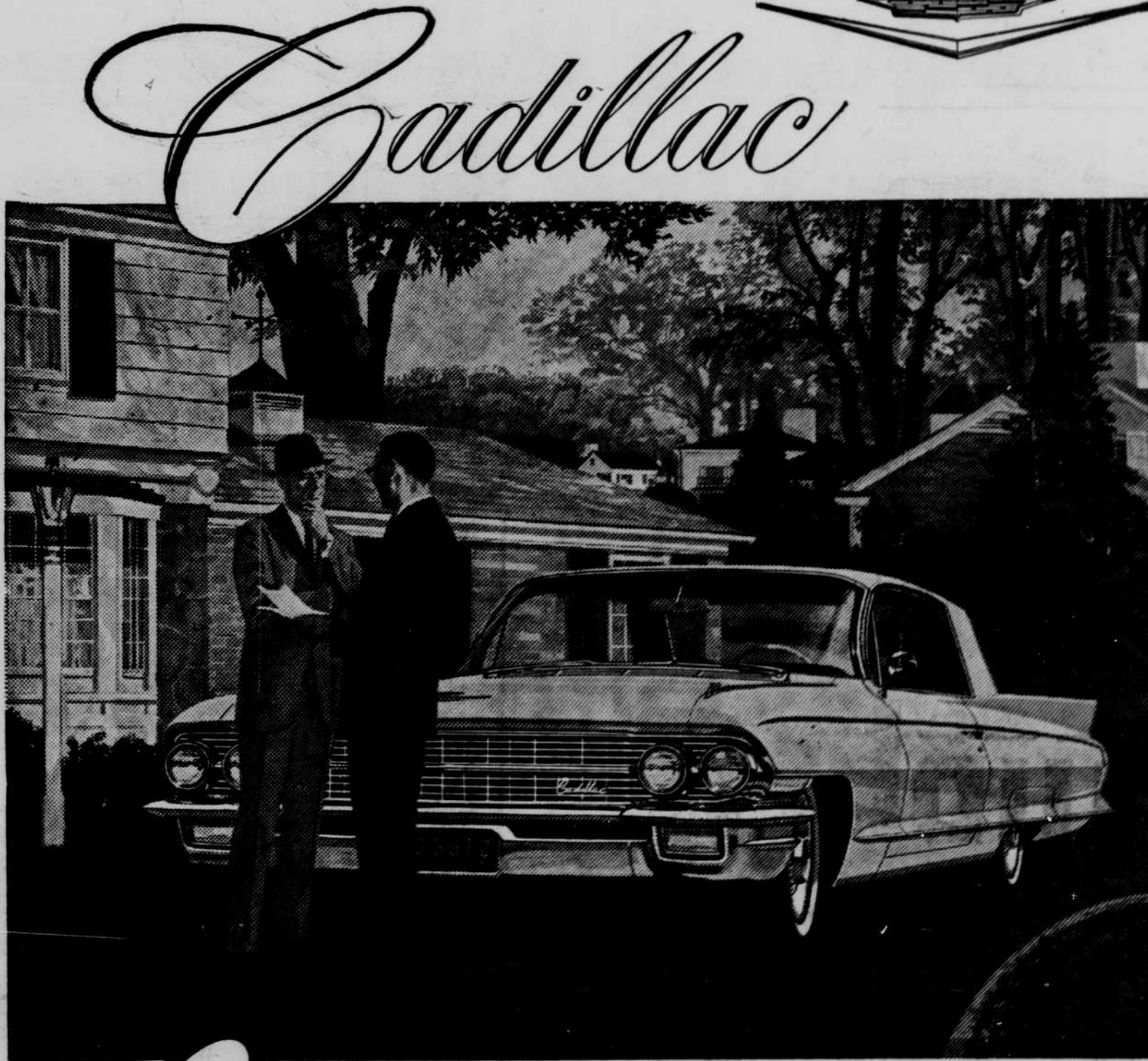
50 YEARS AGO

Charles Graham has sold his interest in the Livery Barn to Clark Hough, Mr. Hough is taking possession Wednesday. . . Mrs. Major has rented six rooms in the hotel building and will be prepared to run a first class hotel. . . The German Lutheran church is rapidly nearing completion and we understand it will be dedicated July 21. . . Don't forget the Bazaar in the Band Hall Saturday afternoon and evening. . . John Cox is building a new house on his place west of town.

25 YEARS AGO

The swimming pool will be drained and graveled Friday.

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