

# Down Memory Lane

**February 13, 1930**  
Winfield Cowger is working as switchman in the railway yards at North Platte, Neb. He passed the exam with high grades and has a good job as the result.

Musings of the Village Deacon: The trouble with the last will and testament, too many times is that it can't be drawn so that it will take the heirs as long to spend it as it did the old man to accumulate it.

**February 21, 1935**  
The finale of the Osborne County basketball tournament was the scene of the snappy cage scraps between the Osborne Bulldogs and Downs Dragons. The first and second teams from both towns won over their opponents to meet in the final contest. The Dragons were all victorious winning second team game 25-14 and first team, 21-27.

Interesting figures on teachers' salaries in this county in the annual report recently made to the state tax commission by Jess Vague, county superintendent. There are 40 teachers (including superintendents and principals) who are paid a total of \$12,360, or an average of \$25.75 per month.

**February 22, 1940**  
The Downs Dragons with a last quarter rally defeated the Alton team Saturday to win for the fourth consecutive year, the Os-

borne County basketball tournament. The final game proved to be the most interesting of the tournament. Both evenings of the tourney at OHS was packed to capacity by the largest crowds ever to witness a county tournament.

A change took place at the Peter Pan store the latter part of last week when C.O. Robertson, who has been employed at the store for many months, took over a half interest in the store.

**February 22, 1945**  
Osborne has a cafe under new management. The lunch room east of the post office formerly operated by Mr. & Mrs. Victor Tripp is now owned and operated by Rozena Grady and Florence Clayton and is known as Victory Cafe.

The C.H. Tabors have bought the interest of Mr. & Mrs. Leo Vulgamore, Scott City, in the Vulgamore store located in the Masonic building on West Main, Osborne.

A tragic fire occurred at the Wilford Palmer farm seven miles south and one-half mile east of Woodston Feb. 14 at about 11 a.m. when Jasper Palmer attempted to build a fire with kerosene. An explosion followed fatally burning him and destroying the house and contents.

**February 23, 1950**  
An interesting program

scheduled for next week which is to be presented by pupils of the kindergarten through third grades under the direction of Helen Gregory will by Rhythm Band, musical numbers and a short operetta entitled, "Naughty Peter Rabbit."

Soil conservation awards went to five farmers at the annual meeting. Everett Garrison presented to the awards to Mrs. Russell Kurtz and son, Dale, William Considine, Walter Bates, and Carl Grimes, all of Alton; and Albert Yost, Downs.

**February 20, 1955**  
Dr. & Mrs. J.E. Henshall will leave Tuesday for a 15 day tour of Mexico with the Barry Tour group. They expect to stop in Corpus Christi, Tex., enroute home and will be gone about three weeks.

Private John Johnson, who enlisted recently in the U.S. Army, has been transferred from Fort Bliss, Tex., to Fort Ord, Calif., according to word received by his mother, Mary.

**February 25, 1960**  
Portis high school was host Thursday to one of the finest musicals to be presented in the community when the North-South Solomon League vocal festival was held. There were 261 vocalists from eight schools participating. Each one, Agra, Alton, Gaylord, Kensing-

ton, Kirwin, Lebanon, Portis and Woodston presented a special instrumental number in addition to the songs by the large chorus.

The Portis school bought an electric program machine recently. It proved successfully popular when put into use at the two home games the last week. The machine was purchased from the Osborne theatre.

**February 18, 1965**  
A fawn that Arch Moberly, game protector, raised since it was three days old last June was taken to the Clay Center Zoo today.

The Osborne FFA poultry judging team placed second out of the 10 schools entered at the Northwest District contest held at Stockton February 13. Arris Sigle was second high individual in the contest. Larry Pruitt was 10th individual and Harold Storer was 13th.

**February 12, 1970**  
The Farmers National Bank will hold an open house February 14 honoring E.C. Garrison, president of the bank, who has been associated with the institution for 50 years.

After 26 years of delivering Mobil gas, oil and other products, over all kinds of road, all types of weather, Don Holloway, Alton, is retiring. He has sold this truck to Bill Ballard of Bill's Derby Station, who is now the community's Mobil man.

Bonnie Beisner, Alton music major, and Judy Dugan, Osborne music and physical education, will play in the opera orchestra to be presented at Fort Hays State, Feb. 12-14.

**February 20, 1975**  
FHA-HERO week royalty attendants were Barbara Delaney, Debbie Wilcoxson, Mary Hageman, Jaqui Mayes, and Vickie McCormick, who was escorted by Johnny O'Connor, David Spears, Steve Arnold, Gerald Potts and Robert Noffsinger. Crowned queen and king were Jody Dugan and Gary Wolters.

The OHS wrestlers returned home Saturday from the 1A and 2A state tournament at Colby with a ninth place team finish from a field of 48 schools.

**February 28, 1980**  
Randy Roberts, manager of the Osborne Boogaarts store, is asking his customers to have a little patience. Confusion may reign for a while after the complete reshelving of the store and the addition of some new items. Some of the new additions are lines of automotive gadgets and kitchen utensils.

Volunteers from the USD 392 faculty donated their time in the shop last week making shutter covers for the Scout Cabin. It's part of a community project to restore the cabin, which has fallen into a state of disrepair due to neglect and vandalism.

Troy Weeks and Doyle Spears brought home second and third place medals, respectively, from the state wrestling tournament. Both went into the tournament undefeated, but couldn't quite make it far enough for individual championships.

**February 28, 1985**  
Osborne County's Soil Conservation office added another employee last week with Mike Debes joining them Feb. 18 as a soil conservationist.

Post season wrestling tournaments are nothing new to Larry Grieve. The Colby Community College sophomore was a three time state champion in the heavyweight class at OHS. Now he is hoping his post season success continues as he prepares for the NJCCA National Wrestling Championships Feb. 28 to March 2 in Glen Ellyn, Ill.

**February 22, 1990**  
At its regular meeting, Feb. 14, the VFW Post No. 4473 voted to add \$100 to the reward fund being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for stealing the American and Missing in Action/Prisoner of War flags from in front of the Veterans Building. With the contribution, the reward fund has grown to \$250. The flags were stolen during the early

morning hours of January 27.

Heavyweight Brandon Cornwell was named Bullpup Wrestler of the week for his comeback victory at the Plainville meet. Cornwell as behind 4-0, then came back and got a pin. Others winning matches were Brian Jemison, Anthony Hackerott, Jeremy Platt and Bryan Greig.

**February 23, 1995**  
After 27 years in the courthouse, retirement for Eula Thompson may be a lot like moving to a completely new location. Thompson's retirement is effective March 1 as Osborne County Register of Deeds, a position she has held for 14 years. But, prior to that, she spent 13 years down the hall as deputy county treasurer.

Dr. Duane Muck proudly showed off his completely remodeled office, with the help of his wife, Linda, receptionist Cheril McCoy and assistant Jo Peterson. After being closed for approximately a month, the office reopened for business Monday morning.

OHS will be represented at the 3-2-1A wrestling tournament in Hays this weekend by Vance Krier, Zach Gray, Bryan Greig, Jeff Dannenberg, Kurt Knoll and Travis Thibault.

**February 14, 2000**  
Six wrestlers head to state this weekend in Hays: Tyler Conway, Jared Akin, Brett Henke, Blake Thibault, Seth Nonamaker and Rusty Day.

Three more wins keep steak alive. Monday night traveling to Phillipsburg for a makeup game due to weather, the Lady Bulldogs won 72-43. Tuesday they traveled to Sylvan Grove and came home with a 58-50 victory. Then on Friday, they hosted Hill City and defeated the Ringnecks, 7-48.

Renee Henke, Downs, will represent Osborne County in the state contest after taking first place in the county's spelling bee last Friday in Osborne. Henke got 38 out of 50 correct in the written test.

## Insight

**Spare change**  
*Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau*

Financially, making cents doesn't make sense. A recent presidential directive to stop minting pennies aims to solve the problem that could only befall a government — losing money by making it.

Even with the current pause, the penny will be around for a long time. There are an estimated 240 billion pennies in circulation, or roughly \$7 for every person in the United States.

First minted in 1787, the copper coin has been the lowest denomination of physical currency since we gained our independence. Though originally made entirely of copper, since the 1850s pennies have used tin, zinc and even steel in efforts to overcome the fact the metal in the coin can be worth more than its face value.

Projections vary, but only about half of the 1-cent coins are in circulation. The rest pile up in cupholders, purses, couch cushions and dresser tops in addition to being tossed into a receptacle designated for spare change.

My grandmother had a large Mason jar perched on the washing machine to gather all the coins stuffed in my grandfather's pockets. As a child, I'd look at the jar and the seemingly vast fortune it contained with awe.

When the collection grew large enough or my grandmother ran out of other chores for me, we'd take the jar upstairs and dump its accumulated

wealth out onto the kitchen table. Then we would sort the coins into their respective denominations and count them into individual piles — 40 quarters, 50 dimes, 40 nickels and 50 pennies.

The next step was to grab a flattened paper sleeve and do my best to form it into a circle. I would drop coins in the top of the sleeve, using my fingers to straighten the first few in the wrapper. Once the proper amount of coins were deposited, the edges on both sides were folded over to secure the coins inside the sleeve.

In the process of sorting and counting, I'd scan the dates stamped on the coins and take note of any that were particularly old to set aside. I also collected a few Indian Head pennies, plenty of Lincoln Wheat cents, a handful of Buffalo nickels, a couple Mercury dimes and an assortment of silver quarters.

The dream was always to find something that was worth more than face value because of its numismatic quality rather than its metal makeup. None of the pennies, nickels or dimes had enough historical significance and have long since been disposed of. I still have a collection of silver quarters and half dollars, but it's been decades since I've manually counted and rolled spare change.

Once I discovered the bank had a machine to sort and add up coins, I became a quick convert to the convenience. But that was a long time ago. Today my change jar is

hidden away in a kitchen cabinet. Whenever I clean out my truck or tidy up my dresser, I deposit what little loose change I have in it.

Over the past decade it's been filled about halfway because I rarely use cash for daily transactions. Just like with rolling coins or writing checks, plastic has replaced paper at the check-out, and it always makes exact change.

*"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.*

The Osborne Housing Authority will hold a public hearing for the 2025 annual agency plan, including the new admission and continued occupancy policy and 5-year capital fund grant submission, **April 11th at 10:00am in the Community Room at 200 E. Vermont • Osborne Kan.**



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