

# The Plattsmouth Journal.

SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION—EIGHT PAGES

VOLUME XXVIII

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1909

NO 63

## DROWNED IN PLATTE RIVER

### Body Discovered by H. Soennichsen and Others While Bathing Sunday Afternoon.

While engaged in taking a bath in the Platte river yesterday near Cedar Island, H. M. Soennichsen and Henry Kaufman discovered the body of a dead man floating down the stream. Mr. Soennichsen, in company with a young son of August Rothman of this city, went after the body and landed it on a sand bar in the river, where it was held pending disposition by the county authorities, who were immediately notified. The body proved to be that of Gustave Keune, a Boer or Frenchman, who had been farming the old Van Horn property, now the property of J. P. Falter, for the past year.

From Mr. Falter it is learned that Keune rented his farm a year ago, coming here from South Omaha at that time. In South Omaha he had been employed by Swift & Co. for five years, and had proven a most excellent man for them. Tiring of the business, he concluded to engage in farming and rented the Van Horn property, moving his family upon the same. His family consisted of a wife and one child three years old.

Not being entirely satisfied with the property he had farmed, Keune decided he wanted to buy or rent an island in the Platte river which Mr. Falter owned. On Thursday he spoke to Mr. Falter about the matter and the latter told him to go over and look the island over and then take up the matter with him. Keune's idea was to devote the island to raising truck for the Omaha market, it being within easy reach of that city by wagon. He also meditated the raising of cattle on the island.

After this conversation Mr. Falter did not hear from Keune and dismissed the subject, until last evening when he learned that Mrs. Keune was in the city and had reported her husband as having gone to the island on Friday morning and that he had not come back. Mr. Falter at once took the matter up with Deputy Sheriff Manspecker in the absence of Sheriff Quinton, and was told by the latter of the finding of the dead man by Messrs. Soennichsen, Kaufman and Rothman. Fearing that the body was that of Mr. Keune, Mr. Falter informed the wife and an investigation developed that his fears were well founded. She identified his

watch and other articles and by this means his identity was established.

The body was fully clothed and apparently death had ensued from his attempting to either wade the stream unmindful of its depth, or having started to swim it with his clothes on and being seized with cramps and drowning. It is possible that he was drawn into a whirlpool which abound in the river and drowned, but these are all theories, as there is absolutely nothing to show the manner in which he met his death. It is not believed that foul play took place, as he had nothing on him except his watch, which was in his pocket uninjured, in the way of valuables to tempt robbers.

The condition of the body, which had been in the water almost three days, was such that exact knowledge of any foul play was almost impossible. It was badly decomposed and the face in particular was in such condition that identification was almost out of question.

As soon as Deputy Manspecker had been advised of the finding of the body he made the necessary arrangements to have Messrs. Streight & Streight take charge of the body and Mr. William Streight proceeded to the scene of its discovery and brought the remains to their undertaking rooms in this city, where the sorrowing wife identified the body. No inquest was considered necessary by the authorities, as there is no reason to suspect foul play. The body was buried this morning in Oak Hill cemetery. Keune was slightly acquainted in this city and bore a generally good reputation. It is not believed that his death was anything more than a mere accident, as no reason is advanced for any other idea. His widow and child deserve the deepest sympathy from the public in their grief over the death of husband and father.

Mrs. L. B. Batton and daughter, Miss Nora, were passengers on the morning train for Omaha, where they will meet Mrs. C. W. Grassman and family of Alliance, who are coming here for a visit with them for several days.

#### Two More Victories.

Manager Warren's baseball club is home once more after a two day's raid into the county, during which time they annexed the scalps of Louisville and Union to their belt. The first game was played on Saturday, when the locals met Louisville at Elmwood and easily cleaned them up. Both teams presented a weakened team, but despite this both played brilliant ball and well earned credit for playing a good game.

Plattsmouth scored eight runs while Louisville could get but one. There was a large crowd present and the fans saw a game which was exciting for the major part. Louisville took the lead and held it for some time, the score being 1 to 0 in their favor for a number of innings. Plattsmouth then solved Connors' delivery and proceeded to bat him a whole lot, jumping into the lead and finishing the game with a big margin to go on. Williams, for the locals, was a puzzle throughout, and pitched winning ball at all times. He had the Louisville players guessing and established himself as a winning pitcher by his mastery control of the sphere. He was well backed up by the locals, who fielded cleverly and accepted all the chances offered. Drooge played first base in place of McCauley and filled the place well. Other changes in the line-up, caused by several of the regular players unable to get away, also well filled, and on the whole the team did as good work as possible. The batteries were Williams and Mann for Plattsmouth and Connors and Sturtzner for Louisville.

The team stopped off at Union on their way home and played the team

at that point yesterday. Several of the regular players came on home and a patched up team was put in the field, Ed. Kelly taking Mann's place behind the bat and catching a good game. Hilliard Grassman, the club's mascot, played right field and astonished the natives by batting out a two-base hit. The entire Plattsmouth team played winning ball. Mason pitched for the locals and was very effective, Union being unable to fathom his delivery. He was well backed up by the team, who played their usual fast game and fielded in fine shape. Union was unable to do much scoring, although they were up against a weakened team, two runs being the extent of their scoring. Plattsmouth found Gruber, who pitched for Union, easy and batted him at will, scoring ten runs. The final score was Plattsmouth 10, Union 2. Batteries were Mason and Kelly for Plattsmouth and Gruber and Hall for Union.

These two victories show that the locals have the fastest ball team now in these parts and they can meet all comers with confidence. One thing which they deserve is better patronage and the next games to be played here ought to be largely attended, as the team deserves it and needs the financial assistance, which a big crowd will give. Turn out and patronize the games and make the boys appreciate the fact that their good work in advertising the town is known and appreciated.

#### All Kinds of Junk.

I am in the business and ready to buy all kinds of junk. If you have anything please notify me at Weeping Water. WAVE ALLEN.

#### The Elmwood Chautauqua.

Yesterday (Sunday) was the winding up of one of the most successful chautauquas held in Nebraska. The Elmwood chautauqua was started three years ago, not as a money-making venture, but to establish a meeting annually, from which the entire community could be benefited. The first year the proceeds were used principally in fixing up their handsome park. Last year the management came out with a little money to the good. This year a great success crowned their efforts, and larger crowds attended each day, and yesterday the crowd present exceeded everything, and the sermons of Rev. Ernest W. O'Neill of Chicago were good, eloquent, and were received with much more enthusiasm than anticipated. The special train that left here yesterday morning was not as well patronized as it should have been by any means, there being but twenty-nine tickets sold, when there should be at least 100. Of course, the people of Elmwood and especially the managers of the chautauqua were somewhat disappointed at this small attendance, especially on Sunday, when many could have just as well went as not. The special train was procured so that the Plattsmouth people could attend and get home the same night. The indications for rain early in the morning probably kept some from going. Three of the Journal family went, and were well pleased with their entertainment, and one day's outing. In a talk with several members of the association, we were informed that the success of this year's chautauqua was greatly beyond their expectations, and when all the expenses is summed up will leave several hundred dollars to the good. This the Journal is pleased to learn, and we hope that next year it will be a greater success than this year, because the management of the Elmwood chautauqua is made up of a class of people who deserve success for their perseverance and energy in making an enterprise go, where other larger communities have made a signal failure.

#### Sons of Herman Picnic.

The Sons of Herman yesterday gave a fine family picnic at the pasture of William Starkjohn, west of the city. There was a large attendance, limited to members of the order and a great time was had. Speech making, a fine basket lunch and refreshments for old and young combined to make the day one of the grandest ever spent by members of this flourishing order. The speeches were all in German, as befits the nature of the order, Mayor Sattler, Councilmen Weber and Neuman and the venerable Nick Halmes furnishing the oratory. These speeches teemed with advice for the good of the order and were full of sound advice and wisdom. The afternoon was spent in a most delightful way. The grounds selected could not have been excelled, being cool and shady, and so situated that those who desired a dip in the Platte waters could be accommodated. Many availed themselves of this privilege and bathing parties were numerous. It was a late hour when the gathering broke up and the several members with their families returned to their respective homes. The day was unmarred by any untoward event, and all who were there will remember the day as one of the best they ever enjoyed.

#### Mrs. Walling Improving

Thomas Walling spent Sunday with his wife at the hospital in Omaha, where she recently had an operation performed. It is pleasant to say that the operation was entirely successful, and that Mrs. Walling is getting along nicely. She will recover her good health very shortly, and will be well enough to come home by Thursday or Friday of this week. Her many friends are highly pleased at the remarkably good progress she has made and trust that it is permanent. Mr. Walling also paid Mrs. L. K. Hasse a short visit while at the hospital and reports that her condition is not greatly changed from what it has been for some time past. She is quite cheerful and is feeling quite as well as could be expected. It is hoped that she may make a marked improvement and soon be able to leave the hospital in good health.

John Wunderlich of Nehawka spent Saturday in the city attending the Democratic central committee meeting and renewing acquaintance with old friends.

#### Red Men Seek Members.

The Improved Order of Red Men is making an effort to form a class of 1,000 members who will be initiated into the order on October 23, 1909, at Omaha. The local tribe is starting a propaganda to secure not less than fifty members for this class and as many more as may be induced to become members. For the occasion, a special rate has been made which anyone can easily raise. The fee is fixed at \$3, out of which \$1 goes to the local tribe as advance dues, and in addition the local tribe will pay the fare for the applicant to Omaha, where the grand initiation takes place. The Red Men is one of the most substantial and influential secret bodies in the United States. The membership, which is in every state and territory under the stars and stripes, is more than 500,000, and it is being rapidly increased. The order pays sick and funeral benefits, which are regulated by each local tribe, in proportion to the amount of monthly dues. It has social and protective qualities unexcelled by other organizations, taking care of the orphans of deceased members, educating, clothing and bringing them up under the most beneficent auspices. For this purpose the order has a fund of \$50,000 set aside.

The Red Men are peculiarly an American order, founded upon the best traits of the native American, and the order seeks to perpetuate these traits. It is not an order in which frivolity takes pre-eminence, but is a real, serious order with a true and noble purpose. The local tribe hopes to add a great big membership to their roll and doubtless at the low rate made will do so on October 23, 1909, at Omaha.

#### Married on Sunday.

Yesterday at his home in the Second ward Rev. Luther Moore united in marriage Thomas Wiles, from near this city, and Mrs. Kate Palmer of this city. The union of these two highly respected people came as a distinct surprise to their many friends, none of whom had expected the happy event. The wedding was a private one, only the groom and bride and the pastor and his family being guests. It is understood that Mr. Wiles has acquired property in this city and will very shortly move here from his present home in the country.

The groom is one of Cass county's best known and most estimable gentlemen. He has lived in this county practically all his life, and has been a prosperous and energetic farmer, owning many broad acres and being considered one of the most progressive farmers and stock raisers of the community. He is personally a most delightful man to know and numbers his friends and acquaintances by the hundred. Mrs. Palmer, the bride, is also an old resident of this community and like her estimable husband, she has a great number of good friends. She is a lady of many accomplishments and pleasing personality. The many friends of these good people unite in extending their congratulations and best wishes for a very long and happy married life.

#### Successful Chautauqua.

Rev. Ernest O'Neill of Chicago, Ill., passed through the city this morning en route home after delivering several addresses at Elmwood. Rev. O'Neill was highly gratified at the reception which he received at the chautauqua and pronounced his meetings highly successful. He was quite gratified to find that the management of the Elmwood chautauqua had made a success of their meeting in every respect, and that he was able to do a share toward making it so. From those who heard his several addresses, it is learned he made an excellent impression and demonstrated that his reputation as an orator had not been exaggerated. Every one was greatly pleased at his eloquence and his sound reasoning and pronounce his several addresses as masterpieces. Should he speak again in this section he would draw a great crowd, as he has earned a splendid reputation for ability.

Hans Tams is spending this week in Ashland, where the Burlington is making some improvements, having gone to that city on the morning train.

H. J. Meisinger and son of Cedar Creek, two of Cass county's best citizens, are spending today in the city, coming down from their home this morning on the Schnyler to look after business matters.

## THE BIGGEST AND BEST TIME

### That This City and Cass County Ever Took Part In

Preparations for the big fall festival are being made apace and everything is being gotten in shape for the biggest and best time ever held in Cass county, or in southeastern Nebraska.

Workmen have been engaged yesterday and today in stringing the incandescent lights along Main street for the big festival. They are being strung in the form of an arch over the street at each block, and when they are lighted they will present a pretty spectacle. The work is being done under the personal supervision of A. Clabaugh, manager of the Nebraska Lighting company, who will see that a good job is made. The material is the property of the carnival committee, and it is the general understanding that the lights will be left across the streets after the affair is over so that they may be used at any time in the future when desired. A subscription by the merchants of a small amount a month would suffice to keep these lights going on different occasions, such as Saturday nights, and would add much to the appearance of Main street.

The big tent in which the revival meetings are to be held commencing September 15 has arrived and today was being put into position on the vacant lots north of the county court house. This tent has been kindly loaned the carnival people by the Christian church people, who will conduct the services, for use during the carnival, and it will be a splendid place for rest for the weary.

The printing of the program for Live Stock day in last night's Journal has excited much comment on the streets, and every one expresses themselves as delighted at the excellent arrangements which have been made to make the day an enjoyable one. There is every indication now that Live Stock day will be the premier day of the affair, as farmers and stock raisers alike have taken great interest in the day, and are preparing to attend in force with monster exhibits of their products.

The committee having in charge the celebration of Pioneers' day is meeting with a vast deal of encouragement and there is every reason to anticipate a monster crowd on that day with many special attractions worth going miles to see. This day is going to afford the old timers from this immediate section an opportunity of renewing old acquaintances and again reviving memories of the pleasures and hardships of early Nebraska.

The committee on sports has almost perfected its program and it is going to be a hummer. There will be some kind of a game going on every moment and everyone—old or young—will find themselves more than pleased and entertained. The thrilling automobile race will be one of the great events of the card and it will be worth traveling miles to see. There will be a big number of entries and the most daring rider will take down the purse. This event will be in the hands of a committee familiar with the handling of such events and it can be depended upon to stir up the blood.

Preparations for Labor day are also being rushed to completion. In the morning there will be a pageant peerless in its grandeur, one long parade of floats representing industry in all its magnificence, floats which will be without stint of expense, glittering and blazing in the noonday sun, a dazzling mass of color and lavish display of wealth. The Burlington system with its great resources will have magnificent and valuable floats from every depart-

ment. Its hundreds of workmen will be on hand to testify to the dignity and nobility of labor in all its forms. Havelock, with its crowds of workmen and its magnificent athletes will be present and this day will wind up in a grand blaze of glory, assuring the success of the first annual fall festival and spelling victory for the next one.

Merchants' day will be duly celebrated with splendid decorations, special bargains in all the stores and an effort by the merchants to make their patrons realize that the interest of ore is the interest of all.

These five big days will be worth going miles to see, and the preparations which are now on foot assure the public that it is going to be a gala occasion for Plattsmouth and Cass county.

Saturday, September 4, will be Ak-Sar-Ben day at the big carnival. Assurances have been received that the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben, four hundred strong, will invade the city on that day and proceed to boom things as they ought to be boomed. A special train will leave Omaha at 4:30 Saturday afternoon and arrive here at 5 o'clock. It returns in the evening, leaving here at 10 p. m.

This means Saturday night, the big confetti and masked carnival night, will be the greatest ever held in this section. There will be thousands in the city from Iowa and all southeastern Nebraska, and aided by the big Omaha delegation, for there will be hundreds more from that city besides the Knights, Plattsmouth will find its streets packed to a finish. This is in return for the promise of the big crowd which goes to Omaha on Monday night, August 30, when Plattsmouth night at the den will be celebrated and the visitors made good members of the order. There are already 250 names on the roll for the special train from here, and every one who can attend is going. The Knights promise every one who goes a royal time, and assure them that they never will get more for their money than in this trip. It is probable the total membership of the train will be nearer 500 than 250 when all is over and the arrangements are made. These two days are going to be hummers in eastern Nebraska and you want to enjoy them both.

The general furnishing up of different business houses in the city preparatory to the fall festival is proceeding apace. The Krug building at the corner of Main and Fifth streets, occupied by Ed. Egenberger, is getting a brand new coat of paint throughout, the painters having been at work on it for several days past. The work is being done by M. W. Thomas and his workmen, and it is making the building look much more presentable and cleanly. Work in the interior will take place after the exterior, and when it is done the building will show up both within and without as an almost new structure.

Senator S. L. Thomas has made the necessary arrangements to make an exhibition of his horses and colts at the stock show on September 1, and for this purpose he intends to bring in a large number of his animals, including three colts which he will sell on the last day of the stock show. These three animals are blooded stock and ought to bring fancy prices. One of them is of Clyde-Perchon stock, while the other two are coach yearlings. It is more than probable a number of other breeders will offer animals for sale, and the festival will probably be a splendid place for one to make purchases of good stock.

#### Good Reports.

Reports have come to us of the Avoca, and also the district Sunday school conventions, which were held August 18 and 19, respectively. Like the one at Murray these were district meetings and were well attended despite the hot weather. Mrs. Warner, who made the tour of the three districts, was the principal speaker, and delighted as well as instructed her hearers. The president of the

county association, Hon. C. E. Noyes, and the treasurer, James Stander, were present at Avoca and Avoca, and assisted greatly in the deliberations. The people of these two thriving little cities performed the part of host most royally, and all who attended were more than pleased with the meetings. Every one expressed the desire to be present at the big county convention at Elmwood in October.