

# The Plattsmouth Journal.

SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION—EIGHT PAGES

VOLUME XXX

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY FEBRUARY 9, 1911

NO 12

## A MYSTERY OF THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO THAT WAS NEVER SOLVED

Miss Vance Barnes, a Popular Young Lady in Church Circles  
Leaves the Church on Sunday at Noon, and Her Body Found  
Floating in the Missouri River Several Days Later.

In talking over the history of this city with one of the pioneers of this locality, a Journal representative recently heard recounted the mysterious tragedy of thirty-five years ago, in which Miss Vance Barnes lost her life. This young lady, who at the time was about 17 years of age, was very popular among a large circle of young people, was prominent in church and Sunday school work, being the organist for the Sunday school of which she was an active worker. On a Sunday morning in July, she left her home for the church, leaving her watch and jewelry in her room, went to Sunday school as usual, took her seat at the organ playing with her accustomed ease throughout the Sunday school, and greeted her associates as usual, remained for church, and that was the last that her friends and companions saw of her alive.

Her failure to return home at the noon day meal did not alarm her step-mother, and it appears that her father, Mr. Barnes, was out of the city that day. When she did not return after the evening service her step-mother began to make inquiry as to her whereabouts.

There were no telephones then and communication from one part of the little town to the other was slow. No trace of the missing girl could be found that night. And during the

night a heavy thunder and rain storm broke over the town and the rain came down in torrents, but cleared about midnight. In the search the next day it was found that Vance had called at one of the few houses on Winterstine Hill during the afternoon and asked for a drink of water, and had left that house traveling in an eastern direction.

A party of searchers found tracks of a woman's shoe which had been made in the soft earth after the rain. Following this track some distance down the steep bank toward the river they came upon the young lady's hat and soon picked up her parasol. The track was followed to the edge of the water, and there was her track plainly visible in the soft mud, where it appeared she had stepped into a boat. The searchers then returned to the city. No one knew of a mysterious young man who might have rowed the young lady away, and no motive could be discovered for self destruction, as some thought the case to be. For three days the absence of any further proof, than that recited shrouded the disappearance of Vance Barnes in mystery. After a few days the body of the young woman was found floating near old Kanosha.

The only motive ever revealed for the young lady's suicide was an altercation of words with her step-mother the Sunday morning of her disappearance.

**Dies In Iowa.**  
Mrs. Louie Dose departed this afternoon for Mineola, Iowa, where she was called by the death of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Fred Hammer, whose death occurred yesterday. Mrs. Hammer was 70 years of age, and died from the effects of an attack of grip. The deceased was quite well known to many Plattsmouth people, having visited here at different times in the past.

## BANNING KNOCKED OUT BARTOS' LITTLE SCHEME

The Herald rises to congratulate Senator Banning on his successful opposition to the increase of pay of senate employes. The Herald is on the senate pay roll but we never endorsed the proposed increase. Had it gone through we would have accepted the increase, of course, without a protest, but the extra dollar a day would never have proven a soothing balm to our guilty conscience. To have refused the increase would have elicited a storm of hisses and hoots, and the cry of "grand stand" would be shouted vociferously on all sides. Thus you see how difficult it is these days of capitalism, of graft and greed, and struggle for existence, how difficult it is for a man to be decent—to be his real self. Of course, there are plenty of bung holes and leakages where the tax payers' money will get away, but that does not make this job right, and honest injun, down deep in our kizzard of gizzards, we are glad the salary grab was knocked in the head. Again we congratulate Senator Banning.—Lincoln Herald.

## A SURPRISE ON HIS THIRTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. C. Roberts was most agreeably surprised when a number of neighbors and friends gathered at his home Saturday evening to assist him in celebrating his thirty-ninth birthday anniversary. When the neighbors and friends came in on Mr. Roberts, he was completely surprised, but soon recovered and assisted the guests in celebrating the event in the proper manner. The time was very pleasantly spent with cards, social conversation and the like, which made the hours pass by all too rapidly. The guests had come well armed with baskets filled with many good things to eat and during the evening this was spread and all participated in a delicious luncheon. At a late hour and after having wished Mr. Roberts many more such happy birthday anniversaries, the guests departed for their homes.

Those in attendance were Messrs. and Mesdames Ben Hyde, Robert Brissey, George Lamphear, D. Roberts; Mr. Charles Lamphear, of Omaha, and Mr. William Lamphear, of Maxwell, Nebraska.

**Moves to Manly.**  
Harry Wiles, who for the past few years has been farming near Mynard, was in the city last Saturday to renew for his paper, and at the same time changing his address to Wabash. Mr. Wiles and his brother, who has been farming near Weeping Water, are both going to move in the near future, having rented a half section of land from F. H. Stander, near Manly. Harry will move to the new home this week, but his brother Will does not move for about a month. Both young men are excellent farmers and will prove good renters for Mr. Stander.

**This Is True.**  
The place that gives a man his living is entitled to his best efforts to advance everything calculated to benefit the place and the community. No man has a right to live in a town who seeks to enrich himself and not actively identify himself with its interests. To be classed as a drone or chronic kicker and opposed to every measure believed to be for the good of the citizens is a stigma that should attach to no man in the corporation.—Louisville Courier.

**School Board Holds Meeting.**  
At a meeting of the Plattsmouth school board last evening it was decided that no spring vacation would be had, which will save some time, and close the school this year on May 26. The regular sermon to graduates will be delivered Sunday evening May 21, and the graduating exercises will be held on Thursday, May 25. The class play will be left in the hands of Superintendent Abbott.

## RED MEN'S BALL A BIG SUCCESS

One of the Swiftest Functions  
of the Season and Large Number  
Are Present.

The grand masque ball given by the Red Men Saturday evening at Coates' hall proved to be the swiftest function of the season, and was a great success both socially and financially. A large attendance graced the occasion and mirth and jollity reigned supreme.

Not a hitch nor ruffle of any sort came to the surface, each and every Indian knew his place and knew how to reflect credit on his tribe, and re-true the long standing remark that "the good Indian is a dead one." There were plenty of good Indians in evidence Saturday evening and not a dead one among them.

One feature of the ball which excited more favorable remarks than any other was the thunder waltz, accompanied by flashes of lightning and rolls of thunder, which were most realistic, and caused the Red Men and Red Women to think they were in the primeval forest in the midst of a fierce storm. At times the music was dimly heard above the roll of the thunder, and the effect bordered on the sublime.

The organization which went far toward making the ball a success was the M. W. A. orchestra, which furnished the music, and the quality of the music was superior to the out of town orchestra which has hitherto played for the Red Men's hops. The music Saturday evening was very excellent and was much appreciated by the lovers of the dance.

There were six prizes awarded, and the committee whose duty it was to place the prizes found difficulty in making a choice so well had the make-up artist for the different waltzers performed their part.

For fancy costumes among the ladies, Miss Saunders, of Cedar Creek, wearing white covered with gold stars, won first prize, and Miss Ella Neuman, of Plattsmouth, as Columbia, dressed in the national colors, got second. Among the men Mr. Charles Green took the first place dressed as Uncle Sam; second prize being won by George Kaffenberger. In the novelty class Mrs. Charles Green won first place as Indian squaw; second place being assigned to Eddie Vallery, as a clown.

## DEATH OF MRS JANE FOSTER AT UNION, SATURDAY

Mrs. Jane Foster, an aged aunt of County Superintendent Mary Foster, died at Union Saturday morning after an illness of some three months, following a stroke of paralysis. Being in her 83rd year.

Jane Sober was born at Painesville, Ohio, July 21, 1828, and came to Council Bluffs, Iowa, something over forty years ago. After coming to Iowa, she met and married her husband, Mr. Nathan D. Foster, who still survives her, and who is in his 83rd year.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster resided in Council Bluffs for a year or more, before they settled on a farm near Dunbar in Otoe county, where they resided for some years. Twenty years ago they removed to a farm near Union, but to the Otoe side of the line, residing there for ten years, when they removed to Union, where they have resided since.

She was a consistent member of the Christian church. She leaves no immediate blood relatives surviving, but is survived by one step-daughter, Mrs. G. P. Barton, of Union.

The funeral occurred Sunday at the late residence of the deceased, and was conducted by Rev. W. A. Taylor, interment being made at the cemetery near Union.

**Granite Has Arrived.**  
Three carloads of Vermont granite arrived yesterday morning over the M. P. from the east, and is being unloaded by H. C. McMaken & Son.

Another car is expected, which will complete the shipment. The building now will no doubt be rushed to completion, and nothing but inclement weather will delay the construction of the new building.

Mrs. H. J. Streight suffered from an attack of grip last evening and was quite sick during the night.

## FUNERAL OF THE LATE SAMUEL RUSSELL SUNDAY

From Monday's Daily.

The funeral of the late Samuel S. Russell, of Mills county, Iowa, occurred yesterday, and notwithstanding the stormy day, the Baptist church, where Mr. Russell had been a member for the past forty years, was filled with friends, neighbors and

tributes was a wreath from the Burlington men on the repair track. The pall bearers were selected from among the grandchildren of the deceased and were: Walter Gouchenour, Sam Gouchenour, Harry Gouchenour, William Mendenhall, Walter Mendenhall and Clarence Russell.

Interment was made at Martin's chapel cemetery. Mr. Russell with four of his succeeding generations are represented in the accompanying



The Late Samuel S. Russell and Four Generations of Descendants!

mourning relatives of the deceased. The service was conducted by the pastor of the Friends' society, who referred in a touching way to the long and useful career of the deceased, commending his many noble traits of character.

The music was furnished by Mrs. Laura Lincoln and children, and consisted of a few of the favorite hymns of the deceased.

Among the many beautiful floral

**Card of Thanks.**  
To those neighbors and friends who have so kindly tendered assistance and sympathy during the sickness and death of our beloved father, and especially the Burlington boys on the repair track, who sent a beautiful wreath of flowers to be laid on the casket of our beloved dead, we return our sincerest gratitude.  
S. S. Russell's Sons, Daughters and Families.

## THE DEATH OF BISHOP BONACUM

Pneumonia and Bright's Disease  
the Cause of the Bishop's  
Demise.

Right Reverend Thomas Bonacum, bishop of the diocese of Lincoln, died at the bishop's mansion, near Lincoln at noon Saturday. Death was caused by pneumonia and Bright's disease with which the prelate had suffered for several months past. Pneumonia set in about four days ago and he has gradually failed since that time.

The bishop's life was despaired of late Friday afternoon, but he rallied somewhat until early yesterday morning when he sank into a stupor from which he failed to emerge.

Bishop Bonacum has been in charge of the diocese in Lincoln for the past twenty years, coming to Nebraska from St. Louis. During his ministrations the diocese has grown in a remarkable manner, a number of churches having been added and several new ones erected and large additions having been added to the congregations.

One of the great monuments to the work of the prelate is the building of St. Thomas' orphanage on the outskirts of Lincoln, near the bishop's residence, a building which was built by almost superhuman efforts of the bishop, practically unaided.

Bishop Bonacum was sixty-five years of age, and up to a few weeks ago was considered to be in the best of health. He attended to a vast amount of work each day and it is probably due to this overtaxation that his physical powers were unable to withstand the onslaughts of the disease.

Instead of being buried in Cavalry cemetery, the usual resting place for the dead of the Catholic faith, the body of the late Bishop Thomas Bonacum will probably be interred near St. Thomas orphanage. This structure was erected largely through the energy of the prelate and is a monument to his efforts.

His successor will be selected by the pope from the names of three members of the cloth to be submitted at a meeting of the bishops of the archdiocese in which Lincoln is situated.

The funeral will be held on Thursday at ten o'clock from St. Theresa's pro-cathedral in Lincoln.

Mrs. W. H. Seybert who was operated on last Wednesday morning is doing nicely and is recovering her normal condition. The stitches will be removed from the wound within a few days.

## MEETING OF THE PLATTS- MOUTH TELEPHONE COMPANY

From Tuesday's Daily  
The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Plattsmouth Telephone company convened last night at the company's office in this city. The meeting was attended by all of the interested stockholders, who had come down to the meeting for the purpose of having matters concerning the sale of their stock settled if possible and the remaining stockholders expected to elect officers as usual.

But on account of the injunction suit in the courts not being finally settled it was decided not to transact business at this time, and the meeting was postponed to March 20, with the hope that at that time the suit will be dismissed, and the stockholders who want to sell can get their money out of their stock.

The company will continue to do business as usual and will have the same number of directors as their need shall be, and there will be no change in the company, says Manager Bert Pollock, except that the Plattsmouth Telephone company patrons can get Bell connections, there will be no merger or anything of the kind. And the rates will be the same as now, as the railway commission will control as it does now, so that the public will be protected.

There were many of the stockholders who expected to get their money out of their stock at this meeting went home disappointed, and some of them slightly sore.

## L. C. W. Murray Land Sold.

From Monday's Daily.  
The valuable farm of L. C. W. Murray lying north and west of the village of the same name, was sold at foreclosure sale today for \$73 per acre, Carl Kunsman, of this city, being the purchaser. There were about three bidders, but the bidding was not very spirited, and the land did not sell for as much as the mortgages offered the holder of the equity, before the sale. The land has been farmed a long time, is composed of 188 acres, and although in cultivation for many years, is considered a good farm to own.

## Here When the Market Opened.

Mr. J. P. Tritsch, one of the enterprising stock and poultry growers of Plattsmouth precinct, was in the city this morning before old Sol was visible above the eastern horizon. He had on his arm a basket full of eggs, which he had picked from his henry last evening. When asked why so early in the city, Mr. Tritsch replied that when he had anything to sell he liked to be on hand when the market opened; he had found that it pays to be the first man in.

## PUBLICITY SHOULD BE GIVEN ALL THE LAWS

The Hastings Democrat says: "In the great demand for higher salaries and big appropriations the Nebraska Press association sits modestly, with folded hands. Why not get a bill introduced and passed making it necessary that all public printing be inserted in all the newspapers in the state, at the legal rate. Why not get after a little of this business. Why this modesty?"

Greater publicity should be given to all of the public printing of the state. In no state in the west are the people less informed of what has been done by the state legislature in the passing of laws than in Nebraska. Ignorance of the law is no excuse, but how are the people to be enlightened unless the full text of the laws are printed in the newspapers. Constitutional amendments are doled out to a single newspaper in each county, and no matter whether by a democratic governor or by a republican governor, such information is rarely given the publicity it deserves. We second the recommendation of the Hastings Democrat. There should be a bill introduced in the present session amending the statute regarding the publication of laws, amendments, etc., that all the people of the state may have opportunity of becoming fully posted on all public affairs.—Fremont Herald.

The Journal falls in line with a motion that some energetic member of the legislature introduce a bill to this effect.

## Judge Travis.

The Herald is informed that Judge Travis, of Plattsmouth, will be a candidate this fall for re-election as judge of the Second judicial district consisting of Cass and Otoe counties. The Herald enjoys the honor of being enrolled on Judge Travis' list of friends. We also had the honor of supporting him for the judgeship four years ago. It therefore affords us double pleasure to refer to his clean record on the bench during his present term, which causes us to pause and remark, also, that the man who defeats him for re-election, if such thing be, will know he was in a race when the dust settles down.—Lincoln Herald.

## For Sale.

One span of Belgian coits, coming three years old. Broke, and weigh 1,300 pounds each.  
1-313td&w. Joe Tubbs.

## Bridge Contractors Here.

Glen Smith, the Lincoln Construction company owner, was in the city today to file his bid with the clerk for the contract for next year. Some eight or ten bids were filed this morning with the clerk for the construction of the Cass county bridges. This afternoon the bids were to be opened and inspected. Among the number is R. L. Laughlin, of Harlan, Iowa, F. E. Stevens, from the same place, and P. J. Crummel, of Auburn, Nebraska.

## WILL PROBABLY ADOPT LITTLE SON OF CLAY EDWARDS

From Wednesday's Daily.

Mr. C. Totten, of Wakeeney, Kansas, who has been visiting W. T. Smith and other friends for a short time, departed for Clay Edwards' home across the river this morning, with a view of adopting Mr. Edwards' only son, who is about nine years old. Mr. Edwards has been slowly dying with consumption for some months, and is very low at this time, and it is his wish to have his son, whose mother is dead, go to Mr. and Mrs. Totten and make his home. The little boy is anxious to go, as Mr. and Mrs. Totten have no children, they and the little boy may be mutually benefited.

## Returns Home From Norfolk.

Joseph Cook, residing south of Plattsmouth, was in the city a few hours yesterday afternoon, returning home from Norfolk, where he had been spending a few days with his brother, Phillip Cook and family. Joe says he made the trip partly with a view of looking after some farm property, but the recent snow storm was so severe in that section that it was almost impossible to find a farm. He says there was over a foot of snow fell. Joe reports everybody in that section very prosperous.

## Learn German.

There's a cigar manufactured at Plattsmouth that bears the euphonious name of "Gut Hell." We've always shunted the brand, fearing there might be a typographical error in the spelling.—Havelock Times.

Evidently, our friend of the Times doesn't understand the German language, or he would not have made the above remarks. "Gut Hell" means "Good Cheer," and the cigar is manufactured by Bernard Wurl, a young man who has a faculty of bringing good cheer to all who meet him. See!

Attorney D. O. Dwyer was called to Omaha this afternoon on legal business for a few hours.