

# The Plattsmouth Journal

VOL. NO. XXXVIII

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1923.

NO. 71

## LOST RECORDS ARE LOCATED IN DEEP DITCH

### FIVE BOOKS OF MISSING RECORDS OF LOAN ASSOCIATION ARE FOUND.

From Monday's Daily.

The Livingston Loan & Building association is in possession of five records that have long been missing and which cover a period of several years back, and which have come to the hands of the association by a very peculiar circumstance. About a year ago, Warren Tulene, sexton at the Oak Hill cemetery, had the occasion to put some rubbish in the large ditch on West Oak street just north of the cemetery and while doing this he noticed lying in the ditch a number of large ledgers and books that attracted his attention and on investigation he found these to be books belonging to the Livingston Loan & Building association but at the time did not pay any particular attention to the matter.

Mr. Tulene decided that it would be best to remove the books from the ditch and took them home with him and placed them in the barn at his place and being busy did not give the matter any further thought until Saturday when he mentioned the circumstance to some parties and by them it was reported to Frank E. Schlater, who has charge of the books of the association since the reorganization of the company. Mr. Schlater at once drove out to the home of Mr. Tulene and secured the books and brought them back to the city and placed them in the office with the other records of the association.

At the time of the check and audit of the affairs of this association which had been in confusion there were a number of records found to be missing that cover a period of years and among the books recovered are some that help to fill up the record of the years.

A stockholders' record, two minute books and a ledger are among the books recovered and they will be investigated and checked by the officers of the company and may aid in clearing up some of the badly mixed up condition of affairs of the association in the past years.

## ENTERTAIN THEIR FRIENDS

The beautiful new home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Clويد on high school hill was the scene of a very pleasant gathering on Friday evening when they entertained the members of the Presbyterian choir in a very pleasing and informal manner.

The regular practice of the choir on the Easter music was indulged in the forepart of the evening and the wives and husbands of the various members were in attendance at the meeting and during the members choristers were practicing enjoyed games of various kinds. The choir members later lined in the games and made the occasion one of more than usual pleasantness.

During the evening the hostess served dainty refreshments that were very much enjoyed and it was a late hour when the members of the party departed for their homes after an evening of real pleasure in this handsome new home whose beauties they had fully admired.

## GETS INTO FAST COMPANY

Andy Schmader, Cass county boxer who has met many of the good boys in the heavy weight class and who has been preparing for a meet with Jim Flynn at Denver, has been dated for a meeting at Peoria, Illinois, on March 26 with Tommy Gibbons, contender for the title of world champion now held by Jack Dempsey.

The affair is to be a ten-round non-decision bout and the parties receive substantial guarantees for their end of the game. This is the first match of its kind that has been staged in Peoria and attracts a great deal of attention among the followers of the fight game in the midwest.

Tom Jones, former manager of Jess Willard, Billy Papke and Ad Westcott, one-time lightweight champion, are promoting the affair.

Andy is training daily at the Business Men's gymnasium in Omaha in readiness for the big go and will leave on the 20th for Peoria to meet the clever and seasoned scrapper from St. Paul.

## ON THE SICK LIST

The prevailing epidemic of grippa and flu has its claim on the members of Weyrich & Hadraba, the druggists, and as a result the two members of the firm, Emil J. Weyrich and Joseph F. Hadraba have been confined to their homes for the past day and a half with the disagreeable affliction. Mr. Weyrich was forced to remain at home Saturday afternoon and yesterday and Sunday morning Mr. Hadraba was also too sick to be at the store.

Phone us the news. We want to publish everything of importance that happens in Cass county.

## FINE NEW EQUIPMENT

The Q. Z. society of the Presbyterian church has just installed a very complete line of equipment for the primary Sabbath school room. A lovely rug, wall black board and teachers lap folding boards with colorful crayons, folding tables, clock, bell and bank as well as several smaller items bring this department strictly up to date in equipment. Mrs. H. G. McClusky is superintendent of this primary department, Helen Farley the other teacher. They greatly appreciate the new material given by the Q. Z. society. There are over 50 little folks enrolled. The need of the hour is another room large enough to handle the classes in a more efficient manner. This may be solved in the near future.

## REV. JOHN VLCEK DIES AT HIS OLD HOME IN BOHEMIA

### Former Rector of the Holy Rosary Church in This City, Called to the Great Beyond.

From Monday's Daily.

Word was received here yesterday by the Ferdinand Prohaska family from friends in Omaha of the death of the Rev. John Vlcek, for a number of years rector of the Holy Rosary Catholic church in this city.

From the information received it seems that the death of Father Vlcek was quite sudden and little intimation of his serious condition had been given to the relatives of the deceased or his friends in this city.

The rector some three years ago departed for the old world to enjoy an extended visit there with members of his family amid the scenes of his childhood days and view the new nation that had arisen there from the oppressions of the Austrian empire and which in a measure restored the glories of ancient Bohemia. He had enjoyed the visit very much as the letters to friends here indicated and was full of joy and pleasure at seeing his family once more.

The news of his death will bring a sense of deep regret to the many old friends and members of his parish here. He was in the neighborhood of fifty-five years of age.

## ON WITH THE DANCE THROUGH COURT INJUNCTION

### Controversy Between M. W. A. Officials and "New Way" Club Doesn't Stop the Dance.

The "New Way" dance club, which has been staging dances in the old wooden hall on Sixth street within the last few days has been having a controversy with the officers of the lodge relative to the use of the hall and which for a few moments Saturday threatened to eclipse the glories of the diamond dance. The dance was signed between the M. W. A. and the "New Way" club there was no difference between the parties but since that time an entire new set of men have assumed charge of the lodge and its management and the result is that Friday the dance promoters received a notice that their lease on the hall had been terminated owing to the fact that they did not have a federal license. The notice was signed by the three trustees of the lodge and on the receipt of the notice the dance management started legal proceedings and secured an injunction that permitted them to operate at least until the hearing, which was set for the great Irish natal day, March 17.

The dance was held Saturday evening as per schedule and the diamond ring that was scheduled to be given away was drawn by Herbert Klausche, who was the winner in the elaborate system of drawing prepared. All the numbers were placed in a glass jar and which was then filled with corn meal and a party armed with a hat pin speared the tickets and the audience decided the winner was the one to win the ring and this was held by Mr. Klausche.

## HOLD SOCIAL MEETING

The ladies auxiliary of the Federated shopcrafts entertained Saturday evening and enjoyed a very interesting program, which opened with about 200 present singing "America," followed by music and a number of songs by the Ukulele club, reading by Miss Freda Klingler, an accordion solo by Mrs. Pendle. The "Singing Asters" brought screams of laughter and much amusement from the audience after which a short talk was given by Mrs. J. D. Worsham of Havelock on the labor question and what its future results meant for the common working man. The balance of the evening was then spent in games, lunch. By the happy, smiling faces and all the fun of the crowd one could never tell that they had been out now on strike for eight months past.

—Contributed.

## HEAR STORY OF EARLY DAYS IN NEBRASKA

### EARLY SETTLEMENTS OF THE THEN THINLY POPULATED WESTERN COUNTRY.

From Tuesday's Daily.

The Fontenelle chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, met yesterday at the home of Mrs. J. S. Livingston in the Coronado apartments and in the entertaining of the children. The rooms were arranged with the American flag and made a very attractive picture. Mrs. George B. Mann gave the review of the D. A. R. magazine which was very much enjoyed and the ladies enjoyed their ritualistic services and the salute to the flag given.

The ladies are planning to have a case placed in the public library that will be used for the preservation of matters of historical data and relics of the early days.

The subject of the meeting was that of early Nebraska and the ladies were much pleased at the chief paper of the afternoon, "The Trails, Tribulations and Achievements of Our Hardy Pioneers," which was given by Mrs. T. B. Bates and which is given in detail below.

The ladies also discussed the proposed state conference at Lincoln at which the president, general of the society, Mrs. Minor Washington, will be present and deliver an address that will be broadcasted by radio on Thursday of next week.

At the close of the afternoon the ladies enjoyed a very dainty and delicious dinner served by the hostesses. The paper of Mrs. Bates is given below and will be found a most interesting resume of the early settlement of Nebraska:

Well may the poet have sung: "Blessed be the man with soul so dead, Who never to himself hath said, 'This is my own, my native land!'"

and we are inspired with the same fervor and emotion when we pause to consider and contemplate that fierce crucible wherein our glorious state was cradled. In olden days it was the custom among the gods to make a bed among the coals of a fire, whereon they were wont to lay their children, the better to insure them to the hardships to be encountered later. Even so with our grandfathers, who, though mortal, were tempered by the heat of territorial strife, Indian warfare, and pioneer hardships, and bore the ordeal much like a salamander, unscorched by the flames.

Our jealous neighbors are reputed to have said: "Why is Nebraska? It begins and ends nowhere, and being devoid of anything sensational, is but a section of unemotional placidity, obscurely placed upon the map." But we Nebraskans know better, and if we pause a moment to polish our memory, it becomes the venerable Aladdin's Lamp, and the genie in the twinkling of an eye transports us back some seventy-five years, where from a safe vantage point we can survey the grassy prairies, rippling streams and sturdy pioneers.

The vital artery of this area was the Platte, which the Indians characteristically called "Nebretka," meaning "flat water." Maybe Lieut. John C. Fremont way back in 1842 thought them tongue-tied, because in his account of the country, he converted the double consonant into a sibilant "s" and called it the "Nebraska river." The territory adjacent came to be known by the same name and again our vocabulary was enriched by the heritage of Poor Lo. Prior to this time the fur traders had called it the "Missouri Country," or the "Platte Country," and by some it was distinguished as the "Council Bluffs," deriving the name from the shores of the Missouri above the mouth of the Platte. To many it was known as "The Great Buffalo Plains," and it is to the discredit of our forebears that they used every means to virtually exterminate this magnificent beast. In fact, the Indian himself was but little better off in this respect as both were hunted, hounded and herded from off their natural habitat.

Nebraska first belonged to Indiana, later to Louisiana and finally to Missouri. I refer to these localities in a territorial sense. When Missouri's betrothal was over and she was wedded to Uncle Sam around 1821, poor Nebraska was left out in the cold with no mother to guide her. In fact she became a nonentity, with no boundaries, no government, and interested by rascals, rum selling fur traders who cheated the Indians right and left. Our government at Washington finally sought to rectify matters by creating it "The Indian Country," and forbidding liquor traffic as well as settlement without special permission.

However, it so happened the Almighty placed this Happy Hunting ground immediately in the middle of the road, so to speak, between the east and west. Straws show the direction of the wind, and right here it is necessary we digress for one short moment. In the early days the U. S. claimed all of what was called the "Oregon Country." It lay between Nebraska and the Rocky Mountains, and across to the ocean. England "al-

lowed" it belonged to her, Spain and Russia felt they were also in on the deal. The English established fur stations, traded with the Indians, built forts and "hogged" everything, the idea being to discourage American settlers. This might have led to a trouble, possibly war. We had but few people in Oregon proper on the coast. Between them and the "states" were vast stretches of country thru which a road must be made, and along this road food should be raised to supply the soldier police as well as the emigrants while on their way. It would be a relay station, a water tank and coaling place, to use the modern vernacular.

So far, so good, but—human selfishness and sectional politics had to be circumvented. Stephen A. Douglas (whom we invariably associate with Lincoln in our debates) was the pioneer of the idea of making Nebraska a territory, but it took ten years for him to accomplish the feat.

The area at that time extended to the Canadian border on the north. To open the country for the whites, the Indians must be "moved" somehow. Although the settlers perhaps would have liked to drown them they could not push them into the Pacific. Naturally they would have to go south. Our southern neighbors objected. They claimed to have troubles enough of their own.

The railroad to the ocean would naturally follow through Nebraska, this being the logical trail to the coast; but the south wanted this railroad instead.

To make matters more complicated the south (although it entered into an agreement called the "Missouri compromise" with the north, Missouri, was admitted as a slave state providing the rest of the country west and north of Missouri should forever be free) was a "welder" of the first magnitude, and behaved most outrageously. She was afraid Nebraska would be "free," and she could hear the thought, as it would overbalance the delicate political situation and injure her. Therefore, she fought Douglas tooth and nail over the Indians, the railroad and the slaves. Nor was it a tempest in a tea pot. Grave issues were at stake, especially that of slavery. The future of our country hung in the balance. Finally, it was arranged that the residents of the section about to be made a territory could vote whether they should have slaves or not, and at last in 1854, we became a territory—a country, by the way, about five times the size of what afterwards became the state.

Think of it! From Kansas to Canada; from the Rockies to Minnesota and Iowa! We were a big, unruly, awkward child those days, and everybody and his brother used us as a bridge and grocery store on their way to here. True, soldiers occupied the territory, but the prospect was too pleasing, too alluring to pass up. The big trek was in summer, but when winter came, they would hibernate, and many remained. The fur traders and missionaries took up at what was called Bellevue about eight miles from here. True, soldiers occupied Fort Kearney and Larabee, but the Indians, buffaloes and beaver had things pretty much to themselves.

Soon people came, however, from Iowa and the far east, taking what land looked good to them, and driving the Indians before them. The misters are dispelled by the early morning breezes. Our Iowa friends devised the happy expedient of taking what was attractive, erecting log cabins to hold the land, and then returning to their home state to eke out a livelihood. Ethers were not too closely questioned in those days. First come, first served.

But we had to have a territorial governor. Franklin Pierce, then president, in 1854, appointed one Francis Burt, a democrat of South Carolina. As usually happened in those days, Burt had but little bearing. Even during the late war, bank clerks were often chosen to repair carburetors of automobiles, and a chauffeur made a company clerk. Burt was fragile and literary. The rough trip overland to Bellevue occasioned his death in less than two weeks after his arrival in this territory.

Thomas B. Cuming, secretary of state, became acting governor, and being of the right stock and caliber, filled the office until a new governor was elected later.

About this time there were emigrants in this community to "start something," as we call it in this day and age. It seems some men from Council Bluffs in Iowa had crossed over and founded the town of Omaha. Naturally they wanted this to be the capital. To further substantiate their claim, they built a little two story brick building and called it a "capital." They also imported many men from Iowa for voting purposes and then sent them home again. This caused ill feeling, but it was effective. Cuming convened the first legislature there in 1855. Twenty-one came from the North Platte and eighteen from the South Platte, the inhabitants from the south outnumbered those of the north two to one. Such was the political machine of those days.

By referring to these two sections you have already divined the river virtually cut the territory in twain. There was no money for bridges; the river was too wide and shallow for ferries, and too sandy and soft for good ferds (although a good "Ford" of today could have negotiated it and come out victorious). Thus the people of necessity were compelled to remain in their own bailiwicks and it

accentuated the sectional differences and petty jealousies which many years were unable to eradicate.

It is always easy to follow the lines of least resistance. These sturdy, uncouth and unlettered pioneers were satisfied to appropriate the laws of Iowa for their own and this was promptly done by the first legislature, which convened at Omaha; this town having won the coveted location of the capital. They made the public roads sixty-six feet wide, due perhaps to the fact that crinoline was used by the ladies of that day, and they must pass one another without being forced in the ditch. At any rate, this law still holds good, and we enjoy wide roads yet. Although the U. S. had forbidden the sale of liquor to the Indians many years before, as I have already mentioned, the legislators thought it best to prohibit the sale or giving away of the vile stuff, thought as far as we know, nothing was mentioned about imbibing of it.

About this time queer characteristics made themselves manifest. The people seemed a parcel of strange anomalies. While they apparently were strong for law, order and education, they seemed to think they were being legislated against by the government. Though the U. S. gave a man 160 acres of land at \$1.25 an acre after he lived on it six months, they felt it could be twice that large. These dear old pioneers even went so far as to form "claim clubs," defending one another in defiance to the established laws of the government, and tried to bolster the idea by having appropriate local legislation enacted. At last, however, this illegal procedure was wiped out.

Naturally this brings to mind the personal traits, longings and aspirations of our pioneering forebears. In fact, the Civil war broke out in time to save them any trouble. A few southerners migrated there and brot their human chattels with them; but all told, I doubt if there were over two dozen slaves in the territory. The "Underground Railroad" ran through a corner of their country—a road traveled by fleeing slaves at night, where they were harbored by friendly whites during the day. John Brown, whose body lies a-moulder-ous in the grave, often made the trip in charge of fugitives. In 1858 a slave girl ran away from a Mr. Nuckolls at Nebraska to Tabor, Ia. Although a man of some prominence (enough to have our Nuckolls county bear his name) he was vindictive, and searched Tabor for her. One day was hurt in a melee with the officers, sued Nuckolls and was awarded \$10,000 damages. The girl fled to Chicago and was arrested a year afterwards, but a mob rescued her and sent her to Canada. Nuckolls sued some sixteen Iowa people by reason of this affair but the Civil war intervened further aggression on his part.

I mention this instance by reason of its being so conspicuous, and therefore indicative of the exceptions proving the rule.

Our pioneers sought education as best they could. In the earliest days, back in the '20's, the garrison children attended rude schools. There were also a few for the Indians and half-breeds, taught by devout and self sacrificing missionaries. When the Mormons were being driven west by the indignant easterners, they passed through Nebraska, and during the winter, the garrison children attended rude schools. There were also a few for the Indians and half-breeds, taught by devout and self sacrificing missionaries. When the Mormons were being driven west by the indignant easterners, they passed through Nebraska, and during the winter, the garrison children attended rude schools. There were also a few for the Indians and half-breeds, taught by devout and self sacrificing missionaries.

Closely linked with this was their religious life. They fought the Indians with one hand, and held the Bible in the other. Scarcely had the ground dried up the blood but what a sacred edifice would rear itself, its steeple finger of a steeple pointing heavenward, also many churches did not boast of a steeple, being made from sod. Our ecclesiastical brethren of those days were of the old school. They believed in the Bible from cover to cover.

However, it is to be believed they were strong in the faith, but not in practice, as some of the get-rich-quick schemes of those days savored of modern Wallingford and "Ponzed" finance. They worked hard for a bare existence, and had but little to sell. It was a battle for life. If only they could attract capital, erect mills, build railroads; have a bank account, and let someone else work, while they enjoyed the prosperity. Now, money is the solution as well as the root of all evil. In this case, they regarded it as the solution—but how to get it?

The second legislature in 1856 solved this problem much as did the man who signed a promissory note, and exclaimed, "Thank goodness, that bill's paid at last!" They decided to print bank notes, or rather permit a few men (five for instance) what he enough at a time) to start a bank and issue notes. No collateral was needed. "Just bring an honest face" seemed to be the motto. They promised to pay it "later," when everything became "right" by reason of the boom that was to come. And come it did—all in a rush. Easy money made high prices. They stood

on the top of the world—a soap bubble world—when all of a sudden—puff! bang! It went the way of all troubles. This was in 1857, and there was a weeping and wailing and a gnashing of teeth in the house of Mammon. It was an unholy scheme. They disobeyed the divine injunction that by the sweat of thy brow thou shalt earn thy keep, and the Almighty's justice (or vengeance, as it did what you will) smote them as did Christ when He drove the money-changers from the temple and said they had made it a den of thieves.

Thus were our beloved pioneers human. Thus had they their rise and fall—but out of those ashes of trial and tribulation the phoenix has arisen. We have profited by their mistakes; we have builded upon their solid foundation; we have become a mighty people, proud yet God fearing; and in the height of our glory, we pause reverently today and stoop to place this flower of tribute upon the graves of our most holy dead.

From Monday's Daily.

## HAVE A NARROW ESCAPE FROM SERIOUS INJURIES

### Ford Coupe of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence L. Beal Badly Damaged in Collision Yesterday.

From Monday's Daily.

Last evening shortly after 8 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Clarence L. Beal had a close call from very serious injury when their new Ford coupe was almost demolished in a collision with a Ford touring car driven by Philip Gonzalez of Nebraska City and as a result of the accident Mrs. Beal was rather badly shaken up.

From the reports of the accident, it seems that Mr. and Mrs. Beal were coming east on Washington avenue and had just passed the intersection of Eighth street when the accident occurred. The Ford touring car driven by Mr. Gonzalez made a cut across the street evidently to drive into the filling station at the O. K. garage but made the turn too quickly and was on the car of Mr. Beal before they were aware of it and struck the Beal coupe squarely, turning it over and doing a great deal of damage to the machine.

Fortunately neither of the cars were going at a high rate of speed and the occupants were not seriously hurt although Mrs. Beal was shaken up considerably and complained of a wrenched back to some extent.

It was with some difficulty that Mrs. Beal was extricated from the wreckage and assisted to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Noble where she has been since the accident recovering from the shock of the startling experience.

The Nebraska City car was also quite badly damaged and will require more or less work before it will be serviceable.

## BUYS NEW CAR

From Monday's Daily.

William Shea, Jr., was out yesterday enjoying the pleasures of riding in a fine new model Chevrolet roadster that he has secured through the agency of J. E. Mason, the local representative. The car is a fine one and Billy feels well pleased over the new gas wagon.

Journal ads get results.



## Keep Up the Pressure Behind Your Check Book!

Before steam can move the piston—before water can turn the wheel—there must be pressure behind it.

Your check book, too, if it is to serve you unfaithfully, must have pressure behind it. The ability of your bank account to meet emergencies depends upon the size of your balance.

Don't let the pressure run low! The bank account that serves you best is the one that is continually growing.

**THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK**  
THE BANK WHERE YOU FEEL AT HOME  
PLATTSMOUTH NEBRASKA

**SAFETY** This Bank is Under **GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION**

## FIRE AT FANGER STORE AT NOON

### Blaze Seems to Have Been Caused by Defective Flue—Prompt Work Saves Serious Damages.

From Monday's Daily.

The business section of the city this afternoon at 1:15 was threatened by what promised to be a serious fire, when passersby discovered smoke rolling out of the roof of the Dovey buildings now owned by Frank Fanger.

The fire department was at once called and the fire discovered to be located in the space between the ceiling on the second story of the building and the roof and had its origin near the chimney in use by the City cafe and it is thought that the blaze was occasioned by the overheated or defective chimney. Use of the chemical line checked the fire and cutting a hole in the roof water was played on the fire and it was quickly under control, and the loss will not be great it is estimated as the only damage was to the roof and the timbers in the immediate vicinity of the chimney.

The three buildings owned by Mr. Fanger are all connected and with a good start the fire would have inflicted a very heavy damage to the business section of the city.

## SUFFERS INJURED ANKLE

From Tuesday's Daily.

Yesterday afternoon, A. J. Trilety, the real estate dealer and barber, met with a very serious accident while crossing Main street near Fifth on his way from the postoffice to his place of business. Mr. Trilety slipped and fell in the slush and snow and in doing so turned his ankle so that it was quite badly sprained and will require some time to mend from the effects of the injury altho Mr. Trilety continued to hobble around on the leg for the remainder of the day.

## DRAWS DOWN FINE

From Monday's Daily.

James Kennedy and Clifford Schaefer were arrested yesterday by Chief of Police Alvin Jones in the southwest part of the city and were charged with being intoxicated when arraigned this morning before Judge William Weber in police court.

The court decided that it would be necessary for the two men to part with \$10 and costs, which they did, and were then sent on their way rejoicing.

## MOVES TO NEW FARM

Max Baumeister, who has been farming the A. E. Krueger farm southwest of Myrand, has decided upon a change in location and has rented the H. E. Becker farm just west of Plattsmouth where he will be located the coming season.

## EMERGENCY FARM LOANS

Plenty of money. I can close your loan in three days or less.—Searl S. Davis, Plattsmouth State Bank Bldg., Plattsmouth, Neb. ml-45w.

A splendid line of St. Patrick day decorations can be found at the Journal stationery department that will provide for any entertainment.