

# The Plattsmouth Journal.

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NO. 39

## W. A. Robertson Made Member of the Grand Lodge

Prominent Local Mason Selected as Grand Junior Deacon by the Newly Elected Master.

William A. Robertson, prominent local Mason and one of the leaders of the legal profession in this section of Nebraska, was named Thursday afternoon as one of the members of the grand lodge of the A. F. & A. M. of the state of Nebraska. The announcement of the appointment was made by Edwin B. Johnson, of Grand Island, newly elected worshipful master.

A number of the offices of the grand lodge had been made vacant by death and when William C. Ramsey of Omaha, a former Plattsmouth resident, was advanced in rank, Mr. Robertson was selected for the position of Mr. Ramsey, that of grand junior deacon.

In the advancement of the members of the grand lodge this will bring to Mr. Robertson the office of worshipful master within six years at least.

Mr. Robertson has been an untiring worker in the Masonic circles of the state and in the lodge here as well as in the Royal Arch Masons and Knights Templar, he has held all of the positions of honor and leadership, proving a most capable leader. At the present time he is a member of the board of control of the Nebraska Masonic Home. He is a son of James M. Robertson, long one of the outstanding figures in Nebraska Masonry and who has served as grand high priest of the R. A. M. and grand commander of the Knights Templar of the state.

The appointment comes as the source of great pleasure to the Plattsmouth Masonry as there has been no member of the grand lodge officers from this city since the retirement of Hon. Francis E. White as grand secretary of the order. Daniel H. Wheeler was the only member of the Plattsmouth lodge to attain the position of master and this was in the early seventies.

### TO CUT WEEDS

It is proposed by the directors of the Associated Charities that a number of the men who are being assisted by this organization as well as others willing, be joined in a force to cut the weeds in different parts of the city this summer. The park board of the city as well as the city departments are not in a position to spend a great deal in this work, although it is badly needed and accordingly the volunteer labor will be asked.

The four received through the Red Cross and government aid, is on hand and will be distributed as needed to those in want. It is expected that the carload received will last through the summer season and that in the fall additional supplies will be received and distributed among the needy of the county.

### BEGINS LAW PRACTICE

Marshall Pitzer, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pitzer, who was one of the graduates of the class of 1932 of the University of Nebraska, is now engaged in the practice of law. Mr. Pitzer is associated with his father, W. H. Pitzer, well known Nebraska City attorney. The law firm has offices in the Building & Loan building, 115 South 8th street, Nebraska City. Mr. Pitzer is well known to many of the Plattsmouth people as he has visited here often and they will be pleased to learn that the young attorney is making his start in the legal profession in such excellent conditions.

### MARRIED AT COURT HOUSE

From Friday's Daily  
This morning at the court house occurred the marriage of Miss Geraldine Gerber and Hillyer Riehm, both of Council Bluffs, Iowa. The wedding ceremony was performed by Judge A. H. Duxbury in his usual impressive manner and who sent the young people happily on their way homeward.

Phone the news to No. 6.

### CASE IS DISMISSED

From Thursday's Daily  
The trial of the case wherein Frank Recek was charged with assault by Mrs. Bertha Recek, his wife, was dismissed in the county court today. The trial of the case was started before a jury composed of D. G. Wurl, George E. Hall, J. A. Pitz, George Born, Alfred Edgerton and Val Burkie. In the testimony of the witnesses it was developed that an error had been made in the date of the alleged assault by the complaining witness. The case was then dismissed on the request of the county attorney.

## Death of John Svoboda, an Old Time Resident

Aged Man Dies Early Today at the Advanced Age of 89 Years—Here in Seventies.

From Friday's Daily  
This morning at 2:30 at the home of Mrs. Rose Bookmeyer, occurred the death of John Svoboda, Sr., one of the long time residents of the city and one of the first Czech residents of the community. For the past few years Mr. Svoboda has suffered from the infirmities of his advanced years and has gradually been failing until death snapped the cord of life.

Mr. Svoboda, who was born in Europe, came here as a young man with his wife and family to make their home, they being among the first of the residents of Bohemia and Moravia to come to this community to make their home and to become a part of the community life. Later other relatives and friends arrived to form the basis of what is now a large part of the population of the city. The new arrival with energy and thrift acquired a home and cleared out a part of the then unsettled section of the city for the homestead and which is still possessed by the family. Mr. Svoboda later engaged in work in the railroad shops for many years and then in the mercantile business for a number of years. In the last few years he has led a retired life and made his home with his daughters, Mrs. Rose Bookmeyer and Mrs. Josephine Janda. The wife preceded him in death some twenty years ago.

John Svoboda was born in Bohemia November 14, 1844, and at the time of his death was aged eighty-eight years, six months and twenty-seven days. Growing to manhood in his native land he was married in the old home to Miss Frances Schorr. The family came to the United States in 1874 and located at Plattsmouth in the late seventies and where they have since resided.

The members of the family circle left to mourn the passing of this fine old gentleman are Mrs. Rose Bookmeyer of this city; Mrs. Mary Koehnke of Hay Springs, Nebraska; Thomas S. Svoboda and Mrs. Josephine Janda of this city. Two sons, John Svoboda, Jr., and Frank Svoboda, have preceded the father in death. There are thirteen grandchildren surviving.

In their sorrow the family will have the sympathy of a large circle of friends who have known and respected the departed in the many years of his life in this community.

### VERY HAPPY EVENT

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Born of this city are enjoying the happiness of being grandparents to a charming little granddaughter, Shirley Ann Bartek, who was born to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bartek at their home in Omaha, on May 24th. The mother and little one are doing very nicely and the event has brought a great deal of pleasure to all of the family circle. Mrs. Bartek was formerly Miss Edna Born.

### MOVING TO CITY

The household furnishings of the Lowell S. Devoe family arrived here Friday and are now being arranged in the residence at Eighth and Marble streets, owned by Don C. York. Mr. Devoe, the new superintendent of the city schools, will remain at Lincoln for some time attending summer school, while Mrs. Devoe is arranging the home.

## Platte River Eats Away Levees at the Sandpits

Raging River Torrent Where Once Lake for Sand Existed—Boats and Dredges Menaced.

The Platte river which has for several days threatened the sand pits of the Lyman Richey Co., northwest of this city, Friday afternoon swept away the last resisting barriers and levees and today the current of the river flows into what was formerly the lake of the sand company and from which the sand and gravel was secured.

Forces of men labored feverishly Thursday and Friday to strengthen the barriers to the river but the banks undermined by the eating current of the stream gave way and the last resistance to the advance of the river gave way.

It was a struggle to save the boats used in the lake and the large dredge which was used in securing the sand and gravel was swept into the raging waters and overturned and for some time as the river current swept into the lake the men that had battled the stream had hard efforts to escape from the scene.

The destruction of the pits will make it necessary to open up new pits for the use of the company and which may be located at a point where the river will not offer the menace. The company has considerable land in the vicinity where the present plant is located, some of which is on the south of the Burlington tracks and which would make the pit safe from the shifting Platte river.

### RAIN BRINGS UP CREEKS

The heavy rain of Wednesday served to bring up the small creeks and streams in the south part of the county. Travelers into this city reported that the Weeping Water creek, usually a placid little watercourse was running bank full a short time after the rain ceased. Those reaching this city from the south report that water was running over the highway near Union from the overflowing of the creek. Nebraska City received one of the heaviest rains in years, the water flowing through the streets and in several cases overflowing the curbs onto the walks and into the cellars of several of the business houses.

### TO PROTECT JAIL

The county commissioners at the request of Sheriff Ed Thimigan, are having the window in the cell section of the county jail repaired. The window is being arranged so that an escape by this means in the future is going to be plenty difficult. Two rows of heavy steel bars are being made for the window and which will be set closely so that there will be little chance of anyone saving the bars or digging them out of the steel plate and concrete in which they will be placed. The added protection has long been urged by the sheriff as a means of making the jail stronger and more likely to hold the hard-boiled prisoners that may be taken.

### DIRECTS SORORITY MUSIC

Miss Hazel Struble, who has taught in the Plattsmouth city schools for the past two years and whose marriage occurs this month, has been selected as director of music for the national Kappa Alpha Theta convention which will be held in Estes Park, Colorado, June 26-July 3rd. Miss Struble, a Kappa Alpha Theta at the University of Nebraska, was a member of the Great Cathedral A Cappella choir while attending the university. Miss Struble is now at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Struble at Fremont.

### CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank the members of the Plattsmouth fire department, the neighbors and friends who assisted so kindly in saving our home from destruction by fire and in the assistance given to us at the time that our barn was struck by lightning.—Mr. and Mrs. Julius Hall and Family.

### IS SHOWING IMPROVEMENT

Julius Hall and Albert Snodgrass, the two victims of the lightning storm of Wednesday, are both improving, although still suffering some from the effects of the shock that they have undergone. Both Mr. Hall and the youth were unconscious for several hours after the barn in which they were working was struck by lightning. It was feared for some time after they had been taken from the barn which was in flames that their injuries might be more serious than at first thought, but they now seem to be rallying in excellent shape from the experience.

## Plattsmouth Lady Graduates from Illinois

Miss Jessie M. Robertson to Receive Bachelor of Science in Library Science.

Urbana-Champaign, Ill., June 10.—Their undergraduate work finished, approximately 2,300 seniors will receive their diplomas from the University of Illinois this year. The 61st annual commencement from the Urbana-Champaign departments will be held here Monday.

Of the 2,300 about 400 were graduated Friday from the university's professional schools, the College of Medicine, the College of Dentistry, and the School of Pharmacy, in Chicago.

The list of Illini graduates includes one from Plattsmouth, Miss Jessie Margaret McIntosh Robertson, who receives a bachelor of Science degree in library science.

For the first time Illini graduates will receive an 8 1/2 x 11-inch diploma, which have superseded the larger one given in the past. The new diploma has been printed on a genuine sheepskin parchment and will be handed the graduates in a dark blue folder, with orange moire lining.

Although only slightly smaller than last year's graduating group, the largest ever graduated by the University of Illinois, the senior class has watched the University pass through a trying year. In view of the economic situation the University is finishing the year with a saving of approximately \$500,000 of its appropriation. A larger saving by the University is planned for next year.

### SPONSORS BALL TEAM

The "Valley Oilers" is the title of a new ball team formed this season and composed of high school students who are finding the great national sport a pleasing way of helping pass the summer vacation. The team has played a number of games and show great promise in all departments of the game. The team is sponsored by Glen Valley and who will assist them in getting their equipment for the season. The team has as its hurler, Lawrence Rhodes, one of the most promising young pitchers in the city. Others in the team include Ed Vanlandingham, Bill Jensen, Earl Lambertson, Clifton Clark, Ed Kalina, Wladak Chovanec and David Taylor.

### RECOVER STOLEN CAR

Two years ago Frank Gradoville of this city, who was then teaching at Schuyler, had his auto, a new car, stolen from him while he was visiting at Omaha. Friday a notice was received here by Charles Gradoville, father of the young man, that a car whose engine bore the numbers of the Gradoville car, had been found at North Bend and the man in possession being held. The auto theft department of the Omaha police have been investigating the case and as the result of their efforts have been able to trace down the car. It seems that the engine with the numbers of the Gradoville car is now placed in a coupe while the car which Mr. Gradoville had stolen was a coach. Frank Gradoville, owner of the car, is now engaged in teaching in the Philippine Islands.

The Journal will appreciate your phoning in news items. Call No. 6. Thanks!

## Wm. Stewart Dies at Home in Missouri

Deceased Well Known in This City—Associated with Late Judge Newell in Stone Business

From Thursday's Daily  
Last evening at his home in Amazonia, Missouri, occurred the death of William M. Stewart, 68, who was well known in this community, having for many years been associated with his father-in-law, the late Judge W. H. Newell, in the stone and gravel business.

The deceased was a resident for several years in the west part of Nebraska, later locating at Wymore and entering the stone business located at Amazonia, Missouri, where the large quarries were maintained by the company with which he was associated.

For some time Mr. Stewart has been in failing health, but it was not until the last few days that his condition grew serious and culminated in his death.

Mr. Stewart is survived by the widow, as well as two daughters, Mrs. S. T. Jackson of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Mrs. Raymond Pollard of Clark, Missouri.

The body will be brought to this city from Missouri and is expected to arrive here some time late Saturday afternoon. A short prayer service will be held at the cemetery by Rev. H. G. McClusky, pastor of the First Presbyterian church.

### TAKE A WILD RIDE

A party of Omaha residents, consisting of two men and a woman and little child, all contained in the confines of a Ford coupe, made things lively in the main section of the city late Friday night. The men of the party were decidedly the worst for the effects of liquor and the car bore evidence of having had a collision, as both the front and rear fenders of the car were mashed and from the scraped paint it was evident that the smashup had been recent.

The car was noticed by Officers Pickrel and Stewart and the erratic course that it was taking down the main street of the business section caused the officers to follow the car. It was finally overhauled on lower Main street and the parties placed under arrest. At one time the driver of the car had driven up on the sidewalk in making an intersection turn and that traffic was light was the only thing that prevented more serious damage.

The two men in the party were able however to throw away their liquid supply before they were overhauled by the car containing the officers.

The men gave the names of William Moody and Lund Exleden, the woman taken with the party claiming to be a sister of Exleden. The men were taken to the city jail and locked up while the woman and child were allowed to go to a hotel for the night.

In the hearing this morning before Judge Charles L. Graves, Exleden was given a fine of \$25 for driving while intoxicated and \$10 for intoxication, while Moody was given a fine of \$10 for intoxication. The men were held pending their securing the necessary funds to liquidate the fine and costs.

### GOES TO BLACK HILLS

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Lillie and son depart Sunday for an auto trip through the Black Hills of South Dakota and expect to enjoy a week at the various places of interest in that section of the west. They will visit the various cities of the Hills, including Spearfish, Deadwood, Rapid City, Belle Fourche, while on the trip and incidently Mr. Lillie expects to do some plain and fancy fishing in the trout streams of the Hills.

### START EQUITY TERM

From Friday's Daily  
Judge James T. Begley will call the docket for the June term of the district court on Monday morning at 10 o'clock. The June term will be devoted to the hearing of equity cases by the court.

### RETURN FROM COLORADO

From Thursday's Daily  
Last evening Mrs. Bert Reed and son, Pat, and daughter, Miss Eula, and Miss Ona Graves, returned home from a visit of several weeks at Fort Morgan and Denver, Colorado. Mrs. Reed was called to Fort Morgan by the illness of her sister, Mrs. Alice Waltz, former resident of near Elmwood, she remaining there until Mrs. Waltz had shown some improvement in health. The party left Denver Wednesday morning at 7 o'clock and arrived in this city at 6:30 last evening, having a fine trip and the roads in excellent shape for travel.

## Louisville Boy Scouts to Have a Fine Cabin

Cement Block Structure Being Completed at Campsite Along the Platte—Cost is Small.

Louisville Boy Scouts—thanks to the untiring efforts of their scoutmaster, Rev. Robert D. Murphree, ably assisted by parents of the Scouts and others interested in their welfare—are soon to be able to enjoy the advantages of a substantial cabin on their campsite located along the banks of the Platte river a mile west of Louisville.

Blocks for the structure were purchased and a part of the work completed last fall, while the laying of the remaining portion of the walls is the chief order of business at the camp this week. The roof is all that remains to complete the job, although a little later a cement floor will be added. The structure is of ample size and contains large windows on all sides to insure ventilation.

Rev. Murphree brought the blocks from the factory in Omaha, where they were purchased at a real low price, to the building site in his auto, trailer used to transport the Scouts on his numerous lengthy camping trips over the country, thereby saving the cost of freight and drayage, and although it required numerous trips, his interest in Scouting prompted him to do this and many other things for the enjoyment of his troop, numbering nearly two score of Louisville boys.

The troop was encamped at the grounds the early part of the week, preparatory to a general clean-up of the premises and some of the older Scouts were also able to aid in the construction work, while experienced brick masons gave time to the laying of the walls.

May Abandon 1932 Trip  
Rev. Murphree, whose trip through the south in 1930 and to the Black Hills last year, gave the boys of his troop a pretty general knowledge of the U. S., had planned an elaborate trip this year, to include a tour of Yellowstone park. But Old Man Depression stepped into the picture, the cement plant close down leaving the fathers of some of the Scouts out of work, and now it is quite probable the trip will be abandoned.

However, Louisville Scout troop will not be deprived of its annual outing and camping trip, although it will be of shorter duration and spent closer to home. Rev. Murphree has several prospective Nebraska sites in view and will see that "his boys" enjoy the best kind of an outing times will permit, filled with all the pleasures that are dear to the hearts of these modern "Tom Sawyers."

### PAPPJO AGAIN OVERFLOWS

The heavy rain of Thursday afternoon again set the Pappjo creek out of its banks and in the vicinity of Fort Crook and north of La Platte the stream was of river proportions. The water was flowing over the railroad bridges south of Fort Crook to the depth of several feet for hours. The trains on the Missouri Pacific had difficulty in getting through last night as the water was running over the bridge and track. The farms along the creek were covered with the overflowing waters of the stream and hundreds of acres were converted into a sea of water, along the entire course of the stream from west Douglas county to the mouth of the stream near La Platte. This is the second large overflow of the creek and which has done much damage to the growing crops.

## Birthday of National Emblem is Near at Hand

Tuesday, June 14th Will Be Observed Over Nation as "Flag Day."

On next Tuesday, June 14th, will be observed the anniversary of the adoption of the American flag in the present form by the continental congress of the American colonies.

The congress on June 14, 1777, adopted a flag of red, white and blue, the flag to have thirteen stripes of red and white and thirteen stars in the field of blue, which continued to be the form of the flag until in 1795 when the form was changed to fifteen stripes on account of the admission of two additional states to the union.

The admission of other states in the early portion of the nineteenth century and the prospects of many more being added to the union, made necessary the provisions to care for the future and the flag was again made one of the thirteen stripes and the provision made that as each state was admitted to the union, a star should be added to the field in the upper corner of the flag and which has been followed since that time, today the flag carrying the forty-eight stars of the states.

The American flag is the oldest of the flags of the nations and it has waved over the scenes of great conflicts and seen the passing of many flags of other nations. Its stripes of red representing the sacrifices of its defenders, its field of heaven's blue and stars of hope has flown as the outward symbol of freedom and right to the peoples of the world since its adoption.

The greatest observance of honor to the flag in these days of unrest is to strive to see that the principles that this glorious flag represents are kept inviolate as they were when the first message of freedom was given to the world by a nation of freed men.

### HERE FROM MONTANA

From Friday's Daily  
Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Rawls and children, Miss Beatrice and Carlos, arrived in the city last evening from their home at Butte, Montana. They are to enjoy a visit here with Mr. Rawls' parents, Attorney and Mrs. C. A. Rawls as well as with the other relatives and friends. Mr. Rawls has for the past thirteen years been located in Montana and is with one of the large stores at Butte. The many friends are delighted to again have the opportunity of enjoying a visit with the Rawls family after the absence of so many years in the west. The party made the trip from the west by auto, driving Thursday from Scottsbluff to this city.

### NEW MANAGER HERE

R. V. Critchfield, of Glenwood, Iowa, who has taken over the management of the Sinclair oil and service station in this city, has arrived here and is now on the job. Mr. Critchfield has had a great deal of experience in this line of work and is a very clever and courteous gentleman in every way and one who it is a pleasure to meet. Mr. Critchfield is a married man and the family is expecting to move here the coming week and become residents of this fine little home city. The new residents will have a hearty greeting from the people of Plattsmouth and who welcome them to our city to make their future home.

### NEW SON ARRIVES

The many friends here of Mr. and Mrs. George Sedlacek of Omaha, will be delighted to learn that this estimable young couple are now the happy parents of a fine seven pound son and heir. The young man was born at 11:45 Thursday morning at the Immanuel hospital at Omaha, and is doing fine as is the mother. The son has been named Richard Wayne and it is needless to say that George is very proud over the new addition that has come to the family circle.

Phone the news to No. 6.