

# The Plattsmouth Journal

Nebraska State Historical Society

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PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1926.

NO. 12

## Omaha Woman Killed in Union Auto Accident

Georgette Harsch, Aged 25 Has Neck Broken in Fatal Crash at 3:30 This Morning.

From Monday's Daily— This morning at 3:30 at the corner one mile east of Union a party of Omaha motorists crashed into a telephone pole on the south side of the K. of T. highway, resulting in the death of Georgette Harsch, aged 25 of Omaha and the injuring of Jean Martin, 23 of Omaha. The first word of the fatal ending of the auto party came at 4:45 when James Fitzpatrick, driver of the car came to the Missouri Pacific station at Union to secure help and told of the accident, also at that time he was not aware of the fact that one of his companions had been killed. Dr. W. J. Luxford was aroused at his home and hastened to the scene of the accident when examination disclosed that Miss Harsch had been almost instantly killed in the accident. Miss Martin was found to be suffering from what seemed to be a fracture of the left arm or shoulder and with Fitzpatrick was taken back to Union to be treated. Fitzpatrick was suffering from bruises and the effects of his being thrown from the car as he was hurled some ten feet when the fatal crash came. Sheriff E. P. Stewart was notified of the accident and with County Attorney Kieck departed for Union, reaching there a short time after the accident occurred. Fitzpatrick was the only member of the party who could give any lucid account of the accident, as Miss Martin was apparently suffering very much from the shock of the accident and the pain of her injury when interviewed at the home of Dr. Luxford. According to Fitzpatrick, the three occupants of the car who were all living at 1760 1/2 Leavenworth street, Omaha, had started from that place sometime near 1 o'clock for Kansas City, the two women being asked him to drive them to there for protection. The car, a Chrysler roadster, was owned by Miss Jean Martin. The party had some liquor with them and had stopped frequently on the highway to drink, also Fitzpatrick stated he had not been drinking as much as the ladies, but when found by the authorities he bore the signs of his drinking and in the car there was found a bottle of alcohol which had evidently been consumed by the members of the party as the bottle was partially empty. Fitzpatrick states that as they approached the corner he had started to make the turn west into Union when one of the women, he does not know which had stepped on the brake and caused the car to swing south across the road and into the fence that was placed there for protection, breaking down the fence and crashing into a telephone post, the car overturning as it struck the post. Fitzpatrick was thrown clear of the car a distance of some ten feet and for a few moments he was knocked unconscious. On regaining consciousness he made his way to the overturned car and heard the groans of Miss Martin who was still in the car. By tearing a hole in the top of the car he was able to extricate the woman and they then started to locate Miss Harsch whose body was found lying under the rear wheels of the overturned car. By great effort Fitzpatrick was able to lift the car sufficiently to get the body of the unfortunate woman from beneath the car and at the time supposed that she was merely stunned. He had then gone on into Union for help and on the return with Dr. Luxford had found that Miss Harsch was dead. The neck of Miss Harsch was broken and she had sustained a severe fracture on the left side of the skull, either of these being sufficient to cause death. The party was headed for Kansas City where they were to visit at the White House Inn 85th and Troost street. The dead woman is well known in Omaha where she with Tony Ratova has been conducting the Rainbow Inn on West Center street, one of the well known roadhouses near the state metropolis. She has parents living in Omaha but the other members of the party were not aware of their addresses and it was impossible for authorities to get in communication with them. Sheriff Stewart and County Attorney Kieck brought Fitzpatrick back with them and lodged him in jail to await the outcome of the coroner's inquest and the charges that might be filed against him as the result of his driving of the death car. The body of Miss Harsch was brought to this city early this morning by Undertaker Sattler and is being held at the Sattler chapel pending the result of the investigation of the accident and the receiving of word from the relatives and friends of the unfortunate woman in Omaha.

## Death Comes to Conrad Meisinger Here Sunday

Aged and Highly Respected Resident of This County Answers the Last Long Summons.

From Monday's Daily— Another of the old and highly respected residents of this community and one who has had a large part in the development of this section of the country, was called from the scene of his earthly activity Sunday when Conrad Meisinger, passed away at his home in this city. The deceased was a member of one of the best known families in the eastern portion of Cass county and which family have served in the years past to develop and improve the community in which they were a part. With his going there remains but one of the family of brothers who came here at an early day to engage in tilling the soil in the then pioneer state and who by their thrift and energy made a strong foundation for their own and their children's success and prosperity. In his going the members of the immediate family have lost a kind and loving father who they will miss very much as the years roll by and they are bereft of his love and wise and kindly counsel. To the members of the family circle the deepest sympathy of the community will be extended. Conrad Meisinger was born April 20, 1840 in Germany and when but a child of six years of age was brought to the United States by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Meisinger, who settled on a farm in Tazewell county, Illinois, near the present city of Pekin, and where the deceased was reared to manhood, learning the lessons of thrift and careful tilling of the soil that was destined to give him an opportunity in the building of the west. He came to Nebraska nearly a half century ago and has since been a prominent and loved resident here. Mr. Meisinger was twice married, first to Miss Margaret Holstein who passed away some five years after marriage, leaving two children, Margaret and Michael Meisinger both of whom have preceded the father in death. Mr. Meisinger was married the second time at Pekin, Illinois, on January 3, 1877, to Miss Catherine Schaefer. To this union there were born thirteen children, three of whom, Katie, Freddie and Johnnie died in infancy, the living children who survive the passing of the father are Mrs. Lizzie Steehr, El Reno, Oklahoma, Jacob Meisinger of near this city, Mrs. Eva Steehr of Plattsmouth, Mrs. Emma Hennings of Moulton, Nebraska, Mrs. Anna Meisinger of this city, Ed and P. A. Meisinger residing in the vicinity of Cedar Creek, Mrs. Matilde Miller of Omaha, Miss Laura Meisinger of this city and J. Leonard Meisinger of Omaha. There also remains the one surviving brother, Philip H. Meisinger of this city, all of the brothers and sisters having preceded this splendid citizen in death.

## Knights Templar Hold Election of Officers for Year

Mt. Zion Commandery Selects Glen Perry as Eminent Commander for 1926—Others Named

From Tuesday's Daily— Last evening Mt. Zion commandery of the Knights Templar of this city held their annual election of officers at their lodge rooms in the Masonic temple and the meeting was participated in by a large number of the members of the order. The officers selected for the ensuing year were as follows: Em. Commander—Glen Perry. Generalissimo—James T. Begley. Captain General—Wm. F. Evers. Treasurer—Phillip Thieroff. Recorder—John E. Schutz. The other officers of the commandery will be named by the new commander and the installation of the officers made on Ascension day, following the meeting of the grand commandery of Nebraska, which is to be held in Plattsmouth April 15th and 16th. The local Knights Templar have been busy in the last few weeks arranging for the big state meeting of the order that will bring large delegations of the Templars here from all sections of the state. Practically all of the members of the various commanderies in Omaha, Nebraska, City, Auburn and the nearby cities are expected here to join in the sessions of the concluding day, which will be as the guest of honor, George W. Vallery, grand commander of the grand encampment of the United States.

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## Presbyterial Meeting Here April 6th - 7th

Woman's Missionary Meeting of the Nebraska City Presbytery to Be Guests of This City.

From Tuesday's Daily— The First Presbyterian church of this city will have the pleasure of entertaining the Presbyterial meeting this year, the dates of this important church meeting being Tuesday and Wednesday, April 6th and 7th. The Presbyterial is the Woman's missionary organization of the Nebraska City Presbytery, which includes the counties south of the Platte river and east of Fairbury. The meeting will have several distinguished speakers who will assist in the program of the sessions with interesting addresses on the matters of the church work and which will be a real treat to those who attend the convention. The speakers will include Mrs. H. V. Hübner, state president, Mrs. Mattox from China, who represents the board of foreign missions and Miss Josephine Petres of New York City, who will represent the board of home missions. There will be a complimentary dinner served by the church on the first evening of the meetings and a general invitation is extended to all those interested to attend any or all of the sessions of the Presbyterial and assist in giving the visitors here a cordial welcome. The local societies of the church are expecting from forty to fifty delegates present at the meetings and a general invitation is extended to all those interested to attend any or all of the sessions of the Presbyterial and assist in giving the visitors here a cordial welcome.

## Insurance Company Loses Suit Over a Policy

Clara Mumm Twiss, Et Al., Recovers \$2,215 From State Farmers' Insurance Company.

From Tuesday's Daily— The trial of the case of Clara Mumm Twiss, et al., vs. the State Farmers' Insurance Co., of Omaha, was occupying the attention of the district court all day yesterday and the case was given to the jury at 4:30, they returning a verdict in favor of the plaintiffs in the sum of \$2,215 shortly after 9 o'clock. This action in which the plaintiffs were suing the insurance company for the sum of \$2,750 alleged to be due on a policy held by the plaintiffs in the defendant company, for loss occasioned to the residence and outbuildings on the Mumm farm on September 19, 1925, by reason of the damage caused by the small cyclone on that date. The defendants contended that a policy issued to the plaintiffs had been cancelled on May 15, 1925 and was not in force and effect on September 19, 1925 when the loss occurred. The plaintiffs contended that they had received no notice of the cancellation of the policy until January 25, 1926 and that they had paid to the defendant company the premiums as required by the by-laws of the insurance company. The defendant company through their attorney, Arthur Mullen of Omaha, filed a motion for a new trial of the case, preliminary to an appeal of the action to the state supreme court. C. E. Martin and A. L. Tidd appeared in the action for the plaintiff in the case.

## Alfred Rogers on Trial Today in Dist. Court

Young Man at Murray Charged With Shooting With Intent to Kill W. F. Connors.

From Wednesday's Daily— This morning the trial of the case of the State of Nebraska vs. Alfred Rogers was opened in the district court and occupied all of the morning session of the court. The jury in the case was impaneled Tuesday afternoon and consisted of John Bates, Fred Stewart, Henry Albert, F. C. Ossenkop, C. G. McCarty, Leslie Everett, Albert Wheeler, Art Wiles, F. C. Wood, Bert Reed and Claude Smith. The case is one in which Rogers is charged with shooting with intent to kill W. F. Connors, section foreman of the Missouri Pacific at Murray on the night of December 8, 1925. Rogers had been employed as a laborer or track walker by the Missouri Pacific at Murray and was working under Connors at the time of the shooting. A dispute arose between the men as to remarks that Rogers was alleged to have made and which he denied and which led to the conflict in which Rogers shot and wounded Connors. The defense was that the shot had been fired in self defense and that Connors had been the aggressors in the fight that had preceded the shooting. The shooting occurred near the Missouri Pacific station at Murray. The case was given to the jury at 11:30 and the issues deliberated upon by the members of the panel.

## District Court Starts Grind on the March Term

Jury Reports for Duty and First Case Heard Is That of Clara Twiss et al vs. State Farmers Ins Co.

From Monday's Daily— This morning the March term of the district court was opened here with the members of the petit jury panel reporting for duty and the grind of the regular cases that were demanding jury trial was taken up. The first case called was that of Clara Mumm Twiss, et al vs. the State Farmers' Insurance Co., a mutual insurance organization with headquarters at Omaha. The plaintiffs in the action represented by C. E. Martin and A. L. Tidd while the defendant company is represented by Arthur Mullen, well known Omaha attorney. This action is one in which the plaintiffs seek to recover damage for loss sustained to the residence on the Mumm farm southeast of this city during a small cyclone in the summer of 1925. The policy was carried in the name of the late Mrs. Mumm and the payment of the policy was contested by the defendant company. The jury in the case was selected at 10 o'clock and the taking of testimony started shortly after 11 o'clock and it is thought that the case will soon be disposed of and given to the jury for their consideration.

## CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY

From Monday's Daily— The 77th birthday of the seventy-second birthday of Mr. Sarah Goucheour, old time resident of this community, was observed here the past week at her home south of this city, when a large number of the relatives and friends gathered to join in the pleasant occasion. The event was in the nature of a surprise and arranged by the friends who came with well laden baskets that furnished the basis of a very fine supper that was served at 8 o'clock. One of the features of the supper was the fine birthday cake that had been baked by Mrs. Fred Spangler and which served as a very much appreciated part of the delightful occasion. The members of the party spent the time for the rest of the evening in visiting and extending congratulations to their wishes for many more such pleasant occasions. Those in attendance were Harry Goucheour and son, Stewart, Mrs. Fred Spangler, Mrs. Charles Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Doud, Mr. and Mrs. John Goucheour and daughter, Agnes, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Goucheour and children, Virginia and Joe, Mrs. Martin Sheldon and daughter, Gertrude, Walter Goucheour, Iva Fitchorn, Tom McDaniel, Levi Patton.

## WILL HOLD FLOWER SHOW

From Tuesday's Daily— Henry Jasper, the local florist, has just received an invitation to participate in the annual flower show that is to be held at Omaha March 18th to 20th, inclusive. This show is one of the features of the year for the florists of the middle west and includes large and beautiful showings of the flowers of the winter and spring. The show is to be held at the Hannon-Van Brunt show rooms at 30th and Farnam streets, and is one to which the public is invited. Mr. Jasper will be at the show as often as possible to enjoy the offering.

## LEAVES FOR FLORIDA

From Monday's Daily— Yesterday afternoon Miss Dorothy Cowles departed for Lake Worth, Florida, where she will join her mother, Mrs. William Cowles and sister, Mrs. William Propst, and to make her home there in the future. Miss Dorothy has been given a number of farewell parties in her honor in the past few days and the many young friends are regretting very much to see this estimable lady leave for the southland. Miss Alice Plak and Walter Trisch motored to Omaha with Miss Cowles to see her that far on her journey to her new home.

## FILES COMPLAINT IN COURT

From Monday's Daily— This morning in the county court complaint was filed by Green Piggott, road overseer in road district No. 10, against Frank Schlichtmeier, in which the defendant was charged with allowing the carcasses of dead hogs to remain lying along the fence near the highway on his farm, and which under the law the road overseer is required to see is removed and complaint made. The dead hogs are supposed to have been animals suffering from cholera and which the law requires shall be burned or buried to a depth of six feet.

## DEPARTS FOR THE EAST

From Monday's Daily— This afternoon Henry Herold and wife departed for New York City where they are to visit for a short time with their son, Attorney Matthew Herold and wife for a short time and from there will go to Northampton, Mass., for a visit with their daughter, Miss Ursula, who is a student at Smith college, one of the best known girls' colleges in the United States. The trip is being looked forward to with the greatest of pleasure by the Herold family and will make a most delightful outing for Mr. and Mrs. Herold.

## DEATH OF CHILD

From Wednesday's Daily— The many friends here of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bennett in this city will regret very much to learn that the family has been grief stricken in the taking away of their little son, Frank, who passed away at the home of the family in Ashland on Tuesday. Mr. Bennett was formerly located in this city as manager of the Lincoln Telephone Co. Newspaper advertising pays!

## VETERANS WIN GAME

From Tuesday's Daily— Last evening the Plattsmouth Veterans, one of the fast independent basketball teams of the eastern portion of the state, added to their record of wins by hanging a 28 to 20 defeat on the F. J. Sokol team of South Omaha at the Sokol hall, 29th and S streets, Omaha. The Omaha team led in the first quarter of the game and had the edge on the Plattsmouth lads by the score of 10 to 4, field goals by Sedlaeck and Koubek being the only tallies for Plattsmouth. In the second quarter a rally by the Veterans brought the score up to 12 alike at the half and from then on the Plattsmouth team maintained their lead by a series of brilliant offensives that baffled the Sokols and kept the Veterans in the clear until the crack of the pistol at the final ending. John Svoboda was the high point man for the Veterans with 12 tallies to his credit while Frank Koubek was second with 8 points to the good. There was a very pleasing crowd present and the locals received much praise for their excellent work on the hardwood court.

## WILL UNDERGO OPERATION

From Monday's Daily— Word was received here Saturday evening by the relatives that Mrs. Eleanor Schulhof Froggatt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Schulhof, former well known residents, was taken to the Hollywood hospital at Hollywood, California, Saturday morning to undergo an operation for appendicitis. The attack of Mrs. Froggatt was quite sudden and the news came as a severe shock to the relatives and friends in this city and vicinity.

## FINE TIME AT DANCE

From Monday's Daily— The Old Fashioned dance at the M. W. A. hall Saturday night was largely attended and everyone present had a fine time. The prizes at the dance were won by William Galoway, Charles Turnbaugh and Freda Klingler. The Gradoville and Kohrell orchestras furnished the music for the occasion.

## Free lessons in the new art lamp shades given at the Bates Book & Gift shop annex. Call and join in the classes.

## HAVE PLEASANT MEETING

From Monday's Daily— The members of the M. D. A. auxiliary were most delightfully entertained on Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. William H. Mason on west Main street and a very pleasing number of the ladies were in attendance. The time was spent in visiting and the discussion of the plans for a market to be held at the office of the Nebraska Gas & Electric Co. on March 27th. Refreshments added to the pleasure of the event.

## CARD OF THANKS

We deeply appreciate the many acts of kindness and sympathy from our friends and neighbors in our recent bereavement at the death of our beloved wife daughter and mother and sister and wish to extend to every one who assisted us in any way, our heartfelt thanks.—Mr. C. E. Johnson and Children, Mayola and Evelyn Warthen, Mrs. E. Stiles, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Stiles and family, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Stiles and family.

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