

The Plattsmouth Journal

Nebr. State Historical Society

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NO. 85

Old Resident of City Celebrates 88th Birthday

John Svoboda, Sr., First of the Czech Race to Locate Here Fifty-Three Years Ago

Saturday was the eighty-eighth birthday anniversary of John Svoboda, Sr., one of the long time residents of the city, who was also the first of the Czech race to locate in this community, pioneering in the west part of the city where later large numbers of the Bohemians and Moravians from the old world came to find a new home and to become a splendid addition to the citizenship of the community.

Mr. Svoboda with his wife and family arrived from the old world, they lived for a time in the east and then came westward where opportunities were greater for the young man seeking a home in the west where the land values were not high and the country new and unsettled.

At the time that Mr. Svoboda arrived in this city the west part of the present town was merely a wilderness of hazel brush and trees, there being no roads or dwellings and it was in this section that Mr. Svoboda made a home for himself and family and later welcomed many of his fellow countrymen. At the time that Mr. Svoboda came here in 1877, the main street of the town practically ended just west of the present high school grounds, from there on there being no road save one that Mr. Svoboda had hewed from the hazel brush thickets, the residents that sought to go in that part of the city, driving out the present Washington avenue where a few houses were clustered around what is now the corner of Oak and Fifteenth street.

Saturday evening Mr. Svoboda enjoyed a visit from the members of the family circle, Mrs. Josephine Janda, with her daughter, Josephine, Mrs. John Svoboda, Jr., and sons, John and Theodore, and daughter, Dorothy, with Mrs. Rose Bookmeyer at home the father resides, enjoyed the evening with him. Messages of greeting were received also from Mr. and Mrs. George Koehnke, Jr., and Miss Sylvia Koehnke of Lincoln, grandchildren of Mr. Svoboda.

Capture Member of Gang of Thieves

William Deneen, Apprehended in Blair, Is Brought Here for Chicken Stealing

William Deneen, reputed member of a gang of thieves who have been operating through eastern Nebraska for several months, robbing stores as well as working at the chicken stealing game, was brought here Monday afternoon by Deputy Sheriff Young and Pat Reed to face a charge of chicken stealing.

Deneen was arrested several days ago at Blair, on last Wednesday Pat Reed was at that place and secured a confession from the man that he had taken a number of chickens from the farm of William Sney, near Murray, as well as from the S. A. Wiles farm south of this city.

The chickens that he stole were disposed of in Omaha, Deneen stated to the officers.

There are several others in the gang, one suspect being held in Omaha at this time, while a third is being sought by the officers.

Deneen, it was found, was the man who several years ago held up the Vinton street car barns in Omaha, single handed and secured \$5,500, later being arrested and convicted for the robbery. He has served forty-five months in the Nebraska penitentiary and also has a record of eighteen months in the Wyoming penitentiary.

CASE IS AFFIRMED

From Tuesday's Daily

The office of the clerk of the district court this morning received notice from the state supreme court that the case of United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co., a corporation, vs. Mia U. Gering, had been affirmed. The case was appealed by the bonding company on the verdict of the court he was held for Miss Gering, the verdict of the lower court being without opinion. The action was in which the plaintiff sought to compel the payment of their attorney fees by the defendant.

DOING VERY NICELY

S. D. Fitchhorn, one of the long time residents of the vicinity of Rock Bluffs, who is at the Immanuel hospital at Omaha, recovering from an illness of some duration and a recent operation, is reported as doing very well at this time. Mr. Fitchhorn has a large circle of friends over this section of the county who will be pleased to learn that he is doing so well.

SHERIFF REED IMPROVES

From Tuesday's Daily

The reports from the bedside of Sheriff Bert Reed today indicated that the sheriff was gaining very much over the past two days when his condition was not so favorable.

This morning Sheriff Reed was the best that he has been since Thursday, rallying greatly during the night and this morning was able to take breakfast and seemed bright and cheerful in every way.

Biblical Pageant Presented Sunday Evening

Story of "Ruth" Given by Cast of Talented Local People—Colorful Settings

From Monday's Daily

The Presbyterian church was filled to its capacity last evening by a very appreciative audience to witness the presentation of the Biblical drama of the story of Ruth.

The greatest care was taken with costumes, make up, decorative and lighting effects, making a wonderful reproduction of the oriental scenes. The audience could easily imagine themselves in Bethlehem or in a flower garden in the land of Moab.

Each member of the cast played themselves arduous in their role. The grace and beauty of Ruth and her in their joyous life, the stately dignity of Naomi, the sympathy of the three for each other in their widowhood, and the deep affection and loyalty of Ruth for Naomi, her mother-in-law, carried the listeners from smiles to tears, so well were the characters portrayed. Naomi was taken by Mrs. Virginia Perry, Ruth by Miss Helene Perry and Orpha by Miss Ruth Tidball.

These characters were ably sustained in their acting by the kindly Elmielch by R. Foster Patterson; Mahlon and Chilion, taken by Otto Stodola and Ralph Wehrlein, Boaz was taken by Mrs. Virginia Perry, Ruth by Miss Helene Perry and Orpha by Miss Ruth Tidball.

The pageantry of the evening took place in the last scene, which was the wedding scene of Ruth and Boaz. Twenty-four took part in this. The 10 Virgins with their mantles and veils, carrying the low lamps of the Orient, the 10 friends of the groom, in their colorful costumes, and lighted torches, the floral arch, the richly garbed Boaz and Ruth in her snow white gown, veiled face and garlanded head, together with the attendants left a very pleasing picture in the minds of the audience.

The music of the evening was a pleasing duet by Mr. Frank Cloldt and Miss Estella Baird. Mrs. Goos presided at the organ throughout the evening and rendered appropriate music between the scenes, thus tiding over the necessary delays, caused by shifting scenes and change of costumes.

DIES IN MISSOURI

From Monday's Daily

Claude C. Smith of this city, received the message last evening of the death of his only brother, Fred L. Smith, which occurred on Sunday at the home in Albany, Missouri, following an illness of some duration. Mr. Smith was at Albany Friday to visit the brother, at that time his case not being critical, returning home Saturday evening, only to learn a few hours later that the brother had passed away.

PLACED UNDER BOND

From Tuesday's Daily

Ted Eaton, against whom a charge of uttering a bad check was filed, a few days ago, returned last evening to the city to face the charge preferred, reporting at the court house to the officers as he learned of the filing of the charge. This morning Mr. Eaton was arraigned in the county court on the charge of making the check for \$100 on the Plattsmouth State bank, payable to William Barber, entering a plea of not guilty to the charge. Bond was fixed at \$500 and pending the securing of which Mr. Eaton was remanded to the custody of the sheriff.

PLACED UNDER PEACE BOND

A complaint was filed Monday afternoon in the county court by John Shogren against F. J. Recek, in which Mr. Shogren asked that Recek be placed under a bond to keep the peace. The complaint stated that the complainant was in fear of bodily injury from Mr. Recek. The bond was fixed at \$500 and which was given by the parties reside west of this city where both are engaged in farming.

Boy Scouts Hold Investiture Service

Largely Attended Scout Meeting—Local Committee to Seek Aid in Maintaining Work

From Tuesday's Daily

Last evening at the regular meeting of the Boy Scouts at the high school building four boys were inducted into the Tenderfoot rank and invested with the insignia thereof. Those in the group were, Billy Rosenkrans, Stephen Davis, Mason Wall, and Wallace Terryberry. The Tenderfoot is the first step in Scouting, and requires the pledge, the law, history of the flag, and the tying of nine different knots.

The Scout Pledge is as follows: "On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my Country, to obey the Scout Laws, to help other people at all times, and to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."

The Scout Law has twelve points: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, Reverent. The motto of Scouting is, "Be Prepared." Scouts also strive to "do a good turn daily."

Advancement in Scouting in made by the accomplishment of certain tasks called "merits," which are passed upon and allow a Scout to advance from Tenderfoot to Scout, Scout, First class, Star, Life and Eagle.

Scouting is a real program for boys. A boy must be twelve years old to become a Scout. He will find in its program activities to engage the best endeavor of his head, his hands and his heart. The field opens to his energy, ingenuity and industry encompasses ninety different and very definite tasks to which he may assign himself. As he qualifies in these he is granted a "merit" and the accumulation of "merits" marks the proficiency in almost half of the possible ninety merit attainments.

A Scout is taught, through various activities, which usually hold his interest until his seventeenth or eighteenth year, independence of thought and action. How to care for himself and others in cases of emergency and danger. To so acquaint himself with nature and her laws that he can take care of himself under almost any circumstances. He acquires a love for the great outdoors, and finds profitable employment for every hour he may devote to the development of tastes and tendencies toward his goal in life.

Local Scouting is under the leadership of Mr. Russell Reeder and Mr. Raymond Larson. They are assisted by James Robertson, Herbert Minor, Francis Libershal and Alton Rolland, patrol leaders.

The regular meeting night is Monday at 7 o'clock. Parents are always welcome, and they, with any others who are interested in Scouting are especially invited upon occasions of Investiture services and Courts of Honor.

It becomes necessary at this time to replenish the fund to carry on the Scouting program to the close of June, 1932. No money has been asked for to support the local and our share of the Area expense since November, 1927, when a city wide drive was made. The result of that drive was sufficient for the needs up to July 1, 1931. Plattsmouth Scouting is a member of the Nemaha Area with offices at Nebraska City, through which we are served in all matters of supplies, records and registrations.

No city-wide canvass will be made at this time, but during the week, November 17 to 24th, any who are sufficiently interested in the promotion of Scouting in Plattsmouth are asked to make a contribution of any amount you wish. Every dollar will be spent in the interest of the Boy Life of our city. Money may be paid to any member of the local Scout committee as follows: T. H. Pollock, treasurer, W. G. Kleck, F. I. Rea, E. J. Wescott, P. T. Heineman, C. H. Jensen, L. O. Minor.

DOING SURVEYING WORK

From Monday's Daily

County Surveyor Charles A. Shannon of Otoe county, was in the city today. Mr. Shannon is looking after some surveying for the Cass county commissioners, the office of surveyor here having been vacant since the death of Fred Patterson, former surveyor. Mr. Shannon is looking after some work north of this city, along the road leading to the Rutherford farm, as well as several other small jobs in that locality.

MARRIED IN NEVADA

Mr. and Mrs. August Rakow of this city have received the announcement of the marriage of their son, William, which occurred on September 21st at Reno, Nevada. Mr. Rakow was married to Miss Cleo Alexander of Livewood, California. Mr. Rakow has been making his home on the west coast for the past several years and has been engaged with his brother, Fred, in the auto garage business in western Nevada and eastern California. Mr. and Mrs. Rakow are to continue to make their home at Livewood, California. The old friends here will learn with interest of the marriage of Mr. Rakow and trust that the greatest happiness may come to him and his wife.

District Court Docket Light for the Term

No Criminal Cases to Be Heard at the Present Term and Many Civil Actions Dropped.

From Monday's Daily

The call of the docket in the district court was taken up this morning by Judge James T. Begley, a number of the members of the local bar being in attendance at the court. The docket this year will be very light as far as the jury work is concerned, there being no criminal cases to be tried and but a few law cases to demand the action of the jury.

The first case to be tried will be that of John Spangler vs. Lester Tennant, et al. The other cases that have been assigned for trial are Phillip Schafer vs. the Missouri Valley Pipeline Co., Tuesday, November 24th at 9 a. m. The jury will be given a short holiday to observe Thanksgiving day and to get over the effects of the celebration. On December 1st the case of Edward Murray vs. O. Troop, et al., will be called for trial at 9 a. m. Rosewater, Meham, Burton, Hasselquist & Chew vs. the Louisville Bridge Co. will be heard December 2nd at 9 a. m. Andrew Olson vs. Lee Brown was set for hearing on December 3rd at 9 a. m. Retail Merchants Service vs. John E. Baker, et al., for December 4th at 9 a. m. John Bond vs. Mercury Ins. Co. of St. Paul will be tried on December 8th.

DEDICATE D. A. R. GIFT

Formal presentation of sun room furniture given by the Nebraska D. A. R. to the Veterans Hospital, was made Tuesday night at brief dedication ceremonies held as a part of one of the regular recreation hours at the hospital. Mrs. Adam McMullen, past state regent, made the presentation.

Mrs. H. B. Marshall, chairman of the committee which selected the furniture, introduced Mrs. E. H. Westcott of Plattsmouth, present regent, who presented Mrs. McMullen, Charles G. Beck, in charge of the veterans' administration, at Lincoln, responded to the presentation. Distinguished guests and official representatives of the D. A. R. were Judge and Mrs. W. J. Byer, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hudson, Jager and Mrs. C. B. Letton, Mrs. Jacob North, Mrs. C. E. Abbott, Mrs. Fred Williams, Mrs. George Klein, Miss Mary Beach, Mrs. Walter S. Whitman and Mrs. E. J. Williams. Dwight S. Dabey of Beatrice showed motion pictures taken by himself while on a world tour. Scenes of Lindbergh's landing, Annapolis and West Point were included. Nearly 200 attended.

SHOWER FOR MISS WICKMAN

From Wednesday's Daily

Last evening Miss Clara Wickman was guest of honor at a very charming miscellaneous shower given by Mrs. Henry Horn and daughter, Miss Helen and Mrs. Mary Henrich and daughters, Misses Lena and Frances. The shower was held at the Horn home on Chicago avenue and where was gathered some twenty-eight of the friends of the bride-to-be.

The members of the party comprised members of the junior church and Sunday school of the St. Paul's Evangelical church, in which Miss Wickman has been an earnest and devout worker for years.

The evening was spent in several interesting games as well as the preparation of recipes for the bride as well as advice for the future, given by the friends.

In honor of the occasion Miss Wickman received a large array of the most beautiful remembrances from the friends that will find a place in the new which she is soon to preside.

Dainty refreshments were served at an appropriate hour.

Sidney, Iowa Legion Team Wins Game Here

In Last Minute Thrust the Visitors Carry Ball Over to Win From Athletics, 6 to 0

The American Legion football team of Sidney, Iowa, was the attraction at the local Athletic park Sunday before a goodly number of the fans, who taking advantage of the springlike weather, were decorating the sidelines.

Pressing a strong attack, combined with several bad plays by the locals, which included a costly fumble as well as a poor attempt at punt, the visitors were able to put over a touchdown and win by the score of 6 to 0.

The game in the first half of the contest was largely a battle of mud, the ball for the greater part of the time being in the boggy section of the playing field, both teams making but little progress, altho the visitors were able to place several good passes.

The game going into the third quarter looked as if the event was to be a scoreless and muddy tie, then the breaks and misplays of the locals started the beginning of the end. As the third quarter was nearing its close, the visitors advanced into the local territory on a series of passes, break through the visitors' defense and the ball was swept by Sidney on a fumble, they returning the ball and threatening again the Athletics goal. The Plattsmouth line, which had played an excellent game throughout, held the visitors being unable to secure the coveted goal. The Athletics after several tries at the Iowa line, attempted a punt that was not good and the ball was back at the local front door.

The scoring occurred after the Sidney team made several futile tries through the local line, with the goal but a few yards away. The visitors broke through the Athletics' defense on the local right end, Opelt, left end of Sidney carrying the ball over for the touchdown.

The try for point failed and the visitors were given the kickoff to the Athletics.

The Athletics in the few remaining seconds tried hard to get away to score but the shortness of time did not allow them to leave their own territory.

The starting lineup was as follows:

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----------------------|
| Sidney | — | Athletics |
| Opelt | — | Fullton |
| O. Meade | — | H. Friday |
| Hills | — | Krejel |
| Hatten | — | Stoll |
| Snell | — | Jensen |
| Briggs | — | Renner |
| Rysaan | — | Stout |
| Barr | — | Hutton |
| Hunter | — | P. Herold |
| Burns | — | Dew |
| Referer | — | DeFreese |
| Umpire | — | R. Hrz, Plattsmouth |
| Head linesman | — | Grassman, Plattsmouth |

AFFORDS FINE ENTERTAINMENT

The Masters and Warden's club of Omaha, comprising the heads of the various Masonic lodges, presented a very interesting offering at the Nebraska Masonic Home in this city the past week. This was one of the entertaining features that various Masonic bodies of this section of the state offer at the Home from time to time.

The offering of the Master's and Warden's club was that of the Meizner Players of Omaha, a company of talented artists who presented the enjoyment of the aged residents of the Home "New Brooms," a very attractive and well presented play of modern day life.

The students from the Meizner School of the Spoken Word, presented a clean cut and interesting rendition of the play and which will long be very pleasantly remembered by all who were in attendance.

During the evening Edward E. Grey, member of Nebraska Lodge No. 1, was heard in two very impressive bass solos.

DR. LIVINGSTON IMPROVING

Dr. J. S. Livingston, who is at the Immanuel hospital at Omaha undergoing treatment, is reported as feeling very well at this time. The relatives and friends who visited at the hospital on Sunday, found the doctor in excellent spirits and evidently showing an improvement in his general condition. He will, however, have to remain some time at the hospital as the course of treatment requires several weeks.

Miss Evelyn Meade to be Miss Cass County

Murray Young Lady Will Represent Cass County at Ashland Bridge Dedication Friday

The completion and opening of the new traffic bridge over the Platte river at Ashland, marking the completion of a road and bridge project that has cost \$650,000, will be observed on Friday by an extensive program by the residents of Ashland and eastern Nebraska.

Miss Evelyn Meade of near Murray, one of the winners in the state wide better citizenship contest held at Omaha, will be the choice as Miss Cass County, participating in the ceremonies with Miss Kathryn Kuhl of Ashland as Miss Saunders County and Miss Marcelle Sandy of Gretno, as Miss Sarpy County.

The boards of county commissioners of Saunders, Sarpy and Cass counties will also be in attendance to take part in the dedication of the bridge and highway.

The cutting of the ribbon that will throw the new bridge open for traffic will be at noon, Governor Charles W. Bryan severing the silken barriers and the ceremony will be participated in by the Queen of Ak-Sar-Ben, Nebraska's Sweetheart, selected by the state university, and Miss Cass, Miss Sarpy and Miss Saunders counties. Mayor Metcalf of Omaha and Mayor Zehring of Lincoln will also be present.

The people of Ashland have arranged a hot lunch and barbecue that will be held on the streets of Ashland.

The presentation of the bridge and highway will be made at 1:45. State Engineer Roy L. Cochran making the acceptance speech, responding to the builders of the bridge. Governor Charles W. Bryan will make the formal presentation of the free bridge to the people of Nebraska.

The new bridge and highway is an important link in the great highway system of the state and the newly paved sections that are now open will be of great service to the residents of Lancaster, western Cass, Saunders and Sarpy counties.

HONORS CHARTER MEMBER

The W. C. T. U. at their meeting on Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. John F. Gorder, honored one of the oldest members of the local Union, Miss Olive Gass, she being voted a life member of the Union. At a previous meeting Mrs. B. C. Kerr had been voted a life member but as she had received this honor in 1911, she declined and the selection of Miss Gass was made.

The devotions of the meeting were led by Mrs. C. C. Wescott, who also gave a talk on Thanksgiving that was very much enjoyed by all of the members of the Union.

Thanksgiving readings were also given by Mrs. C. R. Troop, Mrs. W. W. Wasley, Mrs. C. C. Wescott and Miss Olive Gass, all being very much enjoyed by the members of the Union.

At the conclusion of the afternoon dainty and delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Gorder which added to the enjoyment of the day.

ENJOY EXCELLENT PROGRAM

The members of the Rotary club on Tuesday had the pleasure of hearing a program presented by local people that was varied and most entertaining in every way. The program was arranged by Robert Walling, the sports expert of the club.

Coach Fred A. Rother of the Plattsmouth high school, who has since 1923 served as the head of the athletic department, was introduced and gave a short talk on athletics, relating many of the interesting facts of the modern trend of sports, also incidents of his work as a member of the local high school faculty and in handling the football, basketball and track teams of the high school.

A much enjoyed part of the program was that given by two of the charming young ladies of the high school, Miss Emily Lorenz with two piano numbers as well as Miss Mary Anna Rosencrans in two vocal selections. Miss Lorenz serving as the accompanist.

A beautiful card at Christmas time carries the message of friendship and good will. Make it more personal by having your name printed or engraved on it. The Bates Book & Gift Shop affords a wide array of hand-some designs to select from.

Tri-County Poultry Show to be Held Here

One of the Largest Events of Its Kind in the State to Be Held December 8th to 11th.

In a few brief weeks the Tri-County poultry show, one of the largest exhibitions of chickens and pet stock that is held in the state of Nebraska, will be held at the American Legion building in this city.

The dates of the big poultry and pet stock show is December 8th to 11th inclusive.

The Tri-County show has been held in this city for the past three years, each year being a wonderful showing of the fine pure bred poultry of the counties of Cass, Sarpy and Saunders as well as many entries from the every strain of poultry that is known, every strain of poultry that is known.

The officers of the association for 1931 are as follows:

President—Frank McCamley, Springfield.

Vice-president—R. G. Kiser, Mynard.

Secretary-Treasurer—D. D. Waldscott, Weeping Water.

Members of the show will be J. W. Reed, Papillon, E. N. Houser, Wahoo, and George Martin, Ashland.

The superintendents of the show will be J. W. Reed, Papillon, E. N. Houser, Wahoo, and George Martin, Ashland.

The spacious Legion building will be filled with the aristocrats of the poultry line for the four days of the show and whether you are a fancier of poultry or not it is a great treat to see the wonderful strides that have been made in eastern Nebraska in their poultry in the past few years.

In addition to the pure bred chickens there are also exhibitions of the various strains of ducks, geese, pigeons and rabbits shown.

The Cass county poultry raisers should have large exhibitions at the show this year as this is probably the last year that this city will have the show for some time as it has been alternated among the towns of Cass, Saunders and Sarpy counties, where suitable buildings and support could be secured for the show.

Woman's Club Enjoys Dramatic Club Offering

From Tuesday's Daily

Last evening the Plattsmouth Woman's club held a very interesting meeting at the auditorium of the public library, the meeting being largely devoted to the dramatic offerings of the Central High School Dramatic club of Omaha.

The business session was preceded by the Better English class of which Miss Pearl Stahls is leader, great treat the routine business of the club being taken up by Mrs. James T. Begley, the president.

The program of the evening was under the leadership of Mrs. Bert Coleman while the roll call was on "Thanksgiving Thoughts."

The club members joined in the singing of the Nebraska club song as the musical portion of the program.

The Central High School Dramatic club, under the direction of Mr. Gene Thompson, head of the dramatic department of the school, gave two very interesting and well presented plays, the young people that comprised the cast acquitting themselves splendidly. In the cast was William Metzger, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Metzger, former prominent residents of Cass county.

Mrs. William Baird gave a review of "A White Bird Flying," the latest book of Mrs. Bess Streeter Aldrich, of Elmwood, one of the best sellers of the current year. Mrs. Baird presented a very fine review of this popular work which was followed with the greatest interest by the members of the club.

The high school girls who were present as guests of the club were Catherine Terryberry and Dorothy Farmer.

The hostesses were Mrs. A. H. Duxbury, Mrs. Emmons Ptak, Mrs. R. J. Larson, Miss Amella Martens and Miss Lillian G. White.

TAKEN TO HOSPITAL

From Wednesday's Daily

Last evening Mrs. S. A. Wiles, residing south of this city, was taken to Omaha where she was placed in the Nicholas Senn hospital. Mrs. Wiles, who has been rather poorly of late, will be given treatment and observation at the hospital to determine whether or not an operation is necessary.

Christmas cards for every purse at the Bates Book & Gift Shop. Make your selections early.