

## SESQUICENTENNIAL HIGHLIGHTS



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Excerpts from the Plain Talk

By Cleo Erickson  
1933SIDELIGHTS OF CITY'S  
1ST BANK HOLDUP

M. J. Chaney, president of the Citizen's bank, has been in the banking business in Clay County for 40 years and the Monday stickup was his first—and he hopes—his last experience of that nature. Once, when he was operating a bank at Wakonda, thugs blew open his vault at night but didn't have the wherewithal to "crack" the inner safe. The robbers contented themselves with pilfering a few safety deposit boxes, left on the

vault shelves like they used to leave individual mugs in a barber shop rack.

The stickup reminded many of the attempted burglary of the old First National here a few years ago by a University of South Dakota co-ed. Armed with an electric drill stolen from a local garage, she broke into the bank through a rear door one night but was unable to put the drill to efficient use inside the bank. Policeman Denny Sullivan spied her in the bank and arrested her. She served a 30-day sentence in the state "pen".

"I was not pushed from the bandits' car" said Assistant Cashier Lloyd when asked about his falling in the muddy gutter after he had been taken for a ride by the four thugs. "I just stepped off the running board and found I didn't have any knees left."

The four men, who stayed at the Waldorf hotel the night prior to the stickup, are the same men who held up the bank, in the opinion of Alexander Rentto, law student at the

university. Rentto observed the suspicious actions of the men in the hotel lobby and overheard one of them say to another: "It's a cinch!"

FROM THE DAKOTA  
REPUBLICAN  
FEB. 3, 1933

Sioux City Police Release Man after Local Officers Ask that He Be Held

Not positively identified by M. J. Chaney and Rev W C Deer as one of the four robbers that held up the Citizens Bank and Trust here last week, a man giving his name as "Doc" Dougherty was asked to be held by the Sioux City police at the request of officers here. Word was received at the sheriff's office Wednesday afternoon, however, that the man had been released.

Dougherty was picked up by Sioux City officers and Sheriff William Russell Monday afternoon. Sheriff Russell had received a tip from some source in Sioux City which led to the supposition that the man known as "Doc" might

have been involved in the bank robbery here.

Tuesday, Sheriff Russell and Mr. Chaney along with Rev Deer, went to Sioux City to inspect a police "show-up". None of the men could positively identify the suspect.

FROM THE DAKOTA  
REPUBLICAN  
JUNE 6, 1933

Identify One Man Who Robbed Bank

C. L. Lloyd and Miss Maude Sloan, went to Sioux City Friday where they identified Tony Strain, 32 in a "show up" at the police station as one of the men who robbed the bank here January 23.

Miss Sloan identified Strain as the man who forced her to lie on the floor and Mr. Lloyd designated Strain as the man who had forced him into the bank's vault.

Strain and a woman named Alice Martin were apprehended by Sioux City police in Sioux City last week. They are wanted for a bank robbery at Okabena, Minn. Strain has

also been identified as one of the men in the gang that robbed banks at Huron and Canova, SD. Governor Herring of Iowa has approved the extradition of Strain and the Martin woman to Minnesota.

It is doubtful whether Strain will be brought here for trial.

HUMOROUS FEATURES  
OF BANK ROBBERY  
FROM THE PLAIN TALK

The men who robbed the Citizens bank last Monday had an easy time of it compared to the difficulty that the local newshounds have had in obtaining an accurate story of the affair. To date it has been decided by witnesses that the men escaped in a car which was a Buick, Studebaker, Auburn, Hupmobile and Oldsmobile. About the only thing they agree on is that it was not a Ford.

Rumors are running rife and we hear such things as...the Rev. Deer bowing and tipping his hat to the robbers...Bolstad trying to be non-

chalant and get inside his coat for a cigarette, a motion misinterpreted by the robbers...a fiend talking to Grace Michels over the phone and telling her that Maude had just gone by her house hanging onto the outside of a car with her smock billowing in the wind...a statement hotly denied by Grace, who was certain it would be beneath Maude's dignity... after the robbers had gone Earl Lien rushing madly out of his office with a gun ready to shoot the first person he saw who said "boo"...the various tales of machine guns and armored cars....

Lester Lloyd rolling along in the gutter from being in too much of a hurry to jump off the running board...getting up to hide behind a tree until the bandits got out of sight and another reporter falling down the court house steps in his hurry to get to the scene of the holdup...and the story of the employees of the First National preparing for a similar raid by all taking setting up exercises reach for the ceiling.

Gov. Rounds sends  
condolences to USD family,  
commends others for saving lives

Gov. Mike Rounds has commended three people who rescued two teenage swimmers from Lake Madison this past summer. He also has extended condolences to the parents of 18-year-old Dylan Nelson, who drowned while helping save his younger brother and a cousin.

The governor sent letters of commendation to Danyel McFarlane, Wes Geier and Zach Geier, all of Sioux Falls. They were credited with saving the lives of Andrew Nelson-Long and Dan Long on Aug. 8. The two teenagers were struggling to keep from drowning in turbulent water when McFarlane and the Geiers rescued them with jet skis.

Dylan Nelson, a University of South Dakota student, drowned while trying to keep his brother and cousin afloat. After McFarlane and the Geiers reached the swimmers and took Nelson-Long and Dan Long to shore, Zach Geier returned to the area of the lake where Dylan was last seen but could not locate him. Dylan's body was recovered several hours later.

The governor's letter to Chad and Kristi Nelson of Madison, parents of Dylan and Andrew, extended sympathies on the loss of their older son.

"As parents, there is little we fear more than losing a child; however, I hope you find some comfort knowing Dylan's last actions that day were to do what he could to help save the lives of his brother and cousin," Gov. Rounds wrote. "Dylan is truly a South Dakota hero."

McFarlane and the Geiers also are heroes, Gov. Rounds wrote in separate letters to them.

"It is my understanding you did not hesitate or wait

for someone else to take action; you did not consider possible personal danger and, instead you chose to offer your assistance to these teenagers who were obviously in danger of being swept away by the water," the Governor wrote in individual letters to the trio. "This is exactly the type of action that makes you a hero. Your actions helped save these teenagers' lives."

"On behalf of the citizens of South Dakota, I want to recognize your selfless efforts and to thank you for making a meaningful difference. All of South Dakota should be proud to call you one of its own."

St. Lucia  
celebration  
is Dec. 13

The 32nd annual celebration of the St. Lucia tradition in Dalesburg will be Sunday, Dec. 13 at 4 p.m. The event will be held at Dalesburg Lutheran Church, 30595 University Road and is sponsored by Dalesburg Scandinavian Association.

The program will feature the Lucia Court of local high school girls and the folk group "Fiddler Nelson" performing Scandinavian music. The event will begin with a buffet of Scandinavian food. A freewill collection will be received.

For more information, call 605-253-2575. In case of inclement weather, listen to WNAX Radio AM 570.

Commodity program  
available in Clay County

The Center, Yankton is now accepting applications for the CSFP in the Clay County area to include Vermillion.

This program is designed for over 60 low income seniors. Income guidelines are monthly income for a single-person household is \$1,174, and for a two-person household \$1,579. To apply for the program contact the Center at 1-605-665-4685 for an application. Proof of income is required. A copy of a bank statement and/or a copy of your social security statement will be needed. Yankton office hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ask for Aves or Colleen.

The program is also open to low income pregnant and breastfeeding women, other new mothers up to one year postpartum, infants, children up to their sixth birthday. Eligible participants cannot participate

in USDA's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) at the same time they participate in CSFP. Women-Infants-Children eligibility guidelines are: income up to \$1,670 for one person, \$2,247 for two people, \$2,823 for three people and \$3,400 for families of four.

A typical box contains: two boxes of cereal, canned meats, nonfat dry milk, peanut butter, one or two packages of pasta products, two pounds American cheese, three large cans juice, two cans fruit and four cans of vegetables.

The commodities are distributed once a month on the third Friday of each month. You must be able to pick up your box weighing 20-35 pounds or have someone accompany you to carry the food box for you.

BARRY'S  
(605) 624-6530  
PLUMBINGThanks for your  
hospitality!It was great meeting  
and visiting with  
everyone in Vermillion.  
Hope to see you all  
again soon.Dennis  
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## OPERATION ★ FREE



## CLIMATE CHANGE &amp; NATIONAL SECURITY

Join Operation FREE veterans as they discuss the link between climate change and national security and how it will affect South Dakota.

Wednesday, December 9th @ 2:00 pm

Where: Muenster University Center (MUC) Room 225  
University of South Dakota  
414 E. Clark St.  
Vermillion, SD 57069

Refreshments and FREE PIZZA will be served.

For more information, please contact Leighann Dunn at leighann.dunn@usd.edu

Mission: Secure America with Clean Energy.

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