

NARROWLY MISSED INJURY

ON WAY TO ATTEND MOTHER'S FUNERAL, RAN INTO WRECK.

HALF ACROSS THE CONTINENT

Mrs. Earle Fisk of San Francisco, Enroute to Norfolk, is in a Wreck West of Denver in Which Several Persons are Killed.

Called half way across the continent to Norfolk by the death of her mother in this city, Mrs. Earle Fisk of San Francisco narrowly missed being seriously injured or killed in a railroad wreck west of Denver.

Mrs. Fisk came through the wreck without injury. Most of the coaches were more or less demolished so the sleeper in which she rode. Several lives were lost in the wreck.

The remains of Mrs. Quigley, accompanied by relatives, were taken to the former home in Danbury, Ia., for burial, the funeral party leaving Wednesday morning by way of Sioux City, Monday short services were held at the Keleher home, Father Walsh officiating.

The wreck occurred in New Mexico, the heavy Santa Fe train plunging from the track on account of a defective rail. The engineer and fireman were killed. One other life was lost.

WILL MISS GARRETT.

Traveling Man Will be Missed in North Nebraska Baseball Circles.

Perlee Leader: This part of Nebraska will miss an enthusiastic baseball fan as well as a splendid umpire of the national game, next year, Frank Garrett who, for the past fifteen years has been covering Nebraska territory for the Harle-Hass Drug company of Council Bluffs, has been called into headquarters and promoted to secretary of the company.

JOHNNIE JONES IN NORFOLK.

Little Johnnie Had Forty-two Appetites Which Were Appeased Here.

Little Johnnie Jones was in Norfolk yesterday. There were forty-two of Johnnie, "mostly girls."

Johnnie Jones, who is a musical melodrama, stopped in Norfolk for dinner yesterday on his way from Fremont to Sioux City.

Little Johnnie ate forty-two dinners at the Junction eating house, traveled in a special car with two baggage cars for fixings.

"Little Johnnie Jones" was written by George M. Cohan, author of "Forty-five Minutes From Broadway."

Little Johnnie advertises seventy-five people but only forty-two had appetites in Norfolk.

Among the other visitors through Norfolk were two coach loads of soldiers, the "regulars" being bound for Fort Robinson.

Real Estate Transfers.

Real estate transfers for the week ending November 29, 1907, furnished by Madison County Abstract and Guarantee company, office with Mapes & Hazen:

Ethan L. Show to C. W. Lemont, Q. C. D., consideration \$100, lot 4, block 5, Pasewalk's Third addition to Norfolk.

Lillie Trine to Mike Dusal, W. D., consideration \$275.00, lots 5, 6, 7 and 8, block 70, Northwest addition to Madison.

John V. Klein to Chris P. Peterson, W. D., consideration \$4,600, lot 11, block 3, Norfolk Junction.

Anna Lovelace and husband to Andrew C. P. Christiansen, W. D., consideration \$1,400, lots 2, 3 and 4 and part of lot 1, block 33, Pioneer Town Site Co.'s Second addition to Battle Creek.

D. S. Weygant to Geo. F. Mills, W. D., consideration \$50, part of the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of 26, 24, 4.

Geo. F. Mills and wife to L. C. Ruegge, W. D., consideration \$300, part of the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of 26, 24, 4.

Samuel Heckman to Charles Denny, W. D., consideration \$300, part of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of 19, 24, 4.

C. B. Burrows and wife to Fred H. Cornell, special W. D., consideration \$100, lot 20, block 7, Riverside Park addition to Norfolk.

C. B. Burrows and wife to Fred H. Cornell, special W. D., consideration \$100, lot 16, block 9, Riverside Park addition to Norfolk.

Albert D. Holbrook to Rose F. Sheets, W. D., consideration \$1,100, part of out lot 1, Meadow Grove.

J. E. Crum and wife to Minnie E. Brown, W. D., consideration \$3,000, lot 13, block 4, C. S. Hayes' addition, and lots 3 and 4, block 1, Bear & Mathewson's addition to Norfolk.

The Mills Real Estate company to

Standard Stock Bond Co., W. D., consideration \$2,500, SE 1/4 and E 1/2 of SW 1/4 and part of SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of 34, 24, 1, and lot 2 and part of lots 21 and 22, Ward's Suburban lots, lot 10, block 2, Gardner and Braasch's addition, lots 9, 10, 11 and 12, block 1, Pasewalk's Third addition, lots 7 and 8, block 12, Western Town Lot Co.'s addition, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, block 9, and blocks 1 and 8, Sunnyside addition, lot 7, block 1, lots 3, 9, 10 and 11, block 5, lots 5 and 6, block 6, lots 2, 13 and 12 and part of lots 6 and 7, block 7, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13 and 14, block 12, lots 1 to 14, block 8, lots 1 to 14, block 9, lots 1 to 14, block 13, and lots 2 to 14, block 14, Dorsey Place addition, all in Norfolk.

James C. Stitt to Cora M. Stitt, W. D., consideration \$1,350, west 61 feet of lot 4, block 1, Pasewalk's addition to Norfolk.

THE FIRST OF THE SERIES

TEACHERS MEETING TO BE HELD IN MADISON THIS WEEK.

FRIDAY EVENING AND SATURDAY

State Superintendent McBrien Will Address the Meeting Friday Evening and Superintendent Pile of Wayne Saturday Afternoon.

The first of a series of three Madison county teachers' meetings will be held in Madison this week. State Superintendent McBrien and President Pile of Wayne college are announced as the speakers.

Friday evening in the G. A. R. hall Superintendent McBrien will deliver a public address on "Our Young People and What to Do With Them."

At the Saturday afternoon session, also in the Madison G. A. R. hall, Superintendent McBrien will speak on "The Teacher of the Future," and President Pile on "Experimental Life."

While teachers over the county are invited to the sessions at Madison the addresses are intended specially for the teachers of Madison and vicinity.

The addresses which are to be given at Madison this week represent an innovation introduced by County Superintendent Perdue. Dispensing with the customary evening lectures during the recent institute in Norfolk, the county superintendent announced that in substitution for the institute lectures special lectures would be given at three places in the county during the school year.

OPENING OF THE NEW DEPOT

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF NORTH-WESTERN STATION.

BE HELD WEDNESDAY EVENING

The Commercial Club Decides to Invite the People of Norfolk to Visit the New Station Before it is Placed in Use on Thursday.

The Northwestern depot "opening" is announced for Wednesday evening. Next Thursday the Northwestern will establish itself in its new up-town passenger depot, moving over from the present temporary quarters.

On Wednesday evening preceding, the new depot will be thrown open to the inspection of Norfolk people, the opening taking place under the auspices of the Norfolk Commercial club.

The opening will be informal but prominent officials of the Northwestern are expected to be present. In addition to the Norfolk officials of the road it is thought that General Manager E. Walters, General Freight Agent S. F. Miller and General Counsel B. T. White will be up from Omaha.

Refreshments will be served on the occasion of the opening and the services of an orchestra have been engaged. Norfolk people generally, it is expected, will take advantage of the opportunity offered to visit the new depot on "opening night."

Visitors to the depot will be pleased with the interior of the new depot. It has a tile floor, oak wood work of dark finish and neat appearing fixtures. The walls of the new building are tinted green, the ceiling a cream color. Although not the large union station that Norfolk hoped for the depot has an adequate waiting room and two private rooms in addition to the ticket and baggage quarters.

Yesterday the depot underwent its final inspection by representatives of the architects who designed the building.

The depot opening was voted by the commercial club directors Tuesday morning.

MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, MARRIAGE.

Diversified Domestic Relations of an Ainsworth Couple.

Ainsworth, Neb., Dec. 4.—Special to The News: Henry Lockmiller was remarried to his former wife Helene at his residence in this city last Friday evening. There was a disagreement and a misunderstanding and then a divorce—that was last spring, followed by a division of the property. But they have never thought well of the separation and the re-marriage was what many looked for. There was a big gathering of relatives and friends to congratulate them upon their reunion.

There was a big supper and such a joyous evening following as only Germans know how to have. Everyone is wishing them the happiest life that can come to mortals.

OPENING MAY BE DELAYED

UNFINISHED INDIAN ALLOTMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED.

NOT HALF THE WORK FINISHED

A Mitchell Story to the Effect That the Tripp County Lands May Not be Opened Until the Latter Part of Next Year.

Mitchell, S. D., Dec. 4.—Intending settlers who are looking for an early opening of the government lands in Tripp county on the Rosebud Indian reservation will have to wait longer than was first anticipated. Such is the information given out by Hon. J. H. Scriven, the government's allotting agent, who has been at work on these lands since last spring. As to the progress being made in the work of allotment Mr. Scriven made the following statement when asked as to the possibility of an early opening of the government lands, it being understood that the opening depended largely upon the time it would take to allot the lands:

"We were forced to suspend our field work last week. When the ground was burned over last fall it had frozen so deep that we could not drive stakes or dig pit holes. We have allotted, since the beginning of the field work June 1, 700 different applications, and will have about 900 more to make in the spring. This winter the force will be occupied in enrolling what has been allotted, taking family records and listing new applications for next year's work. I am satisfied we will be able to get all of this kind of work done by the time the frost is out of the ground so we can begin field work again next spring. The department requires me to take the family record or census of each person that I allot, and as this is a new departure from the old time methods, when all an Indian had to say was, 'Allot my child,' and the allotting agent did the rest. The Indians were very slow for the first two or three months in giving in their records. This made it very inconvenient and difficult work, as we frequently had to make drives much too far in order to reach our day's allotting."

"With all details arranged I can systematize and bunch the allotments so that we can easily do twice as fast work as we have been able to accomplish this year, and if the frost is out of the ground sufficiently for us to begin field work by April 1 we will be through by August 1, and with all the little details arranged it will not be necessary for me to put in much of my time in the field, which will give me ample time to work on my books and records. Thus I will be able to keep up very close to the field work, and will be able also to send in my schedules in about two weeks after all the allotments are made."

"This ought to be in ample time to admit of the approval of the allotments and allow the president to issue his proclamation so that the actual opening or filing can begin by the middle of October or the first of November, 1908. This season will be the very best time to file on the land, for the homesteader will then have until warm weather the following spring to establish his actual residence."

"The man who served as the first mayor of Norfolk was one of the boys soldiers who enlisted in '61. A lad of seventeen on December, 1861, he enlisted in Company D of the Sixteenth Wisconsin infantry. His war experience was short and dramatic."

The young soldier was wounded in his first fight, the battle of Shiloh. He was shot in the leg early in the action. The hospital followed close upon the whistle of the first rebel bullet.

In March, 1862, his regiment had been sent direct from Madison, Wis., to Pittsburg Landing in Tennessee, where it was assigned to General Prentice's brigade. The Wisconsin soldiers had been south only a little more than a week when they were plunged into the great two days' fight as Shiloh on the morning of April 6.

The attack came as an entire surprise. Gerecke out on picket guard heard the first charge and the first shots on the union camp. Running back to camp he found all confusion, soldiers, aroused from their sleep by the shots of the enemy, tumbling out of the tents. His own company scattered, Gerecke fell in with another Wisconsin company. His regiment came under fire early in the morning and about 9 o'clock Gerecke received a bullet in the leg. After laying on the battle field for a while the wounded soldier discovered that he could walk. On the first attack he had helped a wounded man to the hospital but he now found the hospital gone.

He found an ambulance in time and was taken to the hospital boat which that evening steamed down the river. In two or three days he got in a hospital, where he was taken ill with camp fever and where he remained un-

til the latter part of April when he was taken to Cincinnati. He was given a furlough on June 22, 1862.

Ordered to report in Milwaukee in August, Mr. Gerecke on August 26 was discharged on account of his wound. So in the summer of '62 he found himself out of the army and a veteran of Shiloh. He remained in Wisconsin until the following summer when he set out for Nebraska.

Herman Gerecke walked to Nebraska. On that long trip across the country he rode only five miles. Leaving Wisconsin during May, 1863, with a neighboring family, Gerecke followed behind the wagon from Hutsiford, Wis., to Bart county, Nebraska. On July 6, 1863, the little party crossed the Missouri at Omaha. They stopped at Tekamah.

The first real Nebraska experience that came to Gerecke was the Indian war. In December, 1863, he enlisted in the Seventh Iowa cavalry. The battalion was sent out on the frontier. Until May of '64 headquarters were at Nebraska City but in the late spring the cavalrymen were ordered on to old Fort Kearney and then to Cotton Wood Springs, afterwards Fort McPherson, near North Platte.

The Indian war broke out in July, 1864, when the Indians attacked and annihilated a mule train. A campaign against the Indians was carried out during the summer and fall and in the winter the troop was sent to Julesburg, Colo., following the Indian attack there. Headquarters were maintained at the old California crossing near Julesburg until May, 1865, when the company was ordered to Leavenworth, Kan., to be mustered out.

It is one of the interesting memories of those Indian war days that Gerecke campaigned with Colonel Cody, hailed as "Buffalo Bill" the world over. Cody was the chief guide of an expedition that left McPherson in December of '65 and took up headquarters in the Republican valley. Gerecke was a member of the expedition and on the second morning out volunteered for scouting duty. "Buffalo Bill" was also among the little party of five who rode out from camp and who that evening slept together on the prairie. The second day the scouting party was joined by a party of Pawnee Indians under Lieutenant George Bilden of Falls City. Riding through the snow that afternoon the party came across buffalo. But no buffalo were gathered in for a clash with a small scouting party of hostile Indians intervened.

Cody and his band pursued the Indians for some three miles when the Indians crossed a creek and took up a position. There was intermittent firing but towards sundown Cody advised a withdrawal as he had reasons for thinking that a big body of Indians were nearby. Followed by the Sioux expedition. That evening they camped with saddled horses and at daybreak struck out again.

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Later, on another expedition, Gerecke found that an Indian camp two miles long and with probably 1,500 Indians had been within a few miles of the spot where the clash with the scouting party had taken place.

Gerecke has never seen Cody since the Indian war. But if ever Cody comes to Norfolk or Gerecke is in a town where the famous Wild West is on exhibition a meeting between the two is pretty certain to take place.

Returning to Tekamah from Wisconsin in September, 1866, Gerecke worked as a carpenter until the summer of the following year when he went to Omaha to work in the Union Pacific supply yards loading ties and iron to be used on the new road across the continent. In the same gang with Gerecke were the late C. W. Braasch, Fred Wichman and the late Frank Wichman.

The Norfolk residence of Herman Gerecke dates from April 29, 1869, when he came to Norfolk to work on the mill as a carpenter and millwright.

There were many from Herrick, Burke, Fairfax and the other towns. The visitors were immediately surrounded and marched from the depot up town where they were made to stop and listen to the Dallas yell, given in

Fought Against the Indians, First Mayor of Norfolk

Few men now living have had their lives more closely connected with the history and development of Norfolk than Herman Gerecke, Norfolk's first mayor. Coming to Norfolk in 1863, a resident of the city for nearly forty years, Herman Gerecke has seen Norfolk grow from nothing, has seen the rich north Nebraska country around it develop into a prosperous and important section of a big commonwealth, has seen a town's history unfold from the first chapter.

Herman Gerecke is rightfully a pioneer of Nebraska. He came to the state in the war times, a boy veteran of the battle of Shiloh. In Nebraska he was in the Indian wars and campaigned against the savage. The story of those days brings close the pioneer days of Nebraska, really not far distant, when the state was quite truly on the frontier and the life of its people was the frontier life.

Gerecke was in Norfolk almost at the town's birth. Working at his trade, Gerecke, with his own hands, helped build that first town, erect the first frame building, the early mill, the pioneer residences of Norfolk.

Herman Gerecke's part in Norfolk did not cease when he laid away the saw and hammer after helping put up the first buildings of the new town. In business and municipal affairs he has been an active figure, doing his share towards the town's progress.

Gerecke was Norfolk's first mayor, serving three terms in all. He was first elected in 1886 and again in 1889 and 1890. It was during his occupancy of the mayor's chair that the sugar factory was built.

Herman Gerecke knows Norfolk. He has seen the town in poverty and struggle, as an inland town awaiting the coming of the steam locomotive and the system that was to make Norfolk a center in the northwest, he has seen the town in the exultance of the boom days when many plans were conceived and some carried out, he has seen the town in the hard lines of the nineties and in the progress and prosperity of the new century when the old mill center on the Northfork is coming into her own.

It was on August 28, 1844, in the little village of Zlichtan in the province of Saxony in Prussia, Germany, that Herman Gerecke was born on a day that chanced to have been his mother's thirtieth birthday. His childhood days were spent in that little German village. He started to school when seven and continued until his parents sailed from the old land.

In August 1854 father and mother with their five children left for the west across the seas. No ocean racers plowed through the seas in the fifties. It was two months before the sailing ship landed in Quebec.

Mr. Gerecke's father moved at once to Hutsiford, a small town in Dodge county, Wisconsin, about forty miles northwest of Milwaukee. Here the father worked as a plasterer, brick layer and stonemason and here the boy attended school until thirteen.

Herman Gerecke when twelve years old was hired out to a farmer for \$2 a month. Then for the sum of \$20 he worked for a farmer for the whole year, save for three months when he was in school. When fifteen the Wisconsin lad went to work with his father and in time picked up the carpenter's trade.

It was Wisconsin which furnished the first pioneers who came into the country about Norfolk. Ixonia, where the first Norfolk colony originated, was only a few miles south of the village where Mr. Gerecke grew to young manhood.

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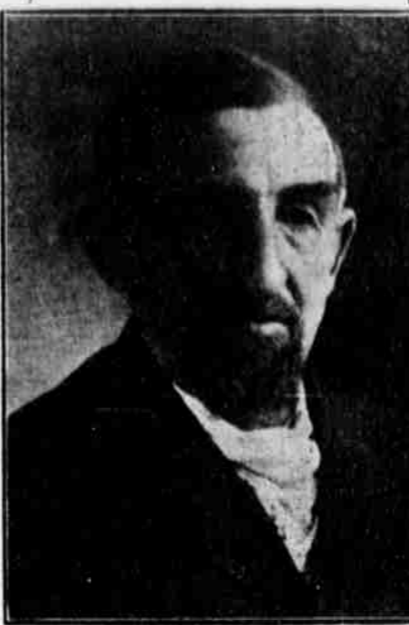
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HERMAN GERECKE

During the year of 1867 and 1868 he had worked on the Winnebago reservation, where Col. Charles Mathewson was agent. In the winter of 1868 he made his last visit to his Wisconsin home.

Herman Gerecke arrived at the birth of Norfolk. He came to work on the mill that determined the location of the town, the old Mathewson mill. It was a houseless Norfolk when he arrived and the morning after his arrival he went to work on the mill store that was to replace an early store in a log building with a dirt roof. He worked on the mill and about Norfolk until May, 1870. For Charles McGuire he built one of the first frame houses in Norfolk, a house that now stands the first building west of the Norfolk creamery.

Working for about a year in Waterloo, Neb., Mr. Gerecke helped build a mill and placed the machinery. In June, 1871, he returned to Norfolk and on July 22, 1871, he married the daughter of the mill owner at Waterloo, Miss Sarah E. Brickley. He was married in Omaha and drove overland to Norfolk with his bride. His home has ever since been in Norfolk.

Mr. Gerecke's first home in Norfolk was near the Junction, but in 1879 he built the frame house just south of the postoffice. In 1888 he bought the splendid Norfolk residence property known then as the C. P. Mathewson and later as the Gerecke property. Here he raised his family and made his own home until the present summer.

In 1874 the firm of Gerecke & Hardy, furniture dealers, was formed by Fred Hardy and Herman Gerecke. Business was conducted in a building just east of the Wetzel gun shop. The first stock was hauled overland from Omaha, Hardy and Gerecke driving two teams to Omaha to haul their first stock to Norfolk.

When the railroad came in 1879 Gerecke went into the lumber business with A. P. Pilger under the firm name of Pilger & Gerecke. Mr. Gerecke managing the business. Three years later he bought Pilger's interest and continued the business until 1887.

The year that he sold his lumber business he took charge of the Norfolk brick works and went in as one of the three owners of the Norfolk Brick and Tile company. A. P. Pilger and Dr. Verges being the other proprietors. John Flynn, now chief of police in Norfolk, had developed the brick yards under the name of Pilger & Flynn. After a time Gerecke purchased his partners' interests and has since run the business as the Norfolk brick works.

First of the list of Norfolk mayors stands the name of Herman Gerecke, Norfolk's first executive. In 1886 he became the first mayor of Norfolk. In 1889 and in 1890 he was elected to two more terms. And the initial organization of the village in 1881 under village government Gerecke was largely instrumental in bringing about that first village government.

Mr. Gerecke served on the Norfolk school board when the Grant and Lincoln buildings were erected. In county elections he was twice the candidate of the democrats, being defeated once for the legislature by C. F. Elisey and once for district clerk by Chris Schavland. It is recalled that Gerecke worked Schavland five to one in Norfolk but that Schavland swept county. Elected in the early seventies as peace justice he held the office for fourteen years.

Herman Gerecke is a true democrat of the real democracy. A northern man living in the midst of republicanism, a veteran of the union side of the civil war he has stood with democracy because he thought it the party of the fair deal and the plain people and the party farthest away from corruption and manipulation, which he bitterly opposes. He has always been prominent in the affairs of the minority party.

Of Norfolk organizations Mr. Gerecke was a charter member and afterwards commander of Mathewson post of the G. A. R. He was a member of the party struck back to join the main expedition. That evening they camped with saddled horses and at daybreak struck out again.

The first big land deal in Norfolk was when he sold a twenty-five foot Norfolk avenue frontage for \$1,000. At one time Mr. Gerecke's holdings near Norfolk avenue were quite extensive. He also held 400 acres of land near the Junction.

He was one of the incorporators of the street car company and was one of the first stockholders in the Norfolk Electric Light & Power company.

In 1871 Mr. Gerecke was a member of what was probably the first grand jury in Madison county, at least the first grand jury to return an indictment for murder. The jury held Frank Cottle for the Fletcher murder. And eighteen years ago he was foreman of the jury that acquitted Herman Boche, charged then with the Ives murder.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerecke have five sons and two daughters. Alfred N. Gerecke of Holdrege, traveling for the Lincoln Drug company, H. E. Gerecke with the Northwestern at Fremont, Clarence W. Gerecke and Fred G. Gerecke with a sugar factory at Los Angeles, Calif., Charles Gerecke now in Hastings, Mrs. Asa K. Leonard of Norfolk, and Mrs. Nellie M. Emery of Oakmont, Pa., a suburb of Pittsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerecke will spend the winter in Pennsylvania, Mrs. Gerecke having already left for the east.

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