

# The Plattsmouth Journal.

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## TRESSPASSING ON THE RAILROAD PROPERTY

Interesting Letter From F. R. Mullen, Superintendent Safety Department of Burlington.

From Tuesday's Daily.

The matter of the injury of children and other persons from accidents around railroad tracks has received considerable attention from the safety department of the Burlington railroad through Superintendent F. R. Mullen of the Omaha division, and he recently addressed a letter to the mayor of Omaha in an endeavor to secure the assistance of the Omaha officials in endeavoring to prevent the numerous accidents caused by school children and others trespassing on the property of the railroad company. This condition exists in every town in which the railroad operates, and in the smaller towns, such as our own, every day persons expose themselves to accidents that the railroad company cannot look out for, and if the parents of children would warn them of the dangers of going around railroad tracks it would probably result in saving some child who might be struck by an engine or car while being switched, and the people of more mature age should exercise good judgment before venturing on the railroad company's property. The following from the Omaha Bee gives the letter to Mayor Dahlman and also states some interesting facts in regard to the accidents to trespassers:

Most railroad accidents are not the results of negligence of railroad companies or employes, but of the persistence of the public in trespassing upon railroad property, where it has absolutely no business nor right. So declares Division Superintendent F. R. Mullen of the Burlington railroad in a letter sent to Mayor James C. Dahlman yesterday. The letter was accompanied by a photograph showing three children at play on a railroad track. Parents are blamed for many tragedies of the rail by Mr. Mullen. The letter follows:

Hon. James C. Dahlman, Mayor of the City of Omaha—Dear Sir: I presume it is pretty well known by the public that our company is trying by every available means to lessen the number of opportunities for railroad accidents to occur, but it is not well known by the public, and I think it ought to be advertised, that the persons most frequently killed on the railroad are not passengers, not railroad employes, not persons having any legitimate business on the railroad premises. I refer to the fact, published in the reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission, that about 60 per cent or more than half, of all the people killed on the railroads of this country are trespassers—men, women and children, who have no right to be on the property of the railroads, but nevertheless jump on our cars, walk and not infrequently sleep on our tracks, and use our bridges as thoroughfares. I refer to the further fact that the majority of the approximate 5,000 trespassers who are being killed on railroads this year is not of the hobo, or tramp class, only 10 per cent of the trespassers so killed being of the class just mentioned. Seventy per cent are reputable people, many of them workmen going to and from work, well-to-do, respected and useful citizens. Twenty per cent are children under 14 years of age.

Although difficult to realize, the fact remains that by the law of averages today, somewhere in this country, two or three children have been killed playing around tracks and cars; so it was yesterday, will be tomorrow, and will be hereafter day by day the year round, unless the parents of children can be brought to realize the risk they are permitting their children to take in trespassing upon railroad property. There is not a switchman in our yards who has not time and again admonished children against the danger of jumping on cars. All that we railroad men can do, however, is

very little. Children will continue to come onto our property and play on the tracks and perhaps in some cases are in reality sent to our property by their parents.

I feel that the parents of this city should be frankly told about the situation and their interests appealed to in the matter of keeping the children away from the company's grounds except when legitimately called there. I regret that an erroneous impression exists in the minds of some parents that children are driven away from the tracks because they might pick up a little scattered coal or a few bits of kindling. In reality, this is a minor consideration in our endeavor to keep our property free from trespassers. Naturally, we want to save our coal, but much more do we want to save the children from sorrow. We cannot hope to accomplish much in this direction without the complete co-operation of the city officers, the citizens, and of every parent in the city; and this is my reason for appealing to you, as the highest official of Omaha, to enlist your co-operation with us, and ask if you can devise some means by which the co-operation of every parent in our city can be enlisted in behalf of this important move in the interest of "Safety."

To emphasize the remarks I have made, I am attaching a picture of three little children, who were caught by our safety inspector, using our track for a playground. I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to each of the three leading daily papers.

Awaiting a reply at your convenience, I beg to remain, respectfully yours,

F. R. Mullen, Superintendent.

## SUPERINTENDENT BROOKS REPORTS CITY SCHOOLS IN EXCELLENT SHAPE

From Tuesday's Daily.

The Plattsmouth school board held their regular monthly meeting last evening and listened to the first monthly report of Superintendent W. G. Brooks, who reported the schools in excellent shape and several plans for the advancement and betterment of the schools were discussed by the superintendent and the school board. Mr. Brooks is taking hold of the school in splendid shape, and with the long experience he has had as a teacher, can understand the situation in regard to the city schools and give them the benefit of his years of training.

## SOME EVENTS THAT OCCUR IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

There are some anniversaries in this month which will be observed in fitting style, such as they are annually in this city. On Wednesday, the 12th, Lincoln's birthday; Friday, the 14th, is St. Valentine's day; Saturday, the 22d, Washington's birthday. This is the appropriate time to get out your old McGuffey's second reader and read again the old story of the cherry tree and hatchet. Some people doubt the authenticity of this tradition, but there is no reason why they should, for right there is the picture of the tree with a great gash in it, little George with hatchet in hand, and the old general, who caught the young son with the goods, so what else could the boy who was destined to be the father of his country do but acquiesce to the charges preferred against him by his father and forthwith confess: "I cannot tell a lie; I did it with my little hatchet."

There are only twenty-eight days in this month, but before you will have spent this time, you may have reason to admit that February has been an eventful month and you may rejoice with the ice dealer and join him in singing: "I Got Mine, Boys; I Got Mine."

Sell your property by an ad in the Journal.

## REX STOCK COMPANY OF GLENWOOD, AT PARMELE LAST NIGHT

From Tuesday's Daily.

The play last evening at the Parmele theater, given by the Rex Stock company of Glenwood, under the auspices of the local lodge of the Red Men, was a very fair performance and deserved a much better house than they received. The company is composed of Glenwood people and they gave a very clever home talent show, the title of which, "Struck Oil," describes the main action of the play, which was laid in the California oil fields in early days. The acting of David Barnett in the role of Old Grizzely, was one of the best in the play and he displayed much expression in his acting, as did Miss Hattie Sherman as "Wildcat," a girl of the great unfettered west, and these two were the strongest in the cast, although Emery DeWolf as Rastabaum, served to create considerable fun during the course of the play and relieved the heavier parts.

The Red Men deserve great credit for their enterprise in providing for the amusement of the public, and it is to be regretted that they were not more generously patronized, but most of the people seemed to be waiting for the big fiddlers' contest, which will be presented this evening, and it promises to be one of the best ever given.

In the afternoon before the show a large number of the local Red Men, attired in their native costumes, and in charge of Chief "Man-Afraid-of-His-Horse" Lew Russel, and Chief "Black Hawk" York, made their appearance on Main street, where they caused a great commotion with their war-whoops and their funny antics upon their prancing steeds, and they then rode out Lincoln avenue past the shops, advertising the show. The warriors made a fine appearance and it looked to the pale faces as if they fully intended to take the warpath.

## MORE IMPROVEMENTS IN BURLINGTON SHOP YARD

Among the improvements that are contemplated by the Burlington are those of constructing a concrete culvert at the entrance to the shop yard to replace the old wooden bridge, over which the tracks leading to the shops run. The culvert will be of good size and require considerable time to construct, and it is expected that work will be started on it shortly. In the spring it is expected that considerable of the steel on the main line and side-tracks will be replaced with heavier ones to enable the rails to withstand the wear and tear of the traffic in better shape. These changes are in line with the general program that the Burlington has been putting in force of improving their trackage throughout this section of the road. The nearing approach of spring again brings up the question of the new depot and the great need of this city for better facilities for accommodating the traveling public, and it is to be hoped the railroad will soon take up the matter of giving us a larger depot.

### Article "Balled Up."

The article announcing the arrival of a new son at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Claus Boetel, jr., which appeared in last evening's paper, in correcting, got badly mixed up and it appeared that the little one had arrived at the home of Mr. Boetel's father, but such was not the case.

### Players' Club, Notice!

The Plattsmouth Players' club will meet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Austin on every Monday and Thursday evening of each week for their regular rehearsal for the "Princess Chrysanthemum," a light opera which they will give on March 26.

A Want Ad in the Journal will bring what you want.

### Visits Blind Institute.

From Tuesday's Daily.

Attorney D. O. Dwyer departed this noon for Nebraska City, where he goes to visit the Institute for the Blind in that city, he being a member of the board of control. The institute there is fortunate in securing N. C. Abbott for superintendent, as he is one of the best school executive officers in the state, and when there before made one of the most capable men in the service of the state.

## MISS ALICE DOVEY LEADING WOMAN IN "THE PINK LADY"

From Tuesday's Daily.

In the social department of the Omaha Bee of this morning we found the following in reference to Miss Dovey: "Temperamentally, Alice Dovey is at home today. While playing at the Brandeis this week as the leading lady in "The Pink Lady," she is availing herself of an opportunity that has not been hers in three and a half years—that of conveniently visiting home folks. Every morning finds her on her way to Plattsmouth, where, during the major part of the day, she revels in the old, old amenities that never wear out—home and mother. Besides her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Dovey, her four sisters: Mrs. Ray Patterson, Mrs. George Falter, Catherine and Edith Dovey, and brother, George, are the only people she sees. While her mother and sisters are frequent visitors with her, it is different, it seems to me, when you can see them all together amid the scenes of the sweetest place on earth. Miss Dovey is not accepting social invitations this week because this particular time finds her absorbed in the difficulties that come with a new maid. She is now very busy avoiding future anxieties by lying all of her stockings together in pairs, and arranging her costume in the correct order for the different acts."

## SURPRISE PARTY IN HONOR OF MISS VIOLET KOKE

From Tuesday's Daily.

Saturday afternoon the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Mason, on West Main street, was the scene of a very pleasant surprise party in honor of their grand-daughter, Violet Koke, the occasion being in the nature of a farewell, as Mr. Koke and family are preparing to remove to a farm seven miles west of this city. The afternoon was delightfully whiled away in various games. Several musical numbers were furnished by Kathryn Waddick and Violet Koke, while Miss Agnes Holly entertained the jolly company with some violin selections. A delicious three-course luncheon was served by Mrs. Koke, Mrs. Mason and Mrs. Kanka. The only regret to mar the happy time was the fact that Miss Koke was soon to remove from their midst, but her friends all join in wishing her much happiness in her new home. Those in attendance were: Misses Margie Chrissinger, Fae Cobb, Agnes Holly, Florence Svoboda, Rose Dvorak, Marie Jelinek, Mattie Sedlak, Helen Donat, Agnes Pechal, Lillian Boueka, Kathryn Waddick, Masters Charles Koke, Roy Kanka and Charley Boueka.

### Meeting of Commissioners.

The board of county commissioners were in session today at the court house and the morning session was largely taken up by the discussion of the road difficulty in Liberty precinct, and quite a number from that section were on hand to take part in the argument. In addition the board transacted quite a good deal of routine business.

### Motorcycle Bargain.

Double cylinder 5 H.-P. Indian motorcycle, recently overhauled and in good running order. Price, \$85.00 cash.

Edgar Steinhauer.

## THE LIVINGSTON LOAN & BUILDING ASSOCIATION

Splendid Showing, Demonstrating That the Affairs of Association Were Successfully Managed.

From Tuesday's Daily.

The annual meeting of the Livingston Loan & Building association was held last evening, and the reports of the different officers read and approved and the condition of the association under the present efficient management was found most flattering.

The election of officers resulted in the selection of all the present officers, consisting of D. B. Smith, president; F. G. Egenberger, vice president; C. G. Fricke, secretary; C. A. Marshall, treasurer; A. L. Tidd, solicitor. These officers, with F. E. Schlater, William Holly, William Hassler, H. M. Soennichsen and H. S. Barthold, constitute the board of directors of the association, and it is due to their ripe judgment, as well as the capable management of the affairs of the association by the secretary, Mr. Fricke, that the showing for the year's business is so excellent.

This association is one of the leading financial institutions in the city and the stockholders are numbered among all classes of the citizens and many of them have been able to erect and own their homes through the aid of the association, and it has aided materially in the upbuilding of the city in every respect.

The association had at the close of business January 16th, \$125,417.13 in loans out drawing interest for the stockholders, and \$44,576.49 cash on hand in the treasury. The capital stock of the association is \$109,407.38, and the reserve fund \$6,270.58. The profit and loss of the company shows that \$5,485.82 represents the year's business, while the grand total of the assets of the company is \$151,490.78. The liabilities of the company, including the capital stock and reserves find total the same figures.

During the time Mrs. C. G. Fricke has acted as secretary of the association he has made great advancement of the interests of the association and has been an able successor to H. R. Gering, who occupied this office for so many years. The city should take great pride in the growth of this institution, which reflects the financial stability and confidence of the citizens in the city and makes a splendid showing for the city throughout the state.

## PLEASANT SOCIAL DANCE AT THE K. S. HALL LAST NIGHT

From Tuesday's Daily.

One of the most pleasant social dances of the season was given last evening at the K. S. hall by St. Agnes' Sodality of the Holy Rosary church, and the event was attended by a large crowd of young people, who passed away the hours in the delights of dancing. A delicious luncheon was served by the young ladies, which added much to the pleasures of the evening, and it was a late hour when the happy gathering broke up and departed for their homes, feeling that it was one of the most pleasant dances they had ever attended. The music was furnished by the orchestra consisting of Frank Janda, violin; Anton Toman, drums; Miss Pearl Mumm, piano, and Tom Svoboda, was most delightful, and the dancers were loud in their praise of the playing of the orchestra.

### Returns From Visit.

From Tuesday's Daily. George H. Tams, the genial superintendent of the county farm, returned last evening from a visit to his old home at Denison, Iowa, and other points in that state with relatives. This was Mr. Tams' first visit to his old home in four years and he spent a most enjoyable time visiting around among the relatives, although his stay was very limited.

### W. C. T. U. Holds Meeting.

From Tuesday's Daily.

The members of the W. C. T. U. held a most excellent meeting at the home of Mrs. Martha Phebus yesterday afternoon. A short business session was held, at which time the ladies decided to hold another matrons' contest the latter part of February or the first part of March. Following this session the large number in attendance were very pleasantly entertained with a fine program consisting of music and recitations. The hostess then served a most delicious luncheon, and an hour or so devoted to social conversation and other amusements brought to a close one of the best meetings the ladies of this order have held in some time, and the ladies fortunate enough to be present pronounced Mrs. Phebus a splendid entertainer.

## SEVEN MORE WOLVES SLAUGHTERED IN THE WEST PART OF COUNTY

A special from Elmwood, under date of February 3, says: Another big wolf hunt took place three and a half miles southwest of Elmwood today. There were about 500 men in the round-up, coming from all the surrounding towns and country. The hunt covered an area of thirty-six square miles and seven wolves were rounded up, but only four were killed.

## DIXIE FASHION PLATE MINSTRELS IN THE CITY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Griffith & Morgan are making their annual tour with Prof. P. G. Lowery and the Dixie Fashion Plate Minstrels. They will be at the Parmele theater on Monday, February 17. The company consists of 25 singers, dancers, musicians and comedians and the finest band of any show traveling. They travel in their own private car and give a grand free street parade at noon, and a big band concert in front of the theater at 7:30 p. m. The prices are 25c, 35c and 50c and seats are now on sale.

### Entertains at Family Dinner.

From Tuesday's Daily.

Yesterday Mrs. George H. Falter entertained at a family dinner in honor of her sister, Miss Alice Dovey of "The Pink Lady" company, and the occasion was one of great pleasure to all attending, as this is Miss Dovey's first visit home in three years, and no one enjoyed the pleasure of being at home more than she. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. George E. Dovey, Charles, George and Edith Dovey, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Patterson and children and Mr. and Mrs. Falter and children.

### Carl Wurl to Have Operation.

From Tuesday's Daily.

This morning Carl, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Wurl, was seized with another attack of appendicitis and the physicians advised that he be taken to Omaha, where he could be operated upon, and he was taken to that city on the afternoon Burlington train today to undergo an operation. Carl suffered an attack about Christmas, but apparently recovered, only to have it come on again early this morning, and it was thought to be too dangerous to delay the matter further, so the operation was decided on.

### B. F. Wiles Better.

From Tuesday's Daily.

T. L. Wiles of Weeping Water, who has been here visiting with his brothers, J. E. and B. F. Wiles, for a few days, returned to his home yesterday afternoon. He was called here by the illness of B. S. Wiles, who has been threatened with pneumonia for the last few days, but seems to have passed the critical stage without trouble and it is now probable he will be able to be up and around in a short time.