

TO BRIDGE YELLOW RIVER



Dr. John A. L. Waddell, a noted American bridge builder, and Mrs. Waddell photographed on their arrival in Japan after an absence of thirty-nine years.

Surgeons Sew Up Cut Inch Long in Heart

New York.—Four stitches were taken in the heart of Frank Farino, sixteen, stabbed accidentally. The wound was an inch long. After the operation, performed through an opening made between two ribs, Farino asked to sit up. Doctors are hopeful for his recovery.

HOPE TO COME BACK TO U. S.

Deported Radicals Are Fleeing From Soviet Rule.

Reported to Be Greatly Disappointed at What They Found in the "Promised Land."

Riga, Latvia.—Little groups of Russian-Americans, who were deported or volunteered to go from America to soviet Russia, are trickling back across the Latvian frontier from the land of the Bolsheviks very frequently these days.

These emigrants, according to American consular officials, who hear their stories and have to tell them there is not much chance for them to get back, are greatly disappointed with what they found in the "promised land."

They tell of starvation and long rides in trains so packed with people that there is scarcely room to breathe.

Besides those who have succeeded in getting to Latvia, there are many others who have written friends in Riga asking for money from America.

The Moscow correspondent of the Riga Rundschau writes as follows about the Russian-Americans inside the country:

"The numbers of Russian communists expelled from America, who with wry faces are selling their last goods and chattels on the Moscow market places, are increasing every day."

"The soviet government is doing its utmost to keep these people above water by giving them even whole factories to run and manage. But as these factories are very much run down, even American spirit and energy is not sufficiently strong to set them in operation."

"A little better off are those of the emigrants who have managed to take with them from America their tools or goods produced by their trade. Such people are doing a big business and

Ranks of G. A. R. Fast Thinning

Drop of 10,103 in Number of Veterans of Civil War in the Past Year.

4,445 POSTS IN 48 STATES

Ohio Has the Largest Quota, With Pennsylvania Second and New York Third—Organized in Illinois in Spring of 1866.

Indianapolis.—When the Grand Army of the Republic holds its annual reunion this year more than 10,000 of the Civil war veterans who attended the encampment of 1929 will be counted among the missing, as the ranks have been depleted to this extent through the last year.

The total membership of the G. A. R. today is 93,155, while its membership in 1929 was 103,258.

The total membership is scattered among 4,445 posts in every state. Ohio, with 10,241, has the largest membership, with Pennsylvania second with 9,122; New York third, 8,705; Illinois fourth, 6,808; Indiana fifth, 5,949; Massachusetts sixth, 5,356. No other state has 5,000 or more members.

Property owned by all posts is valued at \$2,075,927, including real estate worth \$802,841.

Members in the old Confederate states total approximately 2,200.

The G. A. R. was organized in Illinois in the spring of 1866. Who its originators were is a matter of tradition, rather than of record, says the report made to the national encampment in 1869 by N. P. Chipman, then adjutant general of the national organization.

First Post in 1866.

"There can be no doubt that the late Col. B. F. Stephenson of Decatur, Ill., was one of the prime movers," says Chipman's report. "Being recognized as such, he organized the first post at Decatur, Ill."

By July, 1866, there were 40 posts

in Illinois, representatives of which met in convention and organized the state department. Stephenson was by common consent the provisional commander in chief, and posts were organized in other states, resulting in the first national encampment being held at Indianapolis, November 20, 1866. After the Indianapolis convention Chipman records that "posts seem to have sprung up as if by magic in all parts of the North," but he adds there was no record of progress. Ten states were represented at the Indianapolis encampment, 21 states in 1867, 24 in 1868, 37 in 1869—having 2,050 posts.

At the 1869 encampment a mutual life insurance scheme was proposed, it being said that the G. A. R. had 240,000 members. In 1867 it had been said that the state departments "claimed to represent a constituency of over 200,000." But there is no authentic record of the number for the early years, the insurance proposal, containing an estimate, it is thought, and the 1867 estimate being regarded as the number of Union soldiers living in the jurisdiction of the state departments represented at the convention. For instance, the adjutant general's report at the 1870 encampment, when there were 30 departments, says it is "absolutely impossible for me to furnish anything like a correct report of the present membership."

Decline Constant Since 1890.

In 1890, however, reports taken as authentic state that the membership was 409,489, the highest mark recorded. From 1878 to 1890 the growth was rapid, being from 12,000 to 85,000 annually. Since 1890 the decline has been constant except for a 3,000 gain in 1906, said to be due to prospects of favorable pension legislation. Subsequent enrollment figures from the time the G. A. R. reached its zenith to the present time follow:

Table with 4 columns showing membership numbers from 1891 to 1900. Values range from 407,781 to 103,258.

The 1929 national encampment voted to meet every year as long as a single member survived. Brig. Gen. John L. Clem, address Army and Navy Club, Washington, D. C., claims himself the youngest G. A. R. member. He is thought by the G. A. R. officials here to be seventy-one years old, having enlisted as a drummer boy at the age of eleven years. The question of who is the oldest member always brings up hundreds of claimants and no reliable record has been obtained.

An implement that can be operated with one hand has been invented for stretching metal bands around packages and fastening the ends.

CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

Nebraska grown potatoes are commanding as much as a dollar per bushel more than Kansas and Missouri potatoes this year on the Chicago market, according to an announcement by the bureau of markets and crop estimates. The potatoes are of practically the same kind and raised under similar conditions, but the difference in quality is mainly attributed to a new manner of grading now used in the commercial potato districts of Nebraska.

Ben Griffin, a farmer living near Shelton, claims to have discovered oil on his place. A few weeks ago Mr. Griffin had a well drilled on his farm, expecting to get some good water. The water was oily so he attached a gasoline pump to the rigging in the hope that good water would soon come through. He pumped several days but the water output continued to be oily.

Stockholders of the Nye-Schneider-Powder Grain company, in annual session accepted unanimously the terms of Omaha and Chicago bankers required for needed loans to save the company from possible bankruptcy. Frank Fowler, president and general manager and largest stockholder, resigned according to previous agreement.

Merchants Fall Week gathering is expected to bring 1,000, or more of the merchants of Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota to Omaha. The dates are August 29 to September 3. The local committee has prepared a splendid program of entertainment for the visitors. There will be dinners, excursions and theater parties.

The most destructive hailstorm in years has just visited Cheyenne and Kimball counties. Some late wheat was destroyed and corn stripped. A twister accompanied the hail, and some buildings were unroofed west of Sidney.

Windows of nearby houses were shattered when the 175-pound air tank of the Manhattan oil station at Grand Island exploded. All the windows in the station were broken. The explosion was heard for miles.

The Ak-Sar-Ben races one of the big events of the year will be held at Ak-Sar-Ben Field, Omaha, September 13-17. A big field of the fastest horses in the country is being entered. Charles Trimble is secretary.

Plans are being completed for an aeronautic fête to be held in connection with the fall festival. Miss Elsie Allen, wing walker and stunt artist, has been engaged and will enter the competition for performers.

The 16-year-old son of Mrs. Fred Huffman of near Albion lost his life near the city, while diving in the Beaver river with a party of boys. His neck was broken by striking his head on a sand bar.

Floyd Cook, S. son of Mr. and Mrs. John Cook, of Beatrice, was electrocuted when he came in contact with one of the guide wires of the Beatrice Electric company which had become charged.

The Omaha city council has fixed the annual tax levy at 9.9 mills, the same as last year. The total levy for schools and all other purposes will bring a revenue of \$2,340,000.

Certain Lincoln druggists announced a return to the old-time 10-cent sodas and sundaes. A return to prewar hotel rates was announced a week ago by Lincoln hotels.

The barn and silo on the farm owned by William Rogers, two miles west of Albion, was destroyed by fire during a severe electrical storm.

The Community-Commerce club at Minden is organizing a band. Dan R. Doyle has been selected as bandmaster.

Methodist of Wauneta are raising a \$40,000 fund for constructing a large new church, which will be built of brick.

A big Frontier Roundup and \$1000 prize "Pumpkin" show, is to be staged at Holdrege on September 15, 16 and 17.

The recent hail storm which was accompanied by a high wind caused great damage in the vicinity of Broken Bow. A steel amphitheater is being erected on the county fair grounds at Albion. It will seat 3,000.

Mason City will hold a three-day Home-coming celebration, August 3-4-5.

The Rock Island and Northwestern railroads, through their attorneys, have notified W. O. Osborne, state tax commissioner, that they will appeal to the supreme court for a change in tax valuation placed on them by the state board of equalization. Railroads, in hearings before the board, demanded that their valuation be reduced 15 per cent, the same as valuation on farm property was reduced. The board refused to comply with the request.

Contagious diseases in Nebraska reported to the state department of health during July number 379. Diptheria cases reported from Omaha during the month numbered 43.

For every two people that died in Nebraska every year five are born to take their place, according to statistics prepared by the state bureau of public health, department of vital statistics. The average yearly birth rate in the state is 2,500 a month. The average death rate is 1,000. There were 15,928 marriages last year. There were 3,928 divorces.

The old seal of the state of Nebraska is antiquated and nearly obsolete in that it does not show the present government of the state, nor its principal industrial activity, according to a report made to Gov. Samuel R. McKelvie by Representative George A. Williams, chairman of the committee appointed by the governor under a bill passed by the last legislature to design a new state emblem. "The man with the anvil does not fittingly represent the industry and labor of the state," the report declares. "The river and steamboat do not in the least emphasize transportation in Nebraska. The log cabin shown on the seal spells nothing, while the mountains in the background, which 30 years ago represented the boundary of civilization, has no significance today. There is not a feature of the present seal, however much it stood for in the past, that fitsly speaks of the modern Nebraska, save the sheaves of wheat which are engraved on it." The committee invites the help of the press and of the people of the state in the way of suggestions.

Bank creditors of the Nye-Schneider-Powder Co., at Fremont, is in session at Chicago, named a committee to formulate a plan of reorganization. A stockholders' committee also is working in co-operation with the bankers in an effort to tide the concern over a period of financial depression. Ralph Van Vechten, head of the committee, believes the reorganization may be effected in time for the company to resume operating during this season's crop movement.

The Wells Abbott-Nieman Co., the largest flour milling concern between Minneapolis and the Pacific coast, closed the doors of their plant at Schuyler. To the 150 people who were laid off by the shut-down, the only word was that it was not known when the establishment would be reopened. The closing is said to have followed a failure to reorganize the company with \$200,000 additional stock.

No agreement has yet been reached in the negotiations between Ray Nye and the directors of the Western Theological seminary on the proposition of converting Mr. Nye's fine home on Nye avenue in Fremont, into a seminary building. Mr. Nye is holding out for \$80,000 for the property, which is called by many persons the most picturesque and best kept in Nebraska.

T. H. Menner of the Aero club of Omaha, while in Minneapolis, said the Omaha club will enter at least six airplanes in the Twin City national air derby, which will be the chief spectacular feature of the 1921 Minnesota state fair. More than 100 airplanes from states as far east as New York and as far south as Florida are to compete.

The Burt County Stock Show and Agricultural society at Oakland is erecting commodious buildings on its newly acquired possessions which join its 50-acre natural park. The society already has completed a large show and sale pavilion. The building has a seating capacity of 400 and will accommodate 50 head of cattle and 50 head of hogs at one time.

At a mass meeting of citizens at Madison, after listening to estimates for rebuilding and equipping the old electric plant for alternating current, and for building a new plant near the depot, a ballot was taken showing a strong preference for building a new plant at an estimated cost of \$70,000.

There are soon to be thousands of "bars" in Nebraska. John Westover, well known Lincoln man is to furnish them. The board of control let the contract to Westover to furnish that many "bars" to affix the windows of the new state reformatory. He will receive \$28,921 for the iron work.

Clinton E. Lattin, 78, the first white man to be married in Lancaster county is dead here. Mr. Lattin was married in 1803 in Lincoln, then known as Lancaster. He was a widower and is survived by four children, eight grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

The Ak-Sar-Ben festivities, September 13-24 are expected to bring not less than 100,000 visitors to Omaha this fall. As usual, there will be the three parades, each and all having numerous new and unique features.

The board of directors of the Sheridan County Fair association at Gordon has changed the dates of the Sheridan county fair to September 5 to 9, inclusive.

Laying of the three miles of concrete surface on the Lincoln highway near Columbus has been completed by the Allied contractors.

Plans are under way for a big aviation meet at Crete August 18-20. There will be all kinds of aerial stunts and a cross-country race for prize money. The Chamber of Commerce has the meet in charge.

The State Teachers' college at Kearney is closed for the month, following the reported refusal of the normal board to grant the requests of more than 100 students that the school be kept open for summer course work. Members of the faculty had volunteered to give their services if the school were kept open, it is said.

July was the wettest month in Cass county in the memory of the oldest inhabitant. According to Everett Means, weather observer, seven inches of water fell during the month.

Discovery of some kind of large water animal in a lake, six miles southeast of Hot Springs is creating great excitement. The lake covers 160 acres of land. Farmers who saw the serpent say it is about twenty feet long. The lake has been used by hundreds of bathers who now desert it in fear. Volunteers are forming to capture the reptile.

ALWAYS ON GUARD

Superstitious Bulgarians Dread Spirits of Evil.

Observe Many Odd Customs Which They Believe of Immense Importance to Their Welfare.

Are you one of those who will not walk under a ladder, raise an umbrella in the house or spill the salt without casting a few grains over your shoulder? If you believe in these or the kindred superstitions fast dying out in this country, you will feel a degree of kinship with the average Bulgarian peasant. For there are so many things a Bulgarian may not do, writes Temple Manning, in the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Among the many customs of rural Bulgaria, to neglect which is considered unlucky and even sinful, are the following: To bring flour into the house and neglect to fumigate it with special incense. This must be done to drive out of the flour any demon which may have entered the sack.

When the housewife or her daughter goes to the spring for water, she must not neglect to spill a little on the ground before even starting with the pail for the house. This is done to turn out any elemental spirit which has been scooped into the pail. If it isn't done the spirit may take up its abode in the house, and may even enter the body of one of the family who drinks the water.

If you are asked to sell a loaf of bread you must not part with it without first having cut or torn off a small piece from an end. The spirit that has helped you make the bread must be given a chance to fly out of the loaf and still linger in the house he loves.

Under no circumstances may you give a child a spoon to play with. I do not know just why you may not do this, but it is considered exceedingly unlucky.

Nor can I account for the belief which is common in some far farming sections of Bulgaria, that it is very unlucky to give a child under seven years of age a bath. The child may wash itself, but that is its own lookout. The mother may wash the child a little also, but not give it a bath all over at one time.

Imagination easily accounts for the prohibition against cleaning a stable, selling milk, fetching water or doing any of the many other farm duties after darkness has fallen.

But how is one to account for the Bulgarian belief that to permit a dog to sleep on the roof of a house will disturb the rest of the dead members of the family?

These and countless other superstitions rule the daily work and habits of old Bulgarians and the youths who live and work in many a shut-in section of that hilly land.

Bitter Joking.

Elinor Glyn, the novelist, was talking to a reporter about her long visit in Spain.

"The death rate for babies is fearful in Spain," she said. "If it were not for that sad fact the world would soon contain more Spaniards than Chinese; for the Spanish are a remarkably prolific race. Families of 15 and even 20 children are not uncommon among them."

"But these children die off in their infancy because their mothers are so very ignorant of hygiene. I once heard two Spanish doctors joking—joking bitterly, you know—about this material ignorance which does so much harm."

"Yes," said the first doctor, "Donna Pilar's new baby died off, off, of course. At the age of two months she was feeding it on pork, cheese and wine."

"Pork, cheese and wine—a good diet, that, for a two-months' old baby," said the second doctor. "The rich Romans, though, have a better one for their youngsters. They give it for dinner every evening a brace of chops, fried potatoes, sweet pudding and a stiff whisky and soda, with coffee, liqueur and a good strong Havana cigar to follow."

Aviation Marvel Found.

An airplane capable of landing without the need of a large aviation field, able to rise without a long run before, able to travel more than 300 miles an hour and, if necessary, to meander along at but a few miles an hour, is announced as the invention of an Italian engineer, Epaminonda Bertucci of Rome.

The inventor claims that he already tried out the machine on a small scale and regards his first experiments as indicative of the success of the invention. The new machine is primarily intended for aerial war chasing and is to be armed with a machine gun. It is a monoplane.

Remedy for Ants.

Here is a helpful paragraph in a New York paper: "To rid the pantry shelves of red ants, wipe them with denatured alcohol every few weeks." Now, how are you to catch the ant and give him that alcohol bath? The cursed little things just won't stand still.—Jackson News.

The Crowning Aggravation.

To make matters worse, when your collar is wilted; when you vacillate between a desire to commit suicide and a desire to throw up the job and wander off to some cool mountain-top to rest, in pops the coal man to say: "Buy your winter fuel now."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

LIVES LIFE OF HERMIT 33 YEARS

Man Visits City for First Time and Sees First Woman.

Swift Change Comes and He Immediately Sheds His Whiskers and Buys Store Clothes.

Omaha.—Tracy Gillis, older than Brigham Young when he took his third wife, has just let his eyes first see a woman. He also has had his first remembered view of a railroad train, a street car, a daily newspaper and a fiction magazine.

Upon seeing a woman for the first time, Gillis visited a barber shop and had his long hair cut and his face shaved.

Gillis is thirty-three years old. He was born in Chicago. His mother was an actress and his father a disciple of Moody and Sankey. But for a third of a century father and son, their Bible open to the chapter which tells

Radium Bearing Rocks for Madame Curie



Senator Holm O. Bursum of New Mexico with the radium-bearing rock he presented to Mme. Curie. There are millions of tons of this ore near Silver City, N. M., and it is believed less than 1,000 tons will produce a gram of radium worth \$100,000.

LIVES LIFE OF HERMIT 33 YEARS

of John the Baptist dwelling in the wilderness, have lived alone on a western Nebraska ranch 40 miles from railroad, with no stranger stopping within its fence posts.

George Willis, the father, died recently, two years short of the fourscore and ten which he believed that had been promised to him. Tracy, the son, buried the body on the ranch and went on with his farm work. Today he came to Omaha on his pioneer journey with a load of cattle.

According to the young man's tale, the older Gillis trafficked, with his neighboring farmers only on their property and never on his own, for fear his son's ears should pick up hints of civilization. The father fled to the West with his son to save him from the dancing, singing actresses in Chicago's old Haymarket theater.

"A devil lurks on every city street corner, father taught me," Tracy Gillis said today. "He told me the sad story

of my mother and warned me to avoid all sinful men."

With the money from the sale of his cattle Gillis changed his home made garments for a suit of store clothes. He also bought a safety razor, a tube of tooth paste and two silk neckties. He is willing to admit that one glimpse of the city has demoralized him. In his plans for the future, which include continued residence on his secluded farm, he mentions a wife and a course in agriculture.

Drowned in Swimming Hole.

Lewistown, Ill.—Mrs. Dave Shaw, thirty-five, her two children, Ruth, fourteen, and Dorothy, twelve, and Charles Lofley, an elderly man, uncle of Mrs. Shaw, were drowned in a pool on the Shaw farm, six miles west of Canton.

Meteor Falls in Tennessee.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—A meteor weighing between 500 and 600 pounds fell near here. The meteor made a swishing noise that was heard several blocks. It buried itself in the ground.