

# The Plattsmouth Journal.

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## Cass County Has Built System of Good Roads

### Every Town in the County Is Now So That Can Be Reached on Graveled or Paved Roads

The people of Cass county can boast of one of the most extensive and best system of gravelled roads in the state and the mileage of which can only be surpassed by Lancaster and Douglas counties.

The graveling into Wabash is now paving every town in the county on a gravelled road and making it possible to reach almost any section of the entire county on a gravelled road, while as yet all are not direct routes they are fast being hooked up in a splendid county highway system.

The paved highway No. 75, thru this city and the highway through Avoca, Weeping Water and Louisville give two north and south roads, the graveling on No. 1 from Murray west to the intersection with the "O" street road, gives two fine east and west roads and No. 1 with its feeder lines into the various precincts and towns gives a road that intersects the center of Cass county. On the north the Plattsmouth-Greenwood road has graveling as far west as Louisville and it is not far distant when the gravel will also be extended to the extreme northwest corner of the county and make the shortest and most direct route to connect with the D. L. D. highway at Greenwood. In the present condition it is possible by taking the gravel through South Bend to reach Greenwood on an all surfaced road as the South Bend road makes connection with the D. L. D. near Ashland.

Almost all of the precincts of the county have joined in the good roads move by the securing of their quo votes for the gravel that have been matched by the county and made this highway system possible.

The board of county commissioners have made a record that stands out among the counties of the states in the development of a highway system that in time will be extended to care for all of the roads of the county that serve a great number of persons. It has been carried out without any great burden to the people and has proceeded so rapidly that now our county stands among the first in the state in the surfaced highways.

## METEOR ATTRACTS ATTENTION

A great many of the residents of this section have reported seeing a fine display of a meteor on Tuesday night, the meteor appearing in the northeast and its fall brought many calls as the residents had varying judgment as to where the wandering visitor had fallen, it seeming to be near at hand while probably hundreds of miles away. Some described the meteor as resembling an orange in flames and this was so reported by a number of Omaha police.

The display of shooting stars and meteors will be again afforded on the night of August 11-12th, the showers running from fifty to one hundred stars an hour, it is forecast.

The stars are expected to appear in the northern sky shortly after midnight of August 11th, seeming to shoot from the constellation Perseus from which they take their name, the Perseids. These meteors have never failed to appear on time once a year for the last century.

"This year," says Dr. Charles P. Olivier of the University of Pennsylvania, "at the maximum of the Perseids the moon will be about new and hence will not interfere as it did last year. This will mean for an observer with a clear sky that faint meteors can be seen and hence numbers that may well run from 50 to 100 per hour after midnight for the night of August 11-12 and to half these numbers for the preceding and the following night."

All persons who watch the Perseids this year are requested to mail their counts to Dr. Olivier at Flower observatory, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

## INJURED IN PLAYING TENNIS

From Friday's Daily—  
Mrs. John Carmack and son, John Carl, were here Thursday evening from Omaha to visit for a few hours at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kunsmann, parents of Mrs. Carmack. While here the son was given medical attention for an injury that he received late yesterday afternoon while playing tennis, but which at the time he did not regard as serious. Carl was serving during the game and his hands were moist with perspiration, causing the racket to slip from his hand and striking a glancing blow on his cheek, making a small wound but not thought serious. After driving here the injury became more painful and it was necessary to seek medical aid and with the result that two stitches were taken to close the wound.

## Death of Former Resident of Cass County in Iowa

Mrs. Mary Emma Baldwin Dies at Clarinda, Iowa—Body Brought to This City.  
Mrs. Mary Emma Baldwin, former resident of this county for a great many years, passed away last night at Clarinda, Iowa, where she has made her home for a number of years. She has been poorly for some time and was at the hospital for the past two years under treatment, gradually failing until death came to her relief. The body was brought here by the Sattler funeral home by auto hearse to this city and where it will remain at the funeral home at Fourth and Vine streets until Friday afternoon at 2:30 when the funeral services will be held. The body will be taken from this city to the Eight Mile Grove cemetery where the interment will be made in the family lot.

Mary Emma Barker was born near Eight Mile Grove in Cass county, March 28th 1876, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Barker, pioneer residents of the community. She spent her girlhood days on the farm and in October, 1892 she was married to William Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Shaw were the parents of four children, Earl and Owen Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Lydia Shaw Mason and Miss Anna Shaw. Some eight years ago Mrs. Shaw was married the second time, Clarke Baldwin being the second husband. After the marriage Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin made their home on a farm near Pacific Junction for some time and later moved to Clarinda, Iowa, where they purchased a home and resided there since. Mr. Baldwin preceded the wife in death six months ago and was buried at Clarinda.

The deceased is survived by the children and three brothers and three sisters: W. H. Barker, New Raymond, Colorado, E. H. Barker, Bertrand, Nebraska; G. E. Barker, Perry, Oklahoma, Mrs. Martha Wetkamp and Mrs. Nettie Meisinger of Plattsmouth and Mrs. Rose Howard of Ravenna, Nebraska, besides three grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

## GRASSHOPPERS NUMEROUS

The grasshopper plague that has swept over South Dakota and the northern part of Nebraska, seems to be developing in this section as the grasshoppers are becoming very numerous, and while no great movements of the insects has been reported as in the north part of the state, there are a great many to be seen. Today in the business section of this city there was a large number of the pests to be found. The presence of such a large number led to the fear that they might be the vanguard of a larger movement of the hoppers into the farming sections of this part of Nebraska. The hoppers have so far confined the greater part of their activities to the section of the state north of the Platte river altho there has been some damage done in Richardson county.

## TO VISIT IN THE WEST

From Friday's Daily—  
Mr. and Mrs. August Roessler and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hohmann and children of Newton, Kansas, departed this morning by auto for the west part of the state where they are to spend a few weeks visiting at McCook and Grant with relatives. Mr. and Mrs. Roessler have a daughter, residing at McCook and several relatives at Grant. They are anticipating a very pleasant trip and by evening expect to be at their first destination, McCook, and after there go on to Grant.

## ENJOYS VACATION

Mont Robb, one of the best known residents of Union, came up Thursday from his home and is enjoying a short stay here with the time friends while on his vacation. Mr. Robb is a lifelong resident of the vicinity of Wyoming and Union and where he has been so familiar a figure for so many years. He also was for some years in charge of the Hotel Riley in this city and has a large number of old friends who are much pleased to enjoy the opportunity of visiting him.

## Dr. O'Donnell Pleads Guilty to Arson Charge

### Paxton Physician, Well Known in This City Says Started Five Fires While Drunk

Dr. H. J. O'Donnell, Paxton physician, well known in Plattsmouth, where he was a frequent visitor while an interne at the Lord Lister hospital, has confessed to State Deputy Sheriff E. E. Clark at Ogallala, Nebraska, that he had started five fires in Paxton recently. He later Thursday entered a plea of guilty to an information of five counts on the charge of arson, before County Judge C. Arrowsmith.

He was immediately bound over to district court and his bond fixed at \$5,000. The five counts contained in the complaint concerned each of the fires.

While it was indicated O'Donnell was ready to go at once before a district judge for sentence, officials did not know when he would be arraigned, but said it may be soon.

The deputy state sheriff said Dr. O'Donnell volunteered his confession Wednesday night after intermittent questioning during the day. Clark said O'Donnell was not questioned more than one hour at a time, and that he signed statements admitting each of the fires.

Clark said O'Donnell gave no motive for his acts, except that he had been drinking on each occasion. "And when I drink," Clark quoted the doctor, "I have an urge to set fire to something."

When Dr. O'Donnell made known his desire to confess, Clark said, he did so saying he "wanted to clear things up."

"I feel better," he told the officer. Clark said the doctor offered only one alibi from the time of his arrest until he confessed, and that concerned his presence near the Lutheran church fire when he was arrested. At that time he said he was hiding some liquor.

Clark said the physician had no grudge nor malice prompting his acts. The officer indicated O'Donnell's movements the night of lumberyard fire at Lexington, Cozad and Gothenberg would be closely checked. Although he had denied any knowledge of these fires, Clark said, he admitted he saw two of them and watched the Cozad blaze more than an hour. He was en route, he told Clark, from Omaha, where his wife was under treatment in a hospital, to his home in Paxton when he passed through the three towns. This was the night of July 28.

## REMOVES TO WISCONSIN

The many friends of the J. H. Donnelly family, who have made their home in Omaha for the past few years, will regret to learn that Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly and Miss Julia Hermann, have removed from Omaha to Madison, Wisconsin, where they are to make their home. The younger daughter of the Donnelly family, is located at Madison, where her husband, Captain Fingerson, U. S. A. is detailed to work at the state university. The Donnelly family and Miss Hermann have a large number of friends in this community and who will miss them very much as during their residence in Omaha they were able to visit the old friends here frequently. Miss Fingerson Donnelly will continue to make her home in Omaha.

## Engineers are Busy on Plans for River Navigation

Force Engaged Here in Making Soundings and Tests in Plans for River Navigation  
For the past two days there has been a force of engineers engaged here in the preliminary work of the river navigation program, which is being carried out so that the channel of the river can be made serviceable for large line operation.

The work at the present time consists of soundings and general observations of the Missouri river from Omaha to this city, which has been carried on with the river at the lowest point that it has been in many years.

The advent of the engineers at the various points along the upper Missouri river, has awakened the interest in the river navigation program and caused plans for the future docks and landings to be started by the different communities along the Iowa and Nebraska sides of the river.

The importance of this navigation program to the mid-west cannot be overstated in the possibilities of developing the industrial sections of the west is very great. The river navigation permitting the handling of large amounts of raw material here for various factories which are now confined to the strictly agricultural lines of activities.

## Iowa Cars are Noticeable on the Streets of City

### On Wednesday Over 100 Cars and 400 Persons Cross Bridge at This Point.

The increasing number of the residents of Mills and Fremont counties, in Iowa, who are visiting this city, is shown by the record kept of the bridge traffic.

The fact that the bridge is free to the residents of Mills and Fremont counties on Wednesday of each week has gradually shown an increase from a few cars on the first week of the free day to a few hundred cars on last Wednesday when over 100 cars and 400 persons crossed the traffic bridge to visit with the Nebraska friends.

## Work on Fort Crook Viaduct Shows Progress

### Concrete Piers on North Side of the Burlington Tracks Completed, also South End Approach

The long, meandering viaduct over the Pappio and Missouri Pacific and Burlington tracks on U. S. Highway 75, south of Fort Crook is beginning to show progress. This bridge, 902 feet in length, will be one of the largest viaducts in the middle west, when it is completed.

Contrary to general opinion that it would cross the Pappio east of the wooden bridge that formerly served traffic on 75, the new structure will cross the stream at a point almost directly over the present bridge, and the railroad tracks almost due north of there, or west of where the old road crossed. The south end of the structure is several hundred feet south of the Pappio banks, allowing a wide waterway to accommodate this placid little stream when it goes on one of its well known rampages. The elevation at the south end is some twenty feet above the level of the old roadbed at that point and will be reached by an easy grade, extending back to the end of the present paving.

The bridge itself, instead of being laid out along straight lines, will present somewhat of a figure "8" appearance with graceful curves, and which will doubtless add to the beauty of the finished structure.

At the north end, the completed piers are 45 feet above the level of the old road, but one will leave the bridge at the end on practically level roadway, as a high grade is being thrown up there, using dirt from a deep cut in the hillside just south of the Fort Crook corner. From the corner the new road will continue due south through the cut, curving to the west, just as it emerges from the cut. The depth of the cut will run close to 25 feet in places. Further north, on the west side of the Fort Crook grounds, the road has been pretty well leveled up, by cuts and fills, the deepest cut being a few hundred feet south of the Fort Crook gate, where the road was on the level of the old road are now up in the air some fifteen feet. The bottom stretch, north of the Fort Crook gate has been given a five or six foot grade. This portion of the road is ready for paving, and water pipes to supply the mixer have been laid along the road ready to be connected up.

The five concrete arch piers north of the tracks that will support the steel work on the new viaduct are completed as well as the one at the south end of the structure. Bases have been poured for eight or nine feet above the ground level of the Pappio and the workmen are now undertaking the most difficult part of the pier construction, that of pouring bases in the immediate locality of the Pappio creek bed. The concrete bases, heavily reinforced, some 12 feet square and extending 25 feet into the ground, rest on piling that are driven down to a hard pan surface thirty to forty feet deep. The earth there is such that cave-ins can be avoided only by curbing the hole the entire 25 foot depth, and large square cribs of plank driven into the ground, rest on piling that are driven down to a hard pan surface thirty to forty feet deep. This requires much more time, but is the only method of doing the work.

While the last of these foundations are being prepared, the work of erecting the concrete arches on bases already completed further south will be a steady stream of concrete from the large mixing plant erected alongside the Burlington track.

Workmen estimate two to three months will be required to complete the structure under most favorable weather conditions and it will be in use for the Thanksgiving time at best when it will be ready to travel over.

## CIRCUS DAY COMING

This city which has not had the presence of a circus for a number of years, is to be entertained by one of the well known smaller circuses. The advance man of the Schell Shows was in the city this week and concluded the contracts for the show to be here on Saturday, August 22nd. The circus is a four ring attraction and carries a large number of high class entertainers, animals and special features which will give some real entertainment to the residents of this section. The circus will show on the land just east of the Burlington railroad station.

## 'Platz' Selected Name for Former Parmele Theatre

Name Selected Was Proposed by Miss Anna Kniecke and T. H. Pollock  
From Saturday's Daily—  
In response to his request for suggestions as to the name for the newly renovated and redecorated Parmele theatre, G. G. Griffin, the new manager, received some 280 suggestions as to the name.

The contest was closed last evening and this morning Mr. Griffin announced the name that the theatre will bear in the future, "The Platz," being the title to be picked out of the many offered.

The name is one that in condensed form will represent the name of the city of which it is a part and the shortness of the name will permit being used nicely in signs and advertising, better than a longer name might do.

The name that was picked was offered by two of those making suggestions, Miss Anna Kniecke and T. H. Pollock and each of the successful persons were awarded the prize of ten tickets each to either the new Platz or the Ritz theatre.

The work of decorating the new theatre is still progressing and it will be some time before it is ready to be opened to the amusement loving public of the city.

Mr. Griffin desires to express through the Journal the deep appreciation that he feels at the fine response to his request for names for the new theatre as it was very fine and came from a large section of the citizenship in all walks of life.

## Ask City to Protest Closing Highway for Paving

### Paving of Section of Road North of Platte River Bridge Brings Request for City Protest

From Saturday's Daily—  
The local Chamber of Commerce has received a communication from the G. W. Bell Co. operators of a sand and gravel pit north of this city, in which it is requested that the city join in a protest against the closing of the section of highway No. 75 just north of the Platte river bridge, when the paving is in progress at that place.

The gravel company states that they were informed by state engineers that it would be necessary to close the roadway for a few days while the paving is in progress and this has led to the letter to the Chamber of Commerce to solicit their aid. This matter was under discussion several months ago when the overhead crossing at La Platte and the final paving projects were about to be contracted for, and at that time the Chamber of Commerce took the matter up with the department of public works of the state and were assured that all possible effort would be made to keep the highway open to traffic while the work of paving was in progress. It was at that time decided that a half section of the highway would be paved at a time while the paving of the 150 or 175 feet of roadway that leads to the detour, was in progress, this permitting the travel as usual.

There has been no official notice of any change of plans in handling the paving of the highway, one of the important roads of the state, or that there was to be a complete closing of the road for a few days. It will be necessary to pave this section and the paving of half of the road and then using this while the remainder is paved will not greatly inconvenience the traveling public.

It would seem that had any change been made it would have been announced by the state department.

## SECURES FINE RESULTS

The Hobson Well Co., of this city is feeling well pleased with two wells that they have recently completed and which are among the best in this section. The one is that which was drilled for E. C. Harris of the Plattsmouth Steam Laundry, which has proven a fine flowing well with an abundant supply of water that supplies the laundry with all of the water that is needed and also Mr. Harris has been able to supply the apartments in his building with the water through a new water system just installed.

This week the firm was called to the John Warga farm south of this city where they were to drill a well on the north section of the farm that is being farmed by Charles Warga. The former well had dried up following the unusually dry summer and proving a great inconvenience to Mr. Warga as it necessitated hauling of water. The Hobson company moved their rig onto the farm and commenced to drill a well a short distance from the old 30 foot well and after a short time of drilling there was a small stream of water encountered at thirty feet but the drilling was continued on through the hard pan some forty feet in depth. While the auger was idle after the drill through the hard pan, Alfred Edgerton, who was working the machine felt the auger lift and in a few moments the auger weighing some 1,000 pounds was lifted up into the rig and the well was "in." There is a very abundant flow of water and which insures plenty for the stock and other needs on this part of the farm.

## HAS STROKE OF LUCK

Since 1927 the office of the Cass county sheriff has been on the quiet search for a man named Jarvis, against whom a warrant was issued charging him with non-support of a child and while several reports of the man were received it was impossible to locate him until Thursday. The man was apprehended at St. Joseph, Missouri, and the office of the sheriff here was notified. It seems, however, that the parties who had made the complaint and the child in question, just a few weeks ago departed for Colorado where they are making their home. The removal of the complaining witnesses and the child from the state releases the warrant and the man will be no one here to appear against him. The parties in the case formerly resided in Murray.

## RETURNS TO LINCOLN

Mr. Paul H. Bargert of Lincoln who has been a house guest of Miss Helene Perry of south of this city departed Friday for his home. Mr. Bargert, who is a graduate of the University of Nebraska, is a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity. Mr. Bargert is now a student at Northwestern Medical school.