

# The North Platte Semi-Weekly Tribune.

THIRTY-SECOND YEAR.

NORTH PLATTE, NEB., JANUARY 30, 1917.

No. 5

## JOHN BRATT WRITES OF OLD SIOUX LOOKOUT

### RELATES INCIDENTS OF PIONEER LIFE WITH THIS SAND DUNE AS THE BASE

Sioux Indians Gathered on this Eminence to Watch for the Advancing Emigrant and Freight Wagons Bound Westward.

(The following article written by John Bratt at the request of members of Sioux Lookout chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, was read at a recent meeting of the Chapter, and as it contains much of historical interest, we are glad to publish it.—Editor.)

In compliance with your request for information as to what I know about Sioux Lookout, the adopted name of your Chapter, would say that I regret that I cannot give you its early history.

It is located on the north half of section 23, township 13, Range 29, and is about 800 feet high. Thieving, roving bands of Indians, principally the Sioux, made its crest their rendezvous between the years 1847 and 1889. Here they planned their raids and attacks on the unsuspecting emigrant, freight trains, stage coaches and pony express riders and later on the settlers and cattlemen.

It is claimed that the commanders of many military expeditions, moving east or west of this prominent point, often made use of it to see if the trail along this part of the Platte valley was clear. Captain Ware, of Seventh Iowa Cavalry, in his book entitled, "The Indian War of 1864," refers to Sioux Lookout.

I passed its base in the early part of July, 1868, enroute with our ex trains, totaling 150, on our way to Fourth Company Post, later named Fort Phil Kearney. In 1868 John Burke with his family had built a road ranch on this, known now as the Oregon Trail, about one and one-half miles east of Sioux Lookout. When one day a bunch of Sioux Indians pounced down upon them from this same Sioux Lookout, Mr. and Mrs. Burke barely had time to hitch a team to a wagon, in which all the children were dumped, my wife, Mrs. Bratt, then a little girl, included, the team never breaking a lobe until it ran into Fort Cottonwood, later known as Fort McPherson. The Burkes lost everything they had at the ranch. Bedding, clothing, merchandise, all live stock; all that was saved was the team and the clothes that they had on. The Indians took everything they could and then burned the ranch.

Indian raids became more frequent from this on. Many of them seemed to originate at Sioux Lookout. The government herd of horses and mules attracted their and other Indians' attention frequently.

John Burke, the present manager of the North Platte stockyards, was eight years old when one of these Indian raids occurred and all alone rode up to the Bishop road ranch, some ten miles west of the present state experimental farm, and notified Mr. Bishop and family that the Indians were coming. This courageous feat of John saved the Bishop family, but nothing else. The Bishop family never returned to the ranch, everything was taken or burned.

In 1869 I helped to fill a government bay contract of 3300 tons at McPherson and the Indians raided our outfits several times, same with McDonalds, Burkes and others. In 1869 I bought out the interests of John Waite in the cattle business with Coe & Carter. In 1870, wishing to keep a closer watch on Sioux Lookout, the bottom and the country south of it, I built a camp in the neck of a pocket or short canyon about three quarters of a mile east of Sioux Lookout. Here I kept two fearless cowboys whose duty it was to report any Indians in the vicinity of Sioux Lookout.

Our line riders from the home ranch—now the Turpie ranch—would usually meet the other two men and compare notes. I had cautioned the line riders and our other men never to follow the same trail twice in succession. They disobeyed this order once. The result, William Rix received two Indian bullets through his body. Rix and his partner plugged

the two bullet holes with a torn handkerchief and rode back to the ranch where quick medical attention saved his life. The last letter received from Rix was from Salt Lake where he said he had turned Mormon and was doing well.

With the risk of being considered egotistical, I will state that I have been chased several times when going down from our ranch to Fort McPherson, which we supplied with beef cattle for several years. As a rule the Indians would sweep down from Sioux Lookout. Once I had to swim the North Platte river to save myself.

On these raids the Indians did not have it all their own way, since after them we would often find some dead Indians laid out and tied to upper branches of trees in adjacent canyons. These bodies would later fall to the ground where I and our men would gather up the bleached bones and deposit them in some unmarked grave, believing that humanity to man demanded this, even if an Indian.

Some day I hope to publish my autobiography which goes into more detail of pioneer life, including an account of the last fight with the Sioux Indians in Nebraska in 1878, in which I happened to be first Lieutenant of the North Platte Guards.

JOHN BRATT.  
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## NINETEEN PASSENGER TRAINS WILL PASS EAST TODAY.

The opening of the blockade in Wyoming will make this terminal a scene of activity today, for nineteen passenger trains, belated on account of the blockade, will pass through between the hours of nine this morning and five this evening. These trains should have reached this terminal Saturday, Sunday and yesterday. At eight o'clock this morning sixteen Omaha crews were at this terminal ready to take out the trains in their respective turn of first in first out, and other crews arriving during the day will take out the belated trains arriving late this afternoon.

To dispatch these nineteen trains in eight hours will prove a heavy drain on the motive power, but District Foreman McGraw will be equal to the emergency.

**Will They Do It?**  
The cigar store card games are being pretty well thrashed out. The Tribune has always contended that while these games are a harmless class of gambling, they should be tolerated until the people of the town provide a better place for recreation and amusement. Will the 700 men and women who signed the petition presented to the council each give ten dollars toward building a community recreation hall for the men and boys of North Platte? If they will do this, The Tribune will do its utmost toward raising an equal sum, or a greater sum, from citizens who did not sign the petition—and The Tribune is confident it can carry out its part of the program. If these petitioners are really and sincerely in favor of improving the moral condition of North Platte; if their desire is truly to help the men and boys, they will take up this proposition instantly. No one who is sincere will stand back on account of ten dollars.

The Tribune puts the question to you squarely and honestly.

Mrs. Mary McNamara, of Peoria, Ill., arrived here last evening to visit her son Charles McNamara while enroute home from a visit in western cities.

Mrs. Frank Winslow, of Council Bluffs, formerly of this city, came a few days ago to visit Mrs. William Hupfer and other friends for a week or longer.

**Attention Please.**  
Monthly cost after second year on \$1,000 of old line life:

- Age 20, \$1.31 per month and less.
- Age 25, \$1.58 per month and less.
- Age 35, \$1.93 per month and less.
- Age 45, \$2.74 per month and less.
- Age 50, \$3.36 per month and less.

The above rates are shown after deducting the estimated dividend which is based according to our 1916 dividend schedule. All other ages accordingly. For full particulars phone or call. SEBASTIAN, The Old Line Man, Doolittle Building, North Platte, Nebraska.

## MAYOR EVANS QUOTES THE LAW ON GAMBLING

### UNDER ITS PROVISIONS BOYS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PLAY MABLES.

#### A Strict Enforcement of the Statute Would Rule Out Certain Recreations that is Anything but Harmful.

To the Public:—Gambling, like many other words, has a popular meaning which may vary with times, conditions and localities. The word has an ugly sound. There are few people who care to have the name gambler applied to themselves or their friends.

When a discussion is started as to the card games played in cigar stores for merchandise checks it is always suggested that this is not gambling; the man on the other side will then refer to the statute which provides that any one who plays for anything of value shall be guilty etc., but I have never known the statute which gives the most comprehensive definition of gambling to have been called to the attention of the people of North Platte. This statute was adopted with our criminal code in 1873. It reads as follows:

"Whoever, at any time, plays in any ordinary, tavern, or race field, or in any booth, arbor, outhouse or other erection connected with such tavern, ordinary or race field or at any other public place, at any game whatsoever, except games of athletic exercises, or bets or wagers on the hands or sides of such as do play as aforesaid, shall pay a fine in any sum not exceeding one hundred dollars."

This should dispel any doubt as to whether or not these games come within the law. It includes within its terms marbles or spinning tops as played by boys on the streets, or a game of jack stones, by the girls, in the band stand. A game of checkers in the Y. M. C. A. could be defended only on the possible technicality that such was not in a public place.

Laws of this kind are sometimes made broad in their application so that prosecutions for actual violations will not fall for want of evidence.

Of course the point is, that officers charged with the enforcement of such laws must exercise a rational discretion as to where to draw the line and as to what practices are harmful to the community and of course this discretion is governed by what the people think.

Petitions were presented to the Council asking that "the laws regarding gambling be enforced in the city of North Platte."

It is clear that the word gambling as used in the petition was not intended as in the definition given by the above statute. Then what is the generally accepted idea of gambling in the community. This is to what we must look as a basis of enforcement.

It is generally accepted that these petitions were directed against the cigar store games, and without doubt many signers regard them as gambling and harmful. On the other hand many do not regard them as such. Many of the men who play are the backbone of the city and do not knowingly do anything wrong.

In my judgment it is a question of civic welfare and not of morals. Some places have banished these games; others have not. There is little question but that they will all go in North Platte sooner or later, but for present consideration I desire to call attention to the following reasons why I do not believe such action opportune:

1. These games are not essentially wrong. The men who play them do not so regard them.
2. They are an established institution, and it is hazardous to change existing conditions especially such as have to do so vitally with the social conditions of so many people.
3. A half dozen or more business houses rely on these games as their chief source of revenue. They represent business developed with the approval of the community.
4. Business conditions have not yet become fully adjusted to the abolition of the saloon and the ruling out of another line of enterprise would be precarious to business at this time.

5. The daily population of North Platte contains an unusual number of transients who are without home, club or depot accommodations and who generally patronize these places.

6. The present type of cigar store is a form of club room and a ruling out of the card games would bring a change in arrangements to merely accommodate the counter trade.

7. These club room features are necessary as the men of the town have adopted this style of place as their social gathering place.

8. There is no substitute offered as a place of social gathering. These places have been crowded all winter not only with persons who might want to play cards, but with those who had no other place to go to keep warm or to meet their friends.

9. It would bring about the substitution of clandestine appointments for the orderly place open to public inspection.

Respectfully,  
E. H. EVANS, Mayor.

F. J. DIENEE & CO.  
Real Estate and Insurance  
Come and see us for town lots in different parts of the city. Good investments on easy terms. Houses for sale and rent. We have also good bargains in farms and ranches.  
Cor. Front and Dewey Sts., upstairs.

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

J. E. Sebastian will leave today for Omaha to spend a few days on business.

Miss Clara Roche, of Wood River, is spending a few days with friends in town.

Dr. J. S. Twinn left Saturday afternoon for Omaha on professional business.

Hay 160 acres farm land will give first two years' crop. J. W. McMichael.

Miss Elenore Buechel went to Omaha Saturday afternoon to remain for a few days.

Miss Margaret McGintley, of Paxton, spent the week end with Mrs. Rose Garrison.

The well known story, "The Virginian," will be shown at the Crystal Thursday night.

Miss Esther Hoggett spent last week in Omaha attending grand opera and visiting friends.

Robert Dickey, Jr. is suffering with an infected hand which resulted from the removal of a wart.

W. W. Ristine returned to Gothenburg a few days ago after visiting with Mrs. Ristine for a week.

Attorney J. J. Halligan returned Saturday morning from a visit in the eastern part of the state.

A marriage license was granted Friday afternoon to William F. Stiorius of Gothenburg and Dora B. Morrow of Cozad.

William Bloom, who has lived in Peckham precinct since 1886, died January 19th at the age of seventy-four.

For Sale—Single Comb Buff Orplington Roosters from good laying strain. Mrs. C. J. Bryant, Sutherland, Nebr.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Payne are enjoying a visit from the latter's mother who arrived from Missouri a few days ago.

Mrs. W. E. Owens, who spent several weeks in Laredo, Mo., for the benefit of her health, returned here Friday evening.

Mrs. Frank McFadden, of Paxton, came down the latter part of last week to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Omar Huff for a few days.

Edward Everts, of Brady, who was operated upon recently at a local hospital for pressure of the brain, is slowly improving.

Trainmaster Mulick and Mrs. Mulick returned Saturday afternoon from Omaha where they spent the greater part of last week.

Wanted—Housekeeper, family of four; must be competent and of good character. Home privileges. R. L. Douglas, 207 east Eleventh street, 5-29.

Mrs. Mike McFadden and children, who have been visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. John Herrod for a week, will leave Wednesday.

Mrs. W. T. Berry, of Grand Island, formerly of this city, arrived Saturday afternoon to visit Mrs. Ralph Smith and other friends.

R. V. Emery, secretary of the Great Western Accident Insurance Co., of Omaha, spent the latter part of last week as the guest of Albert Schatz.

Farmers in Vroman precinct report the loss of cattle from the corn stalk disease, among them T. T. Carr, who lost four head.

Seven hunters of Ogalalla killed eighty-seven jack rabbits in less than two hours. One of the hunters had thirteen to his credit.

Miss Katherine Feather, of Ogalalla, visited with her sister Mrs. Edward Weston this week while enroute home from the county superintendents' convention at Omaha.

Mrs. J. J. Halligan who went to Lincoln to attend the wedding of her son, and following the ceremony visited friends in that city and in Omaha, returned home Saturday morning.

"The Bugler of Algiers," with Rupert Julian, showing at the Crystal Wednesday night, is a patriotic story that is admirably transferred to the screen.

## SOCIETY WILL HANG UP \$3,000 IN PURSES

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FAIR ASSOCIATION HOLD MEETING SATURDAY AFTERNOON

#### Make Arrangements for the Fall Races, the Construction of Additional Buildings and the Extension to the Grandstand.

The board of directors of the Lincoln County Agricultural Society held meeting Saturday afternoon at which nearly all of the fifteen members were present. The attendance of the members from the country precincts gave evidence of the interest they are taking in the society and the fair to be held this fall.

The most important questions discussed were the races and the erection of additional buildings. It was the consensus of opinion that if races are to be held, they should be good, and the only way in which good and well filled events can be secured is to become a part of the circuit which it is proposed to form of Buffalo, Dawson and Lincoln counties. In order to form this circuit the directors thought it necessary to hang up \$3,000 in purses. It is believed that in forming this circuit a string of fifty or more harness and saddle horses can be secured, thus insuring mighty good races.

The local association will send representatives to a meeting to be held at Kearney for the purpose of organizing the association. Another question that was discussed at length was the erection of new buildings. An additional horse barn is needed, as is also a hog building, a stable for the racing horses, a poultry house, and a fine art hall. Probably not all these can be erected this summer, but part of them will be constructed. An extension to the grandstand and also the bleachers must be made in order to accommodate the crowds. The amounts subscribed for stock in the association will be used in constructing buildings.

Other minor matters were discussed by the directors.

**Stock and Dairy Farm for Sale.**  
640 acres located 7 miles north of Maxwell, well and windmill, 3 miles of fencing, 65 acres in cultivation, balance hay and pasture. Price six dollars per acre. Terms \$1500.00 cash and balance on easy terms, six per cent interest. There is a big bargain in this property.

**BUCHANAN & PATTERSON, Agents.**

Chas. Whelan yesterday closed his billiard room on Front street and has stored the furnishings. The business just about broke even and under these conditions Mr. Whelan did not care to longer conduct the place. He will continue his soft drink business in the west room. It is understood that by a shifting of the tenants of the Keith block the room will soon be occupied.

It is now the proper thing when you pass Dave Day on the streets to give him the military salute, for let it be known fra and wide that Dave has been appointed a colonel on the staff of Governor Neville. The honor has been well bestowed, for Colonel Day comes from fighting stock, and then, too, consider his rugged, commanding figure when arrayed in that \$200 gold-buttoned, gold-braided uniform.

**Do Without**  
One cigar per day and buy \$1,000 Old Line Life Insurance of the SEBASTIAN AGENCY on the MONTHLY PAY PLAN for your FAMILY or ESTATE.

## F. E. Bullard Soon to Leave.

F. E. Bullard, who has been with the Union Pacific in one capacity or another since 1882, will resign within the next thirty days and take up a residence on his fruit farm near Willow Springs, Mo. This is a tract of 120 acres, on which are 1200 apple trees, six or eight acres of peach trees and patches of blackberries and strawberries. Mr. Bullard, expects, however, to devote his time to the poultry business, and Arthur and Millie will handle the fruit.

Mr. Bullard first came to North Platte in 1874 and for seven years was rector of the Episcopal church. He resigned to become superintendent of the schools, but experiencing ill health was compelled to relinquish that position. In the fall of 1882 he accepted the position of chief clerk to Supt. W. A. Deuel, and served in that capacity through succeeding superintendents and assistant superintendents, until about eight years ago he was appointed station agent, which position he is about now to resign and go on the pension list.

**Snow Blockade Closed.**  
After fighting drifting snow in Wyoming for three or four days, and during the greater part of which time traffic was completely tied up, the blockade was cleared Sunday evening. The greatest trouble was experienced in the vicinity of Rock River, and between that point and Hanna. The blockade began Tuesday, but Thursday the road was opened and trains were gotten through. The following day, however, the wind blew a gale, the snow drifted, and the cuts were again filled. This condition continued until Sunday, when there was a cessation of the drifting snow and the half dozen or more snow plows and the army of shovelers succeeded in clearing the track. More than twenty passenger trains some of which left Chicago Tuesday, were held at Laramie and Cheyenne.

West bound freight traffic was held up in the local yards and Saturday evening the total number of west bound cars at this terminal numbered over 800. These began moving out Sunday night.

President Calvin, General Manager Jeffers and Genl. Supt. Stenger were at the scene of the blockade, which is pronounced to have been the most serious the Union Pacific has ever experienced.

**Buttons Arrive.**  
Buttons advertising North Platte semi-centennial celebration were received yesterday by Secretary Mooncey. They are very unique and appropriate, containing the picture of a buffalo, surrounded by the words, "Semi-Centennial Celebration, 1867-1917, June 26 to 30, North Platte, Neb."

There are two sizes of the buttons, the large one selling for 50 cents and the smaller for 25 cents. The money derived from the sale will be covered into the celebration expense fund.

**NURSE BROWN MEMORIAL HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL**  
The life of this institution comes through the successful use of the true and tried Homeopathic remedy; nothing healing more quickly, more easily, more permanently.

Here is a hospital that is making itself known by good results in Major and Minor Surgery, and which is the Home of Orifical Surgery with accomplishments that no other system can dare challenge in the treatment of acute and chronic diseases.

1008 West 4th St. North Platte, Neb.  
John S. Twinn, M. D.


## Gas Is Increasing In Price Fast

**MOTOR AGE SAYS FORD WILL SOON PLACE A KEROSENE CARBURATOR ON THE MARKET FOR FORDS, WHICH WILL MAKE ANOTHER SAVING TO FORD OWNERS.**

Order a Ford for Spring delivery today. The lowest priced dependable Motor Car on the market with the least cost for service to the owner. Cars of other makes have increased an average of \$87. **Ford Reduced his price \$80.** Also cost of repairs. Tires for other cars have increased in price 15 to 20 per cent; **Ford Tires only 10 to 12 per cent.**

**FORD TOURING CAR NOW \$395.05 AT NORTH PLATTE**

**HENDY-OGIER AUTO CO.,**  
Cor. Fourth & Dewey. North Platte, Neb.



## Preparedness for You

Preparedness should be Universal for the people of Lincoln County in the matter of personal, material welfare.

Regardless of the amount of your earnings, wise savings and true economy are essential and the McDonald State Bank offers you the best conservative plan.

When you receive your money is the exact time to deduct a portion for your savings account. Do this. \$1.00 starts an account.

**McDONALD STATE BANK**  
NORTH PLATTE, NEBR.

Fresh Cow.  
Fresh young milk cow for sale. Howard ranch Phone 790F31.