

# NEHAWKA

Mrs. F. O. Sand  
Phone 2604

## New Officers Lead Extension Club at January Meeting

The new officers presided at the January meeting of the Maple Grove extension club Thursday afternoon at the home of the president, Mrs. Malcolm Pollard. Other officers are Mrs. Victor Ross, vice president, Mrs. Kent Balfour, secretary-treasurer.

The lesson, "One Dish Meals" was presented by Mrs. Henning Johnson and Mrs. F. O. Sand, who substituted for Mrs. Lyman Anderson, who is ill. Mrs. Johnson prepared Souffle's cheese sandwich and Mrs. Sand prepared sausage surprise pie, which were served to members later.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. Pollard and her co-hostesses, Mrs. John Tyson and Mrs. Oren Pollard.

The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Merritt Pollard on February 18.

## WCSA Meets at Pollard Home

Mrs. Will Ost was devotion leader at the WCSA meeting at the home of Mrs. Melvin Sturm Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. M. E. McDonald, program chairman, spoke on "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." For the missions Mrs. Gilbert Edmonds reported on the Prophet Jeremiah and she also gave a report on the status of women.

Mrs. John Chandler conducted the meeting. The society will observe the World Day of Prayer on March 2 at the church with Mrs. Carl Balfour as chairman. Reports were given by the women who attended the Elmwood meeting on January 8.

Guests were Mrs. S. C. Niday, Mrs. Jack Reece and Jackie. The next meeting will be at the church February 17. Co-hostesses were Mrs. Dwight Cook and Mrs. Jim Sturm.

## Two-Week Florida Trip Is Ended

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin McReynolds and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Kime returned Wednesday night from a two weeks' trip to Florida. Mr. McReynolds attended the National Rural Electric Association convention at Miami. Six thousand delegates attended the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. McReynolds made a trip by plane to Havana, Cuba. They also enjoyed sightseeing throughout the state of Florida.

## Miss Switzer Is Contest Entrant

Suzy Switzer was first in the morning section of the cherry pie contest at Lincoln Tuesday, January 19. There were 29 contestants, including one boy from Howard county. Marci Jo Nicodemus of Butler county was the winner for the day. Television pictures were taken of Suzy and they were broadcast that evening on KOLN from Lincoln.

Mrs. Wildon Switzer accompanied her daughter to the contest.

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## The Plattsmouth Journal

410 Main Street Plattsmouth, Nebr.

## House Filled With Soot From Explosion

The oil burning furnace at the George Kime home blew up Wednesday night filling the house with soot. The furniture, drapes, rugs, dresser drawers and clothes closets were filled with soot. No one was in the house at the time and the damage was not known until Thursday morning. The Kime family had been staying at the Alvin McReynolds home while they were in Florida. Fortunately there was no fire following the explosion and if the family had been home they could have been suffocated. The damage is covered by insurance.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wolph entertained at a pinocle party Friday evening on their tenth anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Lacy had high score and Mr. and Mrs. Will Ost, low. Mrs. Louise Ross received the traveling prize.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wolph and Miss Evelyn Wolph were dinner guests Saturday evening at the Wm. Kruger home at Bellevue.

## Applications for Small Grain Price Support Due Feb. 1

Final date by which producers can avail themselves of price support on the 1953 crop wheat, oats, rye, grain sorghums, soybeans and dry edible beans has been extended to include February 1, 1954, according to Ivan G. Althouse, chairman of the Cass County ASC committee.

Mr. Althouse said the one-day extension from January 31 was authorized because the previously announced closing date fell on a non-working day.

"This means," the county chairman said, "that all loan and purchase agreement papers must be signed by the Cass County ASC committee as of February 1, 1954."

## MURDOCK

Mrs. Florence McDonald  
Phone 2871 or 2322

Oliver Kupke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kupke is on a two weeks cruise at the Great Lakes Naval station.

Richard Stock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stock returned home from Korea on Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Hendrickson returned home Monday evening from their week's trip visiting relatives in New Mexico.

LaNita Lindell, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Lindell spent two days at the Syracuse hospital last week for treatment and observation.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kupke entertained at a pinocle party Sunday evening. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Brunckow, Mr. and Mrs. Ed McHugh, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Elsemann, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wendt, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wendt, Mr. and Mrs. Grant Peters, Mr. and Mrs. John Gakemeier, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Kupke and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Guehlstorff.

The OES Kensington met at the home of Mrs. Abbie Stromer at Alvo, Nebraska on Wednesday, January 13, with 20 members, 3 visitors and 4 children present. At an appropriate hour a very delicious lunch was served by the hostess and co-hostesses.

The ladies aid met at the church basement for their regular monthly meeting and social on Thursday afternoon, January 14, with a very good attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Arlo Stock and family of Cozad, Nebraska, spent the week end and most of this week here visiting relatives.

Richard Stock is the proud owner of a new 1953 Ford, which he recently purchased since his return from Korea.

Twelve ladies of the Friendly Neighbor Club braved the cold Wednesday to go to the Silas Schlaphoff home, where they were greeted by our two charming hostesses Marjorie and Beverly. The meeting was soon called to order. Dues paid for the ensuing year, collection of polo dimes and filling our books with our future meeting places and hostesses, then the regular business followed by a very enjoyable period of entertainment found us ready for the delicious luncheon which we enjoyed very much. After an exchange of farewells we returned home feeling that an afternoon with friends was very beneficial as well as enjoyable.

QUICK-THINKING SAVES 3 Covington, Ky. The quick-thinking of Mrs. Howard McKinney, saved three little children from death when their apartment caught fire. Mrs. McKinney led two of the children out and put the third child, 3-months old, in a suitcase which she kicked across the floor to the doorway. One of the children saved was her own — the other two were children of a friend.

John's disease of cattle which causes an annual loss of about \$500,000 is reported to be on the increase. Diagnosis of the disease is possible by means of an agent known as Johnin which is employed in the same way tuberculin is used to spot tuberculous.



FUR GOSH SAKES!—Evidently discussing the comparative quality of their furs are mink-coated Alix Talton and a white poodle by the name of "Champion Pavanne Pegasus de Bo-Mi," often called "Here, Pooch" for short. The meeting took place at the 49th annual All-Breed Dog Show in Los Angeles, Calif.

## Capital News

LINCOLN—That county boards striving to better their roads may be missing a \$3 million bet was emphasized this week at the Statehouse by State Engineer L. N. Ress.

The official told a couple of road delegations that if they were really interested in getting their roads improved they had better visit their courthouse and prod their county board rather than coming to the Statehouse.

This is because approximately \$3 million in federal funds are available to Nebraska county boards who are willing to match it on their county road systems. And what's more, Ress told the delegations, this money will lapse unless Nebraska counties use it.

The news apparently came as a revelation to at least one delegation—a group from Arnold in Custer County. The delegation asked Ress what the chances were of the state building a road from Arnold north toward Dunning. Ress replied that the state didn't have such funds.

Then he looked at the map and announced that the Custer County Board had placed this particular road on its county highway system. That made it eligible for federal funds on a 50-50 basis. All that was needed was providing one-half the cost.

First step is to have a road authorized as part of the county highway system. This can be done by a resolution passed by the county board. Ress said that approval is almost certain to come from state and federal authorities.

This opens the way for use of federal funds. Any subdivision may put up the matching funds but they must be handled through the county. That is, a township may furnish the 50 per cent of money needed but the county must make the request for the federal government's 50 per cent. Reason for this, according to Ress, is that there is enough paper work connected with communication with 93 Nebraska counties, let alone all the townships.

Cities and villages, too, may take advantage of this "pot of gold."

Federal authorities are liberal enough on this subject as to allow this kind of a set-up.

A county decides to improve a stretch of road with its own equipment. It may charge off the labor and equipment cost against the amount it is supposed to furnish.

Ress said he is worried that people in so many Nebraska counties don't seem to know that this road improvement money is so readily available. He said they look to the Statehouse to reconstruct their farm-to-market roads, not realizing that they can get aid from the federal government via their own courthouses.

The state engineer said that county boards have been told time and again about this available federal aid secondary money. He said that he hoped they would pass on the word to their constituents.

### Road Maps

Speaking of county highway systems, Ress has reminded county boards that they have until Sept. 14 to submit maps of their county road network to his office.

If a county doesn't do so, it stands to lose its monthly share of the state gasoline tax revenue.

The law requiring submission of such maps has been on the books for years but few county boards bothered to send them in. So the 1953 Legislature passed an amendment to the law putting some teeth into it.

Realizing that all the counties depend heavily on the gasoline tax revenue, the Legislature okayed an amendment to chop off this source of income to counties which don't comply. September 14 is the deadline.

Ress said there were several methods by which a county board could determine its road system. Best way is to do some traffic counting to see which roads are traveled most. In Johnson County on origin and destination survey was conducted. Farmers driving along the road were stopped and asked where they came from and where they were going. This information was compiled to determine which were the county's artery roads.

Another method is to lay out a grid providing for a county road every so many miles. The third and worst, according to Ress, is to decide on the system according to political pressures.

### Weight Restrictions

With the announced purpose

of saving the state's highways during the spring breakup, the State Highway Department announced truck weight limits on a number of state roads. The February 1 public hearing on these limitations is expected to bring some hot argument. The department said its intentions were to keep too heavy trucks from possibly tearing up these highways when the spring thaws make the ground under them unstable. They would go into effect February 15 and might be lifted by April 15.

### Plan Scuttled

The state central committee of the Republican party is scheduled to meet here Feb. 1. Informed sources say one purpose of the session is to drive the nail into the coffin of the plan to change the Legislature back to the partisan two-house body it was before 1937. The Republican committee is expected to repudiate its earlier action which had favored changing the present non-partisan one-house Legislature. Reason is that party leaders haven't found the support they had expected. Even finding persons to bear the petitions has been difficult. One leader of the movement to change the Legislature said that the effort now might be to enlarge the Unicameral and have its members elected on party tickets.

### Griffith Saved

The State Pardon Board commuted the death sentence of Hugh Griffith of Sidney to life imprisonment at the State Penitentiary. Had the board not taken the action, Griffith would have gone to the electric chair February 15 on charges of slaying his wife, Anna, with a shotgun on June 20, 1952. Griffith had steadfastly maintained he was innocent although a Cheyenne County jury had found him guilty and the Nebraska Supreme Court had upheld the conviction. A young Lincoln attorney, Mrs. Norma Ver Maas, entered the case six weeks ago and did considerable investigation in the Sidney area. She said Griffith had not had a fair trial. Among other things she claimed county officials had made no effort to check Griffith's alibi that on the night of the shooting he was at an oil drilling location 25 miles southwest of Sidney. Cheyenne County Attorney Jack Knicey of Sidney was also present at the hearing and said that Griffith had committed a "planned, cold-blooded murder" and had had his day in court. He contended that Mrs. Ver Maas had brought in absolutely no evidence to show otherwise, and said he resented her inference that officials had "framed" Griffith. Gov. Robert Crosby and Secretary of State Frank Marsh voted to reduce the sentence while the other member of the three man board, Atty. Gen. C. S. Beck, dissented. The reason seemed to be that Mrs. Ver Maas had succeeded in throwing a shadow of doubt on the entire matter.

Lid Still On State Liquor Commission Chairman Tal Coonrad explained that the Commission's action in granting four extra licenses at Fremont did not mean that the group intends to "open up" licenses in other towns. He said that the rule of thumb brought out in the Fremont case — one liquor license for every 1,500 persons — was mentioned by the Fremont City Council and not by the Commission. Coonrad said that different towns have different rates of consumption. Besides the Commission wants to work along with city governing

## LETTER BOX

The Journal welcomes letters from readers for this column on any subject. Your name must be signed to all articles intended for publication, however, by request, it can be omitted from the letter appearing in print. (Contents do not necessarily express the opinions of this newspaper.)

Mesa, Arizona, Jan. 29, 1954.

I told you I would write on reaching Arizona, so here goes. I only wish I was capable of writing a book as we have had enough experience on our "Pioneer Trip" of pulling a trailer on first trip through Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona, over strange and interesting country. We had good weather, snow and wind. Small hills, big hills, mountains and miles of straight roads with nothing in sight but sand, yucca and cacti. Not even a house. Made one wonder why they ever took it away from the Indians.

Then my second book would be on "Trailer Life and Trailer Courts." But since I'm not that intelligent, I'll just say it was a very interesting trip and everyone along the way so courteous and anxious to help us get settled for the night and to advise us. And all the time the worry of what lay ahead the next day.

We arrived O. K. No trouble at all except one tire puncture. For which we were very thankful as we saw some trailers in ditches and one man had completely wrecked his car and trailer. So who says a woman driver is a poor driver?

We stayed one week in Tucson before moving here. We like it so much better here. This valley is called "Sun Valley." They

bodies except where it thinks the public welfare warrants state action, he said.

have irrigation here so grow every thing here as at home. They were cutting alfalfa Dec. 30th.

We have taken several trips around here and seen many things. The mountains, desert, beautiful palms heavy with dates, as well as grapefruit and oranges. Acres of vegetables of all kinds and acres of flowers in bloom.

All kinds of vegetables and fruit on the market and vegetable, flower, roses and strawberry plants for sale. Doesn't seem possible it is January.

It is chilly nights and we have fire but days are usually in 70's. Today is not nice, it rains then sunshines then another shower and only 60. You should hear everyone gripe about it. Myself included. Ha!

But we hear that you have 5 above, snow and wind so I am satisfied.

So far Mac is feeling no better but it will take time and more good hot sun.

We really like it here very much and do like trailer life too, although we miss our many friends back home and everyone on Main street and wish we could drop in for a while. Since we cannot do this then the next best thing is letters from everyone and the Journal for which I enclose check. Now see that you get all the news in it. Give every one our very best

wishes as for yourselves. Sincerely, Mr. and Mrs. P. Y. McPetridge General Delivery, Mesa, Arizona.

"PROBLEM DRINKERS" Washington, D. C. has the greatest percentage of "problem drinkers" in the nation, according to R. M. Henderson, Industrial Consultant to the Yale Center of Alcohol Studies. California ranks first among states in the number of problem drinkers, he asserted. Problem drinkers, according to Henderson, lose an average of 23 days work a year, have an accident rate twice that of nonalcoholics and have a life span twelve years shorter.

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