

The Plattsmouth Journal.

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SERIOUS GAS-OLINE ENGINE EXPLOSION

Two Men Dangerously Injured and Two Others Receive Injuries Not So Serious.

From Tuesday's Daily.

This morning at an early hour the explosion of a gasoline engine on the farm of George Meisinger, near Mynard, came near causing the instant death of several men, and inflicted injuries to some of them that may prove most serious. The men, W. A. Fight, Nellie Land, Mural Shaw and Everett Cahill, were engaged in starting the engine in order to get the corn sheller working, when, without warning of any kind, the engine burst and Land and Shaw were showered with burning gasoline that inflicted most serious burns, and Fight was a little more fortunate, getting off with some severe burns on the hands, while the other men are considered in a very dangerous condition, and their recovery is problematic.

The engine was a six horsepower and the explosion was of terrific force, and it is a wonder the men who were standing nearby when the engine blew up were not instantly killed, as pieces of the engine and burning gasoline were scattered for quite a distance.

Medical aid for the injured men was summoned from this city as soon as possible, and the injuries dressed, and it will be some time, if they recover, before they are able to be around, as the burns of two of the men are reported as being quite severe.

The news of the accident was a great shock in the community in which the men live, and their families and friends are quite worried as to their condition at this time.

From the bedside of the men at noon the reports were that they were suffering greatly from the burns and that Shaw especially was in a very critical condition and his recovery from the effects of the burns was very doubtful. The men were warming up the carburetor of the engine to get it in working order, and in this way the gasoline caught on fire and the tank containing the supply of gasoline to run the engine soon exploded and the men were drenched with the fluid and the engine, which was bolted to a large platform, was torn loose from its bearing and part of it destroyed by the explosion. Land and Shaw were badly burned on the lower limbs from the waist down, and also on the face and hands, and Mr. Fight suffered most of the burns on his hands from the efforts to tear the burning clothing from his friends.

Senior German Club Meets.

From Tuesday's Daily.
Last night the beautiful home of Gladys McMaken was thrown open to the members of the Senior German club. Mildred Snyder, with Gladys McMaken, entertained the club, and it is unnecessary to say that they were entertained royally. A short program was given, after which various games were played. At a late hour the guests were invited to the dining room, where a delicious three-course supper was served.

Visiting cards at the Journal office.

Entertained at Van Horn Home.

From Wednesday's Daily.

Quite a crowd of friends were entertained in a most delightful manner at the Van Horn home Saturday, January 10, it being the 65th birthday anniversary of Mrs. Van Horn. The occasion was to have been in the nature of a surprise, but in some way the victim caught on to the plot. Nevertheless the guests came prepared to have a good time and to show Mrs. Van Horn the proper way to celebrate her birthday anniversary. Social conversation and listening to the selections rendered by the phonograph were most thoroughly enjoyed for a time and then a charming two-course luncheon was provided by the hostess. A beautiful birthday cake was presented to Mrs. Van Horn by one of the ladies, and she was also made the recipient of some lovely remembrances which will be constant reminders of this happy occasion.

THE CHANGE A DETRIMENT TO THE PUBLIC

State Railway Commission Promises to Take Matter Up With Railroad Officials.

From Tuesday's Daily.

The Commercial club, through its president, E. A. Schneider, is making a determined effort to secure for the residents of the county a more just and satisfactory service over the Missouri Pacific railway in this county. Mr. Schneider has had another interview with Commissioner Hall of the state railway commission, and this gentleman informed him that the commission had taken up the matter of the change in time on the Louisville branch of the Missouri Pacific with the officers of the road at Falls City and was informed by them that they had no jurisdiction in the matter, as the time card was made out at Kansas City at the same time that the change in the main line trains was made, and the commission has promised to get busy and take the matter up with the Kansas City officials and see if a readjustment of the schedule cannot be made.

The main line through this city is made twenty-five minutes earlier, while that of the Louisville branch is cut forty-five minutes, much more than necessary to make the connection at Weeping Water with the Lincoln train, and the Commercial club here desires to have the time changed so as to permit connections being made at Louisville between the Burlington from this city and the south bound Missouri Pacific. The change in time has brought forth a storm of protest from the residents of the western and central portion of the county and they are right behind the club here in the demand for justice at the hands of the railroad company.

C. C. PARMELE SELLS A FARM OF FORTY ACRES TO MR. C. H. FULLER

From Tuesday's Daily.

Another important real estate deal has just been consummated here, in the purchase of the Frank Dunbar farm at the southwest limits of the city by C. H. Fuller, who paid for the tract of forty acres the sum of \$8,000. The farm has been kept up in good shape, and while the price paid Mr. C. C. Parmele, the owner, is quite large, the place, which is known as the Elias Sage farm, is well worth it, as it is one of the nicest in the city. The new owner, Mr. Fuller, expects to erect a fine new modern residence on the farm in the near future, and when it is completed it will be an elegant and comfortable home.

BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS BY CITY COUNCIL

The Nebraska Lighting Company Comes in for a Considerable Share of Attention.

From Tuesday's Daily.

The full membership of the city council was present last evening at the city hall when the gavel of Mayor Sattler called the members of that body to order, and they at once entered into the transaction of the regular business matters that demanded attention. Owing to the illness of the father of City Clerk Wurl the clerk was unable to attend the meeting and the mayor called upon Councilman Richey to attend to the duties of the position, which he done in a very able manner.

A communication was received from the Nebraska Lighting Co. in regard to the ditches on West Elm street, in which the council was informed that the ditches were all filled up.

The firm of Bruce & Standeven of Omaha, who have had charge of the engineering work for the city during the past two years, informed the council that there was some \$60 due them for work performed by them, and also inquiring as to the prospects for work during the ensuing year. The matter was placed on file for further consideration.

The finance committee of the city council, after consideration of the following claims, recommended that they be paid, and also referred a number of them to the claims committee, as they were not properly endorsed: Ben Rainey, salary, \$75; John Fitzpatrick, salary, \$20; Frank Neumann, salary, \$65; M. Archer, salary, \$30; Plattsmouth Water Co., fire hydrant rental, \$850; Lincoln Telephone & Telegraph Co., rents, \$5; Waterman Lumber Co., lumber, \$11.10; Weyrich & Hadaba, merchandise to police \$3.53; E. R. Travis, making transcript, \$20; Mike Lutz, street commissioner, \$24; Cass county, boarding city prisoners, \$11.60; I. N. Cummings, burying one dog, 50 cents; C. E. McBride, street work, \$2; Nebraska Light Co., light at city hall, 60 cents; same, light at library, \$2.43; Richey Bros., material, \$125; W. H. Miller, work on sheds at city hall, \$2; W. H. Miller, work at tool house, \$2; Nebraska Light Co., street lighting, \$130. This last claim proved to be one of the bones of contention of the evening and was the cause of much plain speaking in regard to the manner the city has been treated by the light company, in regard to service furnished.

Councilman Buttery, after the reading of the report of the finance committee, moved that the claim of the light company for the street lighting be held up and a reduction of 25 per cent made in the bill on account of the poor service that has been given to the city, and on account of the many times that the lights have been out of commission. He later modified this by laying the bill over until the next council meeting in order that the light committee could investigate the matter.

Councilman Straight stated he was heartily in favor of the resolution as introduced by Mr. Buttery, as there was no doubt that the light furnished here was most unsatisfactory, and he desired to know as to the right of the city to reduce the claim 25 per cent, as was proposed. This view of the matter was also taken by Councilman Patterson of J. First ward, who said he appreciated to the fullest extent the failure of the light company to come across with the right kind of service and if the city was right in making the reduction he was thoroughly in favor of it.

City Attorney Tidd, at the request of the councilmen, stated that as to the poor lights there

was no doubt in the minds of anyone but the question of the reduction would probably have to be figured out on the lights that were out of commission.

Councilman Lushinsky and Councilman Johnson of the Fourth ward were doubtful as to making the reduction at this time, as the lights had been very poor for the past year, and thought that if the city had stood for it this long they should allow the bill and give the company a chance to make good on their promise to have the new service into the city in the next fifteen days, and then if the service was found to be unsatisfactory a strenuous kick, as well as reduction, could be made on the bills of the company.

City Attorney Tidd said that the extension of the Red Oak electric line into Plattsmouth would not greatly improve the

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SKATING RINK AT THE BOOSTER BASEBALL PARK

Base Ball Park Will Be Fitted Up as Soon as the Weather Permits.

The proposition of making a skating park at the ground of the Booster base ball club, which has been agitated for the past two seasons among the citizens here, is about to materialize into a reality, as four of the young men of this city, Messrs. W. R. Holly, Frank Schudlice, Charles Ault and Albert Schudlice, have obtained the consent of the officers of the base ball association for the use of the park for this purpose, and as soon as possible in the next few days, if the weather permits, the grounds will be flooded and placed in condition to use for the purposes of skating.

It is proposed to have the grounds illuminated in order that the lovers of this sport may enjoy themselves at night in perfect safety and without any of the dangers that are always present in skating on the rivers or ponds in the vicinity, as the depth of the water in the park will be plenty to insure a good smooth skating pond and not endanger in any way persons with drowning. This is certainly a move that will be appreciated by the parents of the city in regard to their little ones and will also be approved by those of mature age, who delight in this winter sport, as it is near to the business part of the city and will be conducted by the young men on strictly business principles.

In order to defray the expense of fitting up the pond a small fee will be charged for skating, and of the receipts a certain percent will be received by the baseball association, which will give them a neat little sum in the spring to start the base ball season with. The public who find in skating a pleasure will not only be treated to an ideal place in which to skate, but they will be aiding a worthy movement by patronizing the new skating park as soon as it is opened to the public, and every encouragement should be given to the movement for the opening of the safe skating park.

Drawn on Federal Petit Jury.

In the names drawn at Lincoln for service on the petit jury of the United States district court, presided over by Judge T. C. Munger, the names of two of the prominent residents of the western part of this county appear, J. O. Adams of Eagle and Joseph Mullen of Elmwood are the men who will assist in passing on the cases called before the court at its coming session, which will start on January 26.

Get your harness oiled for \$1 at John Gorder's.

BURGLARS VISIT OUR CITY FOR A NIGHT'S RAID

Attempts Made to Enter Several Places, but the Extent of Losses Not Known.

From Tuesday's Daily.

Our beautiful little city last evening received a visit from burglars, or rather would-be burglars, and the party doing the deed was unable to complete his work, due to the timely interference of the night watchman, John Fitzpatrick. At about 3 o'clock this morning Mr. Fitzpatrick, who was patrolling the streets, was walking near the court house and noticed the figure of a man apparently engaged in attempting to open the tool box on the large traction engine which had been left on Fourth street for the night. Mr. Fitzpatrick at once went over to investigate the matter and see what was up, but as he approached the man jumped from the machine and took to his heels down the alley toward the east. The tool box had been pried open, but the man had not evidently had time to complete the work, as there was nothing missing, and the watchman took the tools out and removed them to a place of safety, after a search for the man.

This morning daylight revealed the second chapter in the story, as when William Holly, the clothier, arrived at his store to open it up, he found that the same party had evidently tried to force an entrance into the building, as one of the windows on the east side of the store had been raised and an attempt made to break the wooden shutter on the inside, which at night is secured in place by a large wooden bar, and this shutter had been hacked considerably where the man had tried to force his way in with a small bar, which was found lying near the window. One of the windows in the rear of the store had also received a visit from the burglar, as one of the glass panes had been removed and an attempt made here to force the wooden shutter, but with as little success as in the front part of the store, and the man, evidently disgusted at the poor success he was having with the tools he had, sought to secure others from the box on the traction engine, and this led to his being discovered and driven off by the night watchman before he had time to complete his entrance into the Holly store.

The strange part of it seems to be that he did not arouse someone, as the efforts on the east window of the store must have caused a good deal of noise, as part of the strip holding the window was removed to permit of the window being raised, and a part of the wooden shutter was broken. It is thought that it was the work of some tramp, who sought to supply his wardrobe by this means.

ANOTHER NEW RESIDENCE IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION

From Tuesday's Daily.

One of the earliest improvements in the building line to be undertaken in the city in 1914 is the erection by Joseph Wampler of a handsome eight-room bungalow on his tract of land in the extreme south part of the city and the building will be completed as rapidly as possible. The new house is to be erected on what is known as the Canon Burgess place and has a commanding location, where it can be seen for miles, being situated between Chicago and Lincoln avenue, and will make an ideal place for a home for Mr. Wampler and family. The cellar has been excavated already and the work of putting up the new residence will be started at once.

Drags the Roads.

Monday morning when we went out on our mail route we were surprised when we came to A. S. Will's farm residence to find a nice smooth piece of road nearly a mile in length. Grover and his hired man had been out dragging the roads with a heavy drag with steel edges on it. To say that it was a relief would be putting it rather mild. The work wants to be done when it is thawing to make a nice job of it. There is no use of having such rough roads, if somebody would take hold of the matter and do it. It would save the mail carriers a whole lot of bumps and you would get your mail quicker. Now it is a leisure time and could be done. Instead of sitting around smoking or putting in the time in some other way, just try it the first day that it is a little warm and thawing and don't wait too long.

J. M. Young,
Rural Mail Carrier.

WOODMAN CIRCLE HOLDS MEETING

Hall Crowded to Capacity by Enthusiastic Gathering of Members Last Evening.

From Wednesday's Daily.

Last evening the Woodman Circle held one of the finest meetings that has ever been the pleasure of the lodge in this city to have and the occasion was the installing of the officers of the lodge by the drill team, under the direction of Mrs. M. E. Manspeaker, the captain of the team, and the members of the team covered themselves with glory in the manner in which they conducted the impressive ceremonies that marks the taking of the different chairs in the lodge by the new officers. Mrs. Inez DeVille of Omaha, deputy for the supreme officer, assisted as the installing officer, and the ceremony was one that made a deep impression by its beauty and solemnity, upon the members of the lodge who were present.

The officers installed were: Mrs. Val Burke, past guardian; Mrs. J. E. McDaniel, guardian; Mrs. W. H. Bunch, advisor; Mrs. H. J. Schlutz, chaplain; Mrs. Roy Burdick, inside watch; Miss Alma Speck, outside watch.

In addition to the installation ceremonies five new candidates were taken into the order as the result of the splendid work of the deputy, Mrs. Joseph Droege, and these new additions makes the lodge here one of the largest of the ladies' fraternal societies in the city and the keen interest taken in the work and at the meetings is a splendid tribute to the wide-awake deputy and the splendid lodge that has been built up here, and Supreme Guardian Emma B. Manchester and the grand lodge officers can feel very proud of the growth that the order has enjoyed here in the past year and a half.

After the close of the ceremonies the members enjoyed a very delicious lunch and a general good time and all departed for their homes feeling that to be a member of this order was a rare privilege, and trusting that in the future they might participate in many more as largely attended and enthusiastic meetings.

Suffering From Appendicitis.

Ernest Tuey, who is employed in the store department of the Burlington in this city, is reported as being confined to his home suffering from an attack of appendicitis, with which he was taken while at his work in the shops a few days ago, and on Monday he was forced to return home and medical aid was summoned to treat him. His condition is quite serious, it seems, although it is not known at this time whether an operation will be necessary or not.

DEATH CLAIMS ANOTHER OLD RESIDENT

Bernhard Wurl, a Most Highly Esteemed Citizen, Passes Away at His Home in This City.

Last night another of the well loved and highly respected citizens of this city was called to his last long rest, when the death messenger, at 12:07 o'clock, claimed for his own Bernhard Wurl, who has for years been one of the most highly respected citizens in the community, and in his death the entire city will mourn most sincerely with the family in the loss of their loved one, as during his lifetime Mr. Wurl had made a host of friends by his quiet unassuming ways, and those who were fortunate enough to know him well prized as a priceless gift his friendship. Mr. Wurl had resided in this city since 1887, and during that time had been a time-tried and faithful employee of the Burlington at their shops here, and in his death his fellow workmen will feel a loss that will be hard to replace, and his kindly face will be greatly missed by all those who have known him all these years.

Bernhard Wurl was born in Prussia on August 25, 1841, at the family home near Berlin, and in this community he grew to manhood and received his education, but when he reached manhood the desire to see more of the world and to live in the great land of liberty across the sea drew his heart, and in June, 1867, in company with his young wife, whom he married in May of that year, he sailed away from the Fatherland to find a home in the new world, and the young people, on their arrival in America, located at Bericann, Wisconsin, where they lived for some twenty years, until May 1887, when the family removed to Plattsmouth, where they have since resided. One of the beautiful things in the life of Mr. Wurl was his love and devotion to his helpline and companion who he was wedded to in the Fatherland, and it was always the brightest thought of his life of the day when he and Miss Bertha Ebener pledged their wedding vows in the land across the sea, and their wedded life had been a most happy one to both. To this worthy couple five stalwart sons were born, and they, together with the sorrowing wife and mother, were present when the father passed to the Great Beyond. The children are as follows: Paul J. Wurl, Byron, Nebraska; Emil A. Wurl and Bernard G. Wurl, Plattsmouth; Otto A. Wurl, Quincy, Illinois; Ernest E. Wurl, Long Beach, California. One sister, Mrs. Augusta Martin, of this city, and one brother Richard Wurl, of Stanton, Nebraska, are also left to mourn the loss of this grand good man.

The funeral of Mr. Wurl will be held on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the German St. Paul's church, of which the deceased and his wife have been members since its organization in this city.

Here From Denver.

Last evening George W. Valley, president of the Colorado Midland railroad, arrived from Denver and will make a short visit here with his mother, Mrs. Jacob Valley, and other relatives. He arrived on No. 2, to which train his private car, "Casade," was attached, and his visit here to the old home was one greatly enjoyed by his relatives here.

For Sale.

Good 160-acre farm, 3 1/2 miles southeast of Greenwood, Neb.; 125 acres in winter wheat, 30 acres meadow. Also good 160-acre farm 1 1/2 miles west of Greenwood, Neb.; 70 acres in winter wheat, 12 acres alfalfa. Call on or write, A. D. Welton, or Farmers State Bank, Greenwood, Neb.