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FIRE DESTROYES MANSPEAKER LIVERY BARN AND THREATENS OTHER PROPERTY

The Fire Is One of the Most Destructive That Has Occurred Here for Several Years and It Required Heroic Work on the Part of Firemen and Citizens to Check the Flames.

From Saturday's Daily.

The most disastrous fire the city has had for three years occurred at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, when the livery barn of E. Manspeaker caught fire, destroying almost all of the building, as well as the adjoining barn of Mrs. Dr. Schildknecht. Nine head of horses were cremated, six belonging to Mr. Manspeaker, one to William Jones and a team of spotted driving horses belonging to James Rainey, the Union liveryman.

The barn lost was full of hay, which had just been stowed away shortly before the fire broke out. The fire originated, it is said, in the southeast corner of the barn, and that a boy with a pipe was seen there just before the fire was discovered. Mr. Manspeaker was in the office when the fire started; the door was closed between the office and the barn and he knew nothing of the fire until it was well under way. With the help of Charles Cline, who had just returned from the Burlington station, they cut the horses' halters and got several out of the barn. The hay being so inflammable the fire spread like a flash over that part of the barn where the horses were tied. The team belonging to Mr. Rainey had been left at the barn only a short time before by John Chidester and Ralph Davis, who had driven up from Union expecting to go to Omaha on the Burlington, and learning there was no train in the afternoon at that time, had just returned to the barn. Davis started to get the horses, when a sudden gust of flame struck him, knocking him to the floor; he arose and still saw the team and made another attempt to get to the horses, when he was driven back by the flames.

The clouds of smoke from the burning hay and timbers of the building darkened the street on the north. The wind being south-east saved the lumber yard of F. M. Richey. Notwithstanding the direction of the wind the heat was so intense as to set fire to the roof of the lumber shed, which was only prevented from burning by a force of men and boys with pails and blankets, which were wet with water carried from the Parmele barn.

The fire boys were on hand with the hose carts within a very short time after the alarm sounded. The excitement in the street was intense, but in a remarkable short time the water was playing on the building, but the combustible material within the building and the building being dry as powder itself, the water had little effect on the flames at first. The fire boys did all that could be done to check the flames and rushed the two carts from the central house and procured the cart from West Main street and had three streams of water playing on the flames shortly after the alarm was sounded.

A Clabaugh, manager of the light plant, was confronted with the most dangerous work as an outcome of the fire. The intense heat melted the telephone and electric light wires, so that anyone coming in contact with the end of an electric light wire was liable to receive a shock that would cause instant death. Mr. Clabaugh could not prevail on his men to climb the poles and had to do the stunt himself. He also went in and took out the meters at the barn and at Mrs. Schildknecht's residence. In order to avoid accidents he had to climb the poles and cut the wires and keep the excited people away while the wire was being taken care of. The telephone cable in the alley south of the barn was melted and the wire parted, making work for the company's men. Had it not been for Mr. Clabaugh's caution and bravery it is very probable someone would have been killed.

Mr. Burnie of the water company hurried to a phone and directed Mr. Todd, the engineer at the pump house, to start the pumps and keep the stand-pipe full of water and to remain at the pumps until the fire was out. Mr. Weber was also on the ground as soon as the fire alarm was sounded to see that the hydrants were in shape. Much favorable comment on the strong water pressure was heard from those in position to observe the streams playing on the fire.

The barn of Mrs. Schildknecht was totally destroyed, as well as the bowling alley furniture of Mr. Fox, which was stored in it. For a time the dwelling of Mrs. Schildknecht and her tenant, John Carmack, was threatened and the furniture and some of the fixtures were carried out and placed upon the lawn of C. C. Wescott, across the street, but the timely application of water prevented the dwelling from going up in the flames.

The owners of the property destroyed and the surrounding property owners are under obligations to the fire boys for their heroic efforts which prevented the flames from spreading to other buildings in the immediate neighborhood, and too much credit cannot be given the fire company, as well as the water company for their efficient and timely work, and the citizens of the town are proud of both in this emergency, where no effort was spared on the part of either to check the fire.

The barn occupied by Mr. Manspeaker is the property of William Jones and was insured for \$600. The livery stock was partly insured, but the hay and grain will be a total loss.

This is the second time in the history of the town that that corner has been swept by fire. In the fall of 1883 the ground where the barn stands was the site of a doctor's office and was cleaned up by a fire that totally destroyed the building then standing there.

Fire-Brands.

A large crowd gathered in a very few minutes after the alarm was given.

Fortunately no one was injured during the fire, which is rather miraculous.

Mrs. Schildknecht, being quite old, was nearly prostrated from the excitement and flurry.

The citizens who rushed to the aid of the fire boys deserve a great deal of credit for their work.

It is very fortunate that the fire occurred in the daytime instead of at night and that the wind was very low.

There is one thing about the men of Plattsmouth, they don't stand back when aid is needed in saving life and property.

The excitement was intense for some time, as the conflagration looked pretty squally until the fire was under control.

Much of the furniture carried from the home of Mrs. Schildknecht and John Carmack is broken and in very bad condition from being roughly handled.

A black smoke came up over the buildings on the southeast and it looked as though that entire section of town was doomed to destruction.

It was indeed a narrow escape for E. M. Richey's lumber yard. Heroic work is what saved it, and Mr. Richey feels very thankful to those who worked so manfully to keep the fire from extending.

This fire is no doubt caused from the carelessness of those who have no business smoking around a livery barn.

While the fire was a very serious one, it is very fortunate that the raging flames were succumbed when they were.

Mrs. Schildknecht extends her thanks to those who rendered such valuable assistance in saving her home and household effects. Mr. Carmack desires to extend his thanks also.

It is hard to estimate just exactly the loss. The two barns are a total loss and the household goods of Mrs. Schildknecht and Mr. Carmack were seriously damaged in removing them from the building.

There need be no fear of our fire boys not doing their duty. They were right there as soon as possible and were instrumental in saving property that might have went up in flames had they not been on hand as soon as they were. All hail to our fire laddies.

After the experience of yesterday's disastrous fire it can be truthfully said that Plattsmouth has one of the best volunteer fire companies that can be found in the state, and the citizens of Plattsmouth are sure mighty thankful to them for the heroic work of yesterday.

M. E. Manspeaker takes this method of expressing his sincere thanks to the fire boys and the many citizens who so greatly assisted in extinguishing the fire at his barn yesterday. Mr. Manspeaker says that he is positive that the fire company was on the ground within five minutes after he learned of the fire in the rear of the barn. He had just time to release three of the horses from the barn when the boys arrived upon the scene. He appreciates the work performed, and we are especially requested to extend his thanks to the members of the fire department.

HARD TIMES SOCIAL GIVEN BY THE LOYAL DAUGHTERS

Quite an Unique Entertainment at the Home of Miss Celia Taylor.

From Friday's Daily.

The hard times social given by the Royal Daughters of the Christian Sunday school at the home of Miss Celia Taylor last night, was a great success. The Taylor home was crowded with gay young people dressed in keeping with the occasion. Some of the costumes were of unique design and aged clothing, decorated with numerous varied colored patches, which were much in evidence.

The amusements of the evening consisted of a spelling match, a guessing contest, music and refreshments. In the race for poor clothes Sandy Andrews got the king prize, which was a pocket comb with which to comb his shaggy locks. Miss Trua South drew first prize for poverty-stricken clothes among the ladies, and received a mirror in which to admire herself. A list of twelve conundrums were submitted, six persons guessing the answers to eight, and in cutting for the prize it fell to Eleanor Todd, who was presented with a box of candy; Miss Della Everett guessed two and received a stick of candy as a reward for the gray matter expended.

The hard scrabble quartet rendered numerous vocal selections, like "When You and I Were Young, Maggie," "Dan Tucker" and "Oh, Hard Times Come Again No More."

A two-course lunch was served, concerning which we are not to mention the "molasses" which was used to sweeten the coffee. In the spelling match Jennie Reynolds and Amy Mullis proved to be the best spellers at the party, and on cutting for the prize it fell to Amy Mullis.

Attention!

Save time on Wednesday, December 6, to attend both afternoon and evening the Fresta of Holidays by the ladies of St. Mary's Guild at Coates' hall. Watch the papers for further announcements.

DAN CUPID CAPTURES ANOTHER OF PLATTS-MOUTH'S FAIR ONES

Miss Florence Baird United in Marriage to Mr. Fred A. Jones of Omaha.

From Friday's Daily.

Relatives and invited friends assembled at the home of Mrs. Dr. J. T. Baird last evening at 8 o'clock to witness the marriage of her youngest daughter, Florence, to Fred A. Jones of Omaha, it being a very pretty home wedding. For the occasion the rooms of the Baird home had been prettily decorated in the yellow, white and green colors, chrysanthemums and smilax being used.

As the appointed hour drew near Miss Estelle Baird, sister of the bride, took her place at the piano, and as she played, Miss Wilhelmina Miller, whose home is at Lyons, Neb., but who is attending school at Bellevue college, very sweetly sang "Thoughts of Thee."

Scarcely was the voice of the singer hushed when the familiar strains of the Lohengrin's Wedding chorus were sounded, to which the bridal party entered. The ribbon-bearers, little Misses Edith and Helen Farley, nieces of the bride, attractively dressed in white, entered first, forming an aisle with the ribbons, through which the bridal party passed. They were followed by Rev. L. W. Gade, pastor of the First Presbyterian church; Mr. Jones, accompanied by his brother, Raymond Jones, whose home is at Bancroft, Neb., but who is attending school at Bellevue college, as his best man. Miss Margaret Quigley of Valentine, Neb., as bridesmaid, coming in alone. The bride entered with her brother, W. N. Baird, of Salida, Colo., who gave her away during the ceremony. The bridal party took their places beneath an arch of chrysanthemums and smilax over white, which was located at the north end of the parlor, where, in a very simple and impressive manner, Rev. Gade pronounced the words which united this happy young couple for life.

The bride was very charming in a beautiful gown of marquisette over white messaline, and carried a shower bouquet of bride's roses. The bridesmaid was handsomely attired in blue velvet, with white fur trimmings, and carried yellow chrysanthemums. The groom and best men wore the conventional black.

After the ceremony a reception was held, during which time relatives and friends extended congratulations and best wishes. During the evening the guests were invited to the dining room, where brick ice cream and cakes were served by Misses Margaret Hodgert, Ada Mann, Bernese Newell and Esther Larson, all being dressed in white.

The bride was born and grew to womanhood in this city, being a daughter of the late Dr. J. T. Baird, and has a large circle of friends, whose best wishes will ever attend her in her new home. She is a graduate of the Plattsmouth High school, being a member of the class of 1906. She then attended Bellevue college, graduating from there in 1910, and taught one year in the High school at Coleridge, Neb.

Mr. Jones is a graduate of Bellevue college and is now employed with Schaffer Brothers in Omaha. Having visited this city a number of times, he has made many friends, who will wish him and his estimable young wife a most happy and prosperous future. Many beautiful and costly presents were received, which were displayed in the dining room. Mr. and Mrs. Jones departed over the Burlington on No. 14 last night for Omaha, where they will make their home, being at home to their friends after January 1.

R. C. Bailey, the Maple Grove blacksmith, and daughter, Eva, with O. V. Bailey, drove to Plattsmouth this morning, and R. C. and his daughter went to Omaha for the day.

Mrs. Joseph Fitzgerald of Bridgeport was in the city over night, departing for Omaha this afternoon to spend Sunday.

THE COMMERCIAL CLUB TAKES UP THE Y. M. C. A. MATTER AND WILL PUSH IT

The Meeting Last Night Was Well Attended and Very Enthusiastic Throughout, There Being Several Matters of Interest Taken Up and Discussed By the Members.

From Friday's Daily.

The Commercial club held its regular monthly meeting last night, with a fair attendance of the business men of the town present. After the transaction of the regular routine business, a general informal discussion on the best methods to attract trade to the merchants of Plattsmouth was had. Some valuable suggestions were made by J. P. Falter, Mr. Baird and others.

In a general discussion of the question of new enterprises for the city, Lee Sharp offered some very valuable hints, and among other things said that Plattsmouth is a good town and holds out many attractive inducements for a large manufacturing industry. The river front, the water privileges, drainage, railroad facilities, being on two lines of road that reached coal and iron fields; and another thing that proprietors of manufacturing plants in Omaha had to contend with that would not bother them here was the labor union question. Several manufacturing industries of Omaha were named, the owners of which had stated that they would have to close up their plants and move out of Omaha if the wage question became more of a menace to business than at present. There are several large plants there that are looking about for more favorable locations.

The question of a Y. M. C. A. was placed before the club by Rev. W. L. Austin, on invitation of Mr. Pollock. After discussing the advantages of such an institution and the need of it in a city of this class, several others spoke on the subject, expressing the belief that the Y. M. C. A. proposition could be made a success in Plattsmouth. Among those called upon were Prof. Abbott, William Baird, R. B. Windham, E. H. Wescott and others, each one of whom was of the opinion that such an institution was one lack of the city. Mr. Wescott went further than other speakers and stated that he would like to see the Commercial club get behind the movement.

SURPRISED ON HIS FORTY-SIXTH BIRTHDAY

Nelson Murray's Friends Drop in and Show Him the Time of His Life.

What we are to say in regard to this pleasant event should have appeared in Wednesday's daily, but owing to an oversight of the "old man," to whom the particulars were given, we failed to perform our good intentions. On Tuesday evening, November 21, the many friends of Mr. Nelson Murray contrived to make our friend, Nelse, think that life was worth living, at least for the night and away into the early morn. The event was really a surprise to Mr. Murray, as he did not even dream of what was in store for him. At the hour designated for the merry party to arrive at the Murray home they rushed in upon the defenseless Nelse and took the Murray domicile, at Mynard, by storm, and the family understood in short time the occasion of their visit. They were loaded down with the many delicacies that go to make such an event a success.

The evening was most enjoyably spent in various games and a general social good time, and at the proper hour the table was spread with the finest supper that mortal man or woman ever sat down to, which had been prepared by the good housewives especially for this occasion. The visitors remained for a longer hour than usual on such occasions, and when they departed it was with the best wishes for Mr. Murray's future success and the hope that

figures he had compiled, stating that the Coates' hall and rooms adjoining on the north could be had, with heat and water, for \$350 per year. Light would cost \$100 per year; gymnasium apparatus, \$150; furniture for the rooms, \$155; bathroom fixtures, with two shower baths, \$230; toilet, \$100, and a capable secretary at \$60 per month, or \$720 per year. The entire sum, including miscellaneous expenses, would aggregate \$2,000. And the suggestion was made that 200 membership tickets at \$10 per ticket per year would install the furniture and run the institution the first year; after that the membership tickets could be reduced to perhaps one-half of the first year.

A motion was then made by Judge Beeson, authorizing President Pollock to appoint a committee to canvass the men of the city and ascertain the number who would take the membership tickets. Mr. Falter stated that a man from outside the city had stated to him that he would give \$25 toward the movement should it be started. Mr. Pollock will name the committee to make the canvass within a few days and the matter will be pushed right along.

Rev. Austin thanked the club for their support of the enterprise and stated that his work had been done, and what he desired to see was a citizens' movement in the direction of the establishment of the Y. M. C. A.; that the institution is interdenominational and not sectarian; that the officers and trusteeships could only be held by members of an evangelical church, but the membership was open to everyone and the benefits of the institution would be shared by all.

It is believed the matter will meet with the hearty support of the young men of all ages, and especially the middle-aged and young men, who enjoy an evening with a bunch of fellows, who hitherto have had no place to go, other than a club room, where the environment is bad.

he may live to enjoy many more such occasions. The only regrettable incident was that some viands prepared for the event were stolen from the buggies. Misses Propst, Richardson and Murray assisted in serving.

Those who were present to enjoy this happy event were: Messrs. and Mesdames Joe Wiles, William Venner, E. H. Spangler, Mrs. C. C. Barnard, C. L. Jean, R. L. Propst, Glen Vallery, C. L. Wiles, Mrs. W. R. Richardson, W. R. Murray, Omaha; Mrs. Charles Parker, Mrs. Will Thelsson, Omaha; Mrs. Ida Cole, Misses Fosteen Murray, Pheme Richardson, Verna Propst, DeElla Venner, Messrs. Gene Spangler and Clarence Murray.

Abe Archer Here.

From Friday's Daily.

Abe Archer and wife of Lux, Neb., who have been visiting M. Archer in this city and relatives near Murray for a few days, were in the city for a short time this morning. Mr. Archer dropped in at the Journal office and left the price of a year's subscription for this paper. He and wife departed for Omaha on the morning train, where they will visit relatives for a short time before returning to their home.

Band Concert.

The B. & M. band will give the first of a series of three concerts on the night of December 28. This popular musical organization will no doubt be greeted with a crowded house. The tickets will be sold at 25 cents each. Under the leadership of Ed Schulhof the band has reached a proficiency second to none in the state.