

The Plattsmouth Journal.

VOLUME XXXI.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1912.

NO. 16.

TRACEY GRAHAM, BURLINGTON FIRE-MAN RUN OVER BY SWITCH ENGINE

Young Man Was Hurried to Surgeon's Office But Died From the Terrible Wounds, Both Feet Were Cut Off and Head Badly Crushed—Graham Was on Way to Work at the Time.

From Tuesday's Daily.

An unfortunate accident occurred in the Burlington yards near the coal chute about 7 o'clock this morning in which Tracy L. Graham received injuries from which he died at about 9 o'clock. No one knows just how the accident occurred. The unfortunate young man left the Perkins house five minutes before 7 o'clock to go to the round house, where, as fireman, he expected to go out with Bob Gibson, engineer on engine No. 1232. Engine No. 3182 "Big Dick," which had worked during the night, was coming down to the chutes to be coaled up, and was in charge of the hostler.

The heavy snow rendered the movements of the wheels and the machinery perfectly noiseless and it is supposed that Graham, walking with his eyes cast down, did not observe the approaching engine and was struck. He was picked up unconscious, both feet were cut off and a cut inflicted on the head. He was placed on the engine which probably run him down and was brought to the station, where he was placed on a stretcher and taken to Dr. Livingston's office, where all was done for him to relieve his suffering that could be done.

At about 8:15 Mr. Cory of the Perkins office telephoned to the physician's office to inquire about arranging a room for Mr. Graham and was informed that Mr. Graham would not need it, as he was dying.

Tracy L. Graham had been a resident of Plattsmouth and in the employ of the Burlington for

about two years, having been employed in the capacity of fireman. He came to Plattsmouth from his stepfather's home near Auburn. On December 13 last he was married to Miss Ruth Spencer of this city. Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Graham have lived at the Perkins hotel. He was a young man of sterling worth, of genial disposition, frank and manly in his bearing and highly esteemed by his acquaintances. Mr. Graham's stepfather was notified at once of his stepson's injury and death.

Mr. Graham never regained consciousness after he was injured and when found shortly after being struck had very little pulse. He probably lost so much blood before surgical aid could be rendered that he could not survive the shock.

Mr. Graham leaves, beside his wife, to mourn his untimely death, his mother, Mrs. George Smedley, of near Brook, Neb., and several brothers and sisters and step-brothers and sisters.

Mr. Graham met a fellow employee as he went to work this morning, as he would be off for a time to take a physical examination. Mr. Graham had rented a house on High School Hill only last night, and expected to move from the hotel very soon. He was a member of the Burlington relief, and held a policy with at least one other accident company. His mother was expected to arrive on the afternoon M. P. train, after which the funeral arrangements will be made.

Will Undergo Operation.

From Tuesday's Daily.

Mrs. A. L. Henry departed for Omaha on the morning train today, expecting to be gone for three weeks. Day after tomorrow Mrs. Henry will undergo a surgical operation, which will be performed by Dr. Robison. Mrs. Henry will enter a private hospital and remain until she recovers from the effects of the operation. Mr. Henry will go to Omaha tomorrow afternoon to be with his wife during the trying ordeal.

CITIZENS SHOULD AID MOST WORTHY LADY

Mrs. Kaspar and Family Are Entitled to the Sympathy of the Citizens of This Community

Mrs. Kaspar and family, who have been so recently deserted by husband and father, Mrs. Kaspar, too, with an infant but a few days old, are certainly entitled to the sympathy of the citizens of the community.

It was largely through the industry and business tact of Mrs. Kaspar that her husband was able to build up a fine trade for his bakery, and it was no fault of hers that Kaspar contracted obligations which he had not the courage to stay with and pay out like a man. He left his family behind to face his creditors while he fled for parts unknown, and unless something is done by the neighbors and friends of Mrs. Kaspar to aid her in meeting the obligations of the bakery, creditors will close in and leave her practically stranded with her children, to become a burden on relatives or upon the county.

As soon as Mrs. Kaspar can be about, if the bakery can be kept intact, she will run the business herself and pay off all of the obligations against it, but just at present she is facing a hard proposition, and just how to satisfy the creditors and get time to meet the outstanding bills is a question which confronts her.

It would be a graceful thing if some of the good citizens and business men of the town would take the matter in charge and raise a fund to tide Mrs. Kaspar over until she can manage affairs herself. It would be a loss to the entire community to have this shop closed and taken from Main street and the city. A little judicious planning and effort put forth along the right track would no doubt save the enterprise.

Returns From Hospital.

From Tuesday's Daily.

Miss Alice Lewis, who has been at St. Joseph's hospital in Omaha for two weeks recovering from the effects of an operation for appendicitis, returned last evening on No. 2. Miss Lewis left home last November to visit her brother in the northeastern part of the state, and while there she was attacked with appendicitis and was taken to the hospital by her brother. She has made a very rapid recovery and is glad to get out of the hospital and to get home once more.

Each's Team Takes Spin.

From Tuesday's Daily.

The delivery team belonging to Bach & Son took a lively spin this noon, starting from the water trough on South Third street. The driver had let their reins down to allow them to drink, and had stepped away a few feet, when the spirited animals started off with the delivery wagon. The horses soon struck up a lively pace and kept the street south past the shops and down Lincoln avenue, passing Charlie Cook's farm, and landed in a snow drift. No damage was done whatever and the team was brought back feeling very docile.

Adolph Wesch finished loading his car today and shipped his household belongings and farming implements to Creighton. Mrs. Wesch and the children departed for Creighton on the afternoon train today. They will engage in farming, Mr. Wesch having leased a fine farm in that vicinity for the coming year.

RESIDENCE IS BADLY DAMAGED BY FIRE

Fire at Residence of Harry Crawford on Walnut, Between Seventh and Eighth.

From Tuesday's Daily.

About midnight last night fire broke out at the residence of Harry Crawford on Walnut street, between Seventh and Eighth. The alarm was turned in as soon as the fire was discovered and the fire boys turned out at once. The hose carts were dragged through the deep snow as rapidly as they could be under the circumstances, and the boys did nobly to get the carts on the ground in time to save the building. As it was the upper story was badly burned.

From appearances the fire started near the stairway, shortly after Mr. Crawford had retired for the night, he being one of the firemen of the Sioux City run, and got home late last night. The residence is the property of C. F. Vallery, residing in the country, and Mrs. Vallery stated over the telephone that the building was not insured.

The fire company did excellent work after arriving on the ground, and soon had the fire under control. It is to be regretted that arrangements for a team to drag the hose cart cannot be made. The depth of the snow and much of the street untraveled yesterday made the wheeling unusually difficult for the carts last night and was a tax on the strength of the fire boys. The residences on either side, Judge Johnson on the east and H. J. Streight on the west, were in danger from the flames, and the timely arrival of the fire company no doubt prevented the spread of the flames to the adjoining property.

PAY TRIBUTE TO DEPARTED CLASSMATES

Large Turnout of the Members of the Y. M. B. C. of Methodist Church Sunday Afternoon.

There was a large turnout of the members of the Y. M. B. C. of the Methodist church Sunday afternoon, the occasion being a memorial service in memory of the deceased members of the class, of whom there are two, namely, Edward White and Oscar Hallstrom.

The program was in charge of the president of the class, R. B. Hayes, and opened and closed with a song by the class. Brief remarks were made and tributes paid the deceased members by Paul Morgan and James Rishel, the principal address of the meeting was delivered by Rev. W. L. Austin.

Rev. Austin made three points prominent in his address to the young men—first, the loyal life; second, the determined life, and third, the clean life—all of which characteristics were strongly exemplified in the lives of the deceased members. Before the close of the service a motion was made and voted to make the occasion an annual one, to be observed each year on the last Sunday in February. The program was very much appreciated by the members and all agreed that the occasion had been of great benefit.

Authorized to Issue Bonds.

The state railway commission has authorized the Missouri Pacific Railroad company to issue \$2,415,000 of equipment bonds and \$4,085,000 of first and mortgage bonds from time to time. The company originally had permission of several state commissions to issue \$6,500,000 of bonds. Of that amount \$2,415,000 have been paid and the company desires to issue amounts from time to time as fast as the bonds are paid off, so that it will continue to keep in debt \$6,500,000.

For typewriter ribbons call at the Journal office.

CORONER'S JURY HOLDS INQUEST OVER THE LATE TRACEY GRAHAM

Jury After Hearing Evidence of Number of Witnesses Returns a Verdict That Graham Came to His Death by Being Run Over by C. B. & Q. Switch Engine—Body Taken to Brock.

From Wednesday's Daily.

The following gentlemen were empaneled by Sheriff Quinton yesterday afternoon, and an inquest held over the remains of Tracy L. Graham: Ed Schulhof, G. L. Farley, Harry Smith, Theodore Starkjohn and George Rhoden. After the jury was sworn Deputy Sheriff Manspeaker conducted them from the district court room to the Streight undertaking rooms, where they viewed the body and returned to the court room, where the hearing was had.

Mr. Sharp and a stenographer from the superintendent's office were present, and Mr. Sharp participated in questioning the witnesses upon being invited to do so by the sheriff. The company's stenographer took down the testimony, as did the stenographer from A. L. Tidd's office. Mr. Tidd was also present for Mr. Gering and propounded questions to the witnesses.

Bert Majors, night hostler at the round house, was the first witness sworn, and related what he knew of the occurrence, which had so tragic an ending. In substance, Mr. Majors stated that it was 6:50 when he mounted the engine at the round house to take it to the coal chutes to be coaled up before turning it over to a special day crew, which was to run the snow train for the day. After starting the engine the steam was shut off and the engine and tender, backing, coasted from the round house to the chutes at about three or four miles an hour. The hostler saw no one on the track and did not know that anyone was struck or run over until he stopped the engine at the chute and turned and looked forward up the track, where he saw a man lying between the rails. He told the fireman that a man had been run over, and climbing out of the cab, ran to the man and saw that he was badly mangled, his feet cut off and head cut. The man was lying thirty or forty yards from where he stopped the engine. He did not stop to identify the man, but ran to the round house to call a physician. When he had put in the call he hurried back and he and others who had been attracted to the scene, picked Mr. Graham up and brought him to the doctor's office.

The witness was afterward recalled and stated that, from indications in the snow, Mr. Graham's body had been rolled under the tender and engine for thirty or forty feet. That on account of a curve in the track from the round house to the chutes, the witness could not have seen a man on the track, but right at the place where Mr. Graham was struck, he could see all of the way to the bridge beyond the chutes.

Dr. J. S. Livingston was sworn and stated that he was called about 7 o'clock; that he was on

the corner of Main and Fourth streets when the unfortunate man was taken to his office; that he found him pulseless; stimulants were administered, but without response, and at 8:30 Mr. Graham died. He then described the wounds to the jury, and it was his opinion that an internal injury caused death, as ordinarily the system will respond to a stimulant when administered under like circumstances.

C. H. Mann of 938 P street, Lincoln, testified that he was a fireman in the Burlington employ; that he had come down from Lincoln after the storm to fire a special switch engine; that he went to the round house yesterday morning to take his position on the engine, which was in charge of the hostler. He was not supposed to get into the cab until it was coaled up ready to go, but thought he might as well ride down to the chutes as walk, and climbed into the cab while the hostler, Bert Majors, drifted down to the coal chutes. Mann was looking out of the cab in the direction the engine was going all of the way down, but saw no one on the track. Witness stated that from his position in the cab, which was the ordinary straight, high sort, he could see a man within two or three car lengths. He got into the cab after the engine was started; the steam cocks were shut off, but the engine made sufficient noise to attract the attention of anyone within a hundred feet. No bell was ringing, but there was rattle about the engine making a noise. The witness stated that for a hundred yards south of the chutes the engine could be seen by anyone going from the bridge to the round house. There was a saw shed on the east of the track which might have obstructed Graham's view for a time. The witness got out of the cab at the chutes on being told by the hostler that a man had been run over. He went to where Mr. Graham lay and found him lying between the rails, with his head to the east, and he had been rolled for some distance.

W. J. Streight then testified to the condition of the body, also to the opinion that some of the arteries internally had been ruptured.

The matter was then submitted to the jury, which brought in its verdict, finding that the deceased came to his death while walking on the tracks by being run over by a C. B. & Q. engine.

J. P. Dustin, a stepbrother, and Mrs. G. W. Smedley, mother of the unfortunate young man, arrived from Brock last night and this morning the remains, accompanied by them and the wife of the deceased, were taken to Brock for the funeral services and interment.

Hotel Doors Open Inward.

State Hotel Inspector McFadden, who recently completed an inspection of hotels and rooming houses in Lincoln, reports that he found twenty-five buildings used for hotel purposes which have doors constructed in violation of the state law. The law requiring outside doors of hotels and public buildings where people assemble has been in existence since 1877, but it has not been the duty of any particular person to enforce it and it is often violated.

Mr. McFadden has authority over hotel buildings and he has notified the violators of the law in Lincoln to make changes. The penalty for violation of the law is a fine of from \$100 to \$1,000. "The hotel men on whom notice has been served to make changes," said Mr. McFadden, "have almost invariably admitted that the suggested changes ought to be made and have promised to make them."

Hotel men will do well to comply with this law, or be subjected to a heavy fine.

To Visit in Europe.

Miss Juliette Atwood, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Atwood of this city, will sail soon for Europe to join her sister, Catherine, who is at school in Biarritz, in southern France. Miss Atwood will leave Lincoln on Sunday, March 10, and will sail March 14 by the Saint Anna of a French line. She will land at Marseilles, where she will be met by her sister and one of the teachers from the school. The two young ladies will spend a few weeks traveling through Italy, and will be in Rome for Easter. They will then return to Biarritz to remain till the close of the school year. The summer months will be spent in travel. They will probably return to this country in the fall.—Lincoln Journal.

A HAPPY BIRTHDAY SURPRISE PARTY

Given on Saturday, February 26, for 45th Birthday Anniversary of John Kopp.

Saturday, February 24, was the forty-fifth birthday anniversary of Mr. John Kopp, and thinking that this important event should be celebrated in the proper manner, Messdames Frank Sivey and John Kopp very secretly planned a surprise party and invited a large number of his friends to assist him in commemorating his birthday anniversary.

The invited guests gathered at the Sivey home about 8 o'clock and then journeyed to the Kopp home, where they learned that Mr. Kopp had retired for the night. One of Mr. Kopp's favorite selections was played by Paul Sitzman on the accordion, to which the merry company marched into the Kopp home.

To say that Mr. Kopp was surprised would be putting it mild. He arose, dressed and proceeded to entertain his guests in a most royal manner. The kitchen was cleared out and for several hours a number of the company whiled away the time in dancing. During the evening some excellent violin selections were furnished by B. C. Hyde, which were very much appreciated by all.

This merry crowd had come well armed with good things to eat and at a late hour a fine six-course luncheon was served by Messrs. Paul Sitzman, Henry Klinger and Frank Amick, their caps and aprons being just alike. Then they all wished Mr. Kopp many more happy birthdays and dispersed, having had a most enjoyable evening.

Those participating in this delightful surprise were: Messrs. and Mesdames W. Tulene, Will Gravitt, Robert Richter, Ray Weaver, Henry Steinhauser, Frank Sivey, Mrs. John Hobson, Misses Vernice Hobson, Ella Richter,

Ethel and Meda Jones, Minnie and Marie Kopp, Gladys Steinhauer, Helen and Goldie Sivey; Messrs. Henry Klinger, Paul Sitzman, Clarence Donald, Gus Kopp, Wayne Hobson, B. C. Hyde, Frank Amick, Jimmie Jones, Lee Spry, Henry Hyde, Frankie Sivey, Chester Conn, Charles Conn and Will Beaver.

Charles McGuire a Hero.

From Tuesday's Daily.

Charles McGuire and three Irishmen from Greece, whose names Mr. McGuire could not recall, or pronounce if he did recall them, but for convenience numbered them from 1 to 3 inclusive, worked all night in the blizzard Sunday night to keep the switches and tracks through the Burlington yards open. When asked if he could keep them clear Charles was modest in his claims, replying that "we did the best we could." At 6 o'clock last night the track was sufficiently clear so that Mr. McGuire could be spared to take about a twelve hours' nap.

E. A. McElwain Returns.

From Tuesday's Daily.

B. A. McElwain, who has been spending a month on the coast, arrived last night on No. 14. Mr. McElwain expected to make a longer stay while on this trip, but the strike situation on the western and mountain roads caused him to return now while the way is open, rather than to delay and risk being tied up longer than he wished. He had a very enjoyable visit with the old-time Plattsmouth people and he regretted that he did not have more time to spend in their new-found homes.

Entertained for Lincoln Guest.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. Austin gave a delightful whist party Saturday evening in honor of Mr. Phillip Harrison, a Nebraska university man and classmate of County Attorney C. H. Taylor. Four tables of bridge whist furnished amusement for the young gentlemen and ladies present. Lunch was served and music regaled the guests for a time.