

Prairieland Talk

"Another Holt Pioneer Family"

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

Near the village of Page and before there was a village of Page Jim Shanner held down a homestead and struggled in pioneer days at times hungry and cold. Lived it out with his good wife and two sons and developed a beautiful prairieland home where he and his wife both came to life's journey's end some years ago. Their one surviving son is a citizen of O'Neill today in furniture repair business at the Odd Fellow building on South Fourth street. Mr. Pioneer Jim had a brother, L. T. Shanner, in the 1880's in business in Inman. L. T. was a member of the state legislature, became my brother-in-law and his daughter born in O'Neill lives today in Washington, D. C. L. T., Grace and their one daughter left O'Neill about 1892 and he ended his days in southern Indiana, where one daughter of L. T. and Grace lives today and one daughter born in O'Neill sticks it out in Washington.



Romaine Saunders

Mr. Stewart informs me that the book of which he is author, stories of the last World War, is being taken over by publishers in London, France, Germany and old Rome and will be for those in those lands in their own language. Editor Cal, a war historian. He saw it, serving as a captain in the U. S. forces. And he stays by the printing press publishing four papers in Lincoln.

The prairie rose, a touch of beauty and fragrance here and there on our green robed landscape. The hand that hung the stars and sun on high reached to earth and gave us the rose, the golden-rod and many flowering beauties.

A night at the end of August a three inch rain beat upon my roof, lightning and crashing thunder. Well wet and autumn begins. Next snowball time but now no jingling sleighbells, just the puff and roar of automobiles on the streets and highways.

County fair, state fair, world's fair. Did you get to any of them? Yes, you met and visited with neighbors and friends on the fair grounds down by Chambers or will yet do so. But pleasures of life are soon over, then back to the daily grind. And so along life's way we go, smiles and joy, tears and heartache. Then some day it is all over.

Editorial

Valentine Loses Double Header

Valentine took it on the chin Friday night as they dropped a double header here in O'Neill. In the warmup event of the evening the O'Neill Eagles dropped the Valentine Badgers 27-6 in the opening football game of the season. However, the action on the field apparently proved too exciting for some Valentine fans who felt called upon to stage an impromptu game of their own at the west end of the field at the end of the evening. They were obliged by some O'Neill rooters.

O'Neill fans claimed victory in the game of fistfights which took place on the O'Neill side of the field. (Score is kept according to the number of opposing fighters knocked down and unofficial tally showed O'Neill leading 8-2 when the game was called on account of darkness. The darkness was caused by officials turning off the lights on the field.)

Post game comment in O'Neill indicates that the impromptu slugging matches have caused much more interest than the game between the two teams. Although Valentine fans doubtless believed they were justified in issuing the challenge to the O'Neill rooters and the O'Neill fans feel they were honor bound to accept it we can not help but wonder just how much honor was preserved by the whole affair. Personally we're in favor of keeping the boxing matches in the ring and the football games on the playing field.

We sincerely hope that Friday night's fights will not be turned into a tradition to be carried out each time Valentine and O'Neill meet for a football or basketball game. The athletic contests between these schools are too good to be marred by such juvenile antics.

B J R

George Riggs, brother of James who published The Frontier at an early day. George was tall and handsome, like his brother took to printing and newspaper work. He left O'Neill, went to Omaha, then to Council Bluffs and from there to the Capital City of Iowa where he ended his days. George was a part of the O'Neill picture in the days of political turmoil and wrote some scorching denunciations of the enemy. He was a brother of Mrs. Meredith and married an O'Neill girl. George, another one now no more.

There was a longing in her young soul for a life companion and a home. Most of the citizens disdained her as a bad one. Time passed and the lovely dream of home and romance gave way to stern realities, so Net went with that old guy and his kids to their layout on Dry creek and became the housewife in a humble country home. He would swing into the saddle and ride along the streets to show off his horsemanship, just a young town fellow we knew as Jack. And he no more on a prancing horse but like Net under the sod in the abode of the dead up on the hill.

A grand crop of apples out in the back yard, yellow beauties for sauce and apple pie. Yes, pass the pie!

Atkinson's prominent rancher, Mr. Peterson, did not have a champion horse at the state fair this year. But another Atkinson rancher George Meals should very well have gone to those fair grounds down at Lincoln with one of the classiest bit of horse flesh seen anywhere — Flossy, a plump fat bay mare now more than 26 years old, a beauty I sold to George long ago. On the Meals ranch five miles south of Atkinson you may see the best in livestock, including beautiful Flossy, a name I gave her in memory of a charming daughter-in-law of mine.

The elderly Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Robler, Mr. and Mrs. Riley, Mrs. VanLom, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. James, the Berrys and Mr. and Mrs. Prairieland Talker are no more a part of the picture in lovely southwest Holt county. And that merchant prince from a far distant land who made that little spot called Amelia the trading center of the whole country too is no more, but there the land lays covered with prairie sod, a blow out here and there, the prairie wolf, the jackrabbits, birds and flowers, the bull snakes and other creeping things, and men and women, boys and girls.

Thoughtful Gestures

It's right thoughtful of the Agriculture Department to put together a little packet of its publications with the aim of helping brides and brides-to-be to do a good job of keeping house and preparing meals.

In the packet are such titles as, "How to Know Butter Grades", "Food for Family Fitness" and "How to Prevent and Remove Mildew". It's all part of the department's efforts to make its consumer services more widely known.

This sort of thoughtful gesture should be reciprocated, say by some public-spirited consumers who might get up a packet of leaflets to send Agriculture Secretary Freeman and his aides. Including, for instance, "1001 Tasty Uses for Surplus Butter", "How to Avoid Grain Storage Headaches", and perhaps, "What to Do if Allotments Go Sour".

Minute Editorial (105 Years Old)

"It is a gloomy moment in history. Not for many years—not in the lifetime of most men who read this paper—has there been so much grave and deep apprehension; never has the future seemed so incalculable as at this time—in France the political caldron seethes and bubbles with uncertainty; Russia hangs as usual, like a cloud, dark and silent upon the horizons of Europe; while all the energies, resources and influences of the British Empire are sorely tried.

"It is a solemn moment and no man can feel an indifference—which happily, no man pretends to feel—in the issue of events of our own troubles no man sees the end."

When was it written? October 10, 1857 in Harper's Weekly!

Frontiers Ago

50 YEARS AGO

Wanted — Second cook at the New Ogden Hotel. . . S. J. Weeks made a business trip to Omaha the first of the week. . . T. T. Wald was in town Saturday with a stalk of sweet corn from his field that was over twelve feet tall. . . Automobiles are getting so common around here that some of the farmers are talking strong of getting flying machines. . . We understand that Ralph Evans has disposed of his interests in Alaska and that he is coming back to good old Nebraska. . . Fine Candies and Hot Chocolate — McMillan & Markley's Bakery and Candy Kitchen. . . adv.

25 YEARS AGO

The Alpha club met Sept. 8 with Mrs. V. K. Simonson. . . Mr. and Mrs. Bert Winchell are the parents of a baby girl, born to them last Tuesday. . . Mrs. Duke Downey and daughter came from Omaha Friday night to join Mr. Downey here, where they will make their home. . . Money saving prices at the Brown-McDonald Co. — Silk dresses, \$3.98 — Suede Jackets, \$5.98 — Overcoats, \$11.75. . . adv.

10 YEARS AGO

Thirty-five neighbors gathered at the Harold Leise hayfield for an all-day haying bee. . . Seventeen haystacks were destroyed by fire at the D. C. Schaffer property. . . Bonnie Jean Harmon weds Roy W. Berner. . . Grandma Hull has another anniversary. She is a 'grand old lady' at 97th milestone. . . Born to Mr. and Mrs. Owen Davidson, a daughter, Margaret Sue, 7½ pounds, born Sept. 9.

5 YEARS AGO

O'Neill high picks four cheerleaders. Elected for the 1957-58 season are Betty Schultz, Sharon Nelson, Carolyn Schmeichel and Linda Haynes. . . Marriage license

was issued to Francis R. Rhode, 28 and Maureen M. Mahoney, 22, both of O'Neill on Sept. 6. . . Future subscribers — Mr. and Mrs. Norman Gonderinger, a son, Robert Michael, born September 7.

The Long Ago At Chambers

50 YEARS AGO

Born to Mr. and Mrs. John Walters Tuesday afternoon a fine young blacksmith. . . A fire was accidentally started at the home of Gillette Bros. last Sunday burning up considerable clothing and bedding before it could be stopped. . . Misses Edna Gled and Hazel went to O'Neill Saturday where they will attend school the coming year.

25 YEARS AGO

The attendance at the South Fork fair exceeded the year of 1936. And as a whole was far better, with more entertainment than we have had before. . . Edward Grimes, George, Vernon and Ward Smith left the first of the week for a ten day fishing trip to Lake of the Woods, Minn. . . Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fauquier entertained the neighborhood to a watermelon feed Sunday afternoon.

Riverside News

By Mrs. Lionel Gunter

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Haddock and family, Sioux Falls, S. D., spent last Saturday night at the Walter Miller home, returning home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Buschardt and family visited last Monday at the Dave Pollock home and afternoon callers were Mr. and Mrs. Otto Retke.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller called on Jessie Cronk and the Earl Stevens and Melvin Smiths at Page last Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Archie Johnston visited

It happened 100 YEARS ago

The oldest incorporated trade association in the country, the United States Brewers Association, was organized in 1862 . . . the same year that



Sketch of first Homestead in the Nebraska Territory

IN NEBRASKA the people cheered when they learned Congress had passed the Homestead Act, making it possible for them to get free land in the territory. Throughout the west the event was toasted with foaming steins of beer.

For then, as now, beer was the traditional beverage of moderation — light, sparkling refreshment that adds a touch of Western Hospitality to any occasion. Nebraskans have always enjoyed the good fellowship that goes with every glass.

TODAY in its centennial year, the United States Brewers Association still works constantly to assure maintenance of high standards of quality and propriety wherever beer and ale are served.



Nebraska Division
UNITED STATES
BREWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
Lincoln

Mrs. Leo Miller Friday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Pierson visited at the George Montgomery home Tuesday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Dale Napier and the Lorraine Montgomery and Lynn Fry families were dinner guests Sunday at the Floyd Napier home in honor of Mrs. Lynn Fry's birthday anniversary.

Mrs. Veri Gunter and children and Eddy and Alice Shrader were dinner guests last Sunday at the Gerald Wetlaufer home in O'Neill.

Mr. and Mrs. William Lofquist and family were dinner guests Sunday at the Frances Rotherham home.

Frank Emsick, Omaha, spent last weekend visiting at the Z. H. Fry home, Sunday guests were Mr. and Mrs. Dale Napier and the Richard Napier and Wayne Fry families.

The Leo Miller family were guests for coffee after the football game, at the William Lofquist home.

Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Gunter and Mrs. Rol Hord visited Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Gunter in Norfolk Wednesday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. George Montgomery called on them Friday afternoon.

Rodney Pollock, Omaha, spent last weekend at the Dave Pollock home. Rodney and family had just returned from visiting his brother, Ralph at Seattle, Wash. Mr. and Mrs. George Montgomery visited in O'Neill Wednesday. Mrs. Keith Biddlecome, Mrs. Mildred Wright and Betty were Nellig visitors Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Fry and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Hoke, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Shrader and David and Lee Fink family were guests Friday evening at the Kitty Fry home after the football game.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. H. Fry and Mr. and Mrs. Otto Retke visited at the George Montgomery home last Monday evening.

Mrs. George Keller visited at the Alfred Napier home last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Strope, Milford, spent last weekend visiting relatives.

Mike McNabb, Omaha, spent last Sunday at the William Lofquist home returning to his home in Omaha Monday.

Mrs. Dale Napier and Mr. and Mrs. Z. H. Fry visited in Norfolk Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Fink came home last Tuesday after spending a week visiting at the William Fink home at Englewood, Colo.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Switzer visited at the Alfred Napier home last Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Gunter were dinner guests last Sunday at the R. A. Hord home.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Ahlers were guests last Sunday at the Robert Ahlers home at Winner in honor of Mrs. Robert Ahlers birthday. They also called at the Frederick Ritter home at Tilden enroute home.

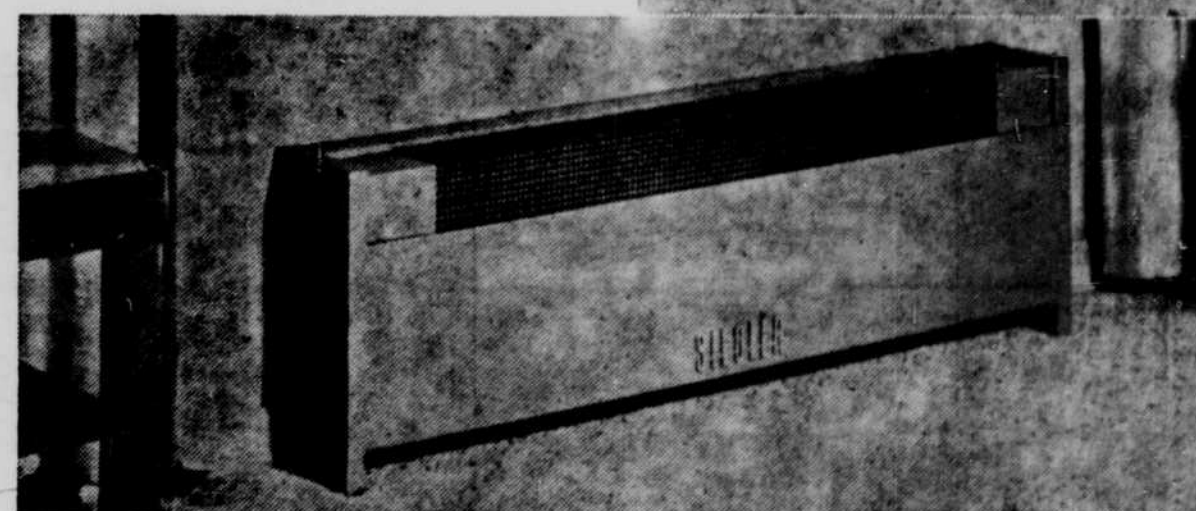
Mrs. Veri Gunter and Johnny were dinner guests last Monday at the Lionel Gunter home. In the afternoon Alice Shrader accompanied Mrs. Veri Gunter and children to their home in Creighton for a few days visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller called at the Al Anson home Friday afternoon to see the new baby boy.

Alfred Napier went to Omaha Tuesday to see the showing of the new Chevrolets.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Pierson joined the Marvin Pribnow family last Sunday at the Marcus Pierson home.

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