

# The Plattsmouth Journal.

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NO. 2

## DEATH TAKES TOLL AT CEDAR CREEK SUNDAY

### ALBIAN BEZDEK, RESIDENT OF THIS CITY, DROWNS IN CEDAR CREEK LAKE.

From Monday's Daily.  
The Sunday outing at the pleasant lakes near Cedar Creek was marred yesterday afternoon when Albian Bezdek of this city was drowned while swimming there.

There had been a large number of people at the lakes during the afternoon but as the evening approached the crowd began to thin out and there were only a few in the vicinity of the lakes when the tragedy occurred.

The deceased with his wife and four small children had driven out to Cedar Creek to enjoy a picnic for the day and it was close to 6 o'clock when the husband and father, who was an expert swimmer, decided to attempt to swim across the small lake and leaving his family sitting on the bank he dove into the water, swimming almost across the lake when suddenly he sank out of sight in the very deep water of the lake.

Mr. Bezdek, it is stated, never came to the surface of the lake again and it was a short time before the family realized the tragedy that had occurred, as the deceased being a well versed swimmer the thought of his drowning had never occurred, but his failure to appear caused the sounding of an alarm and attempts to rescue him were made by those who had been called to the scene of the accident by a neighbor, Clyde Martin, who with his family, was nearby, ran to the scene and Mr. Martin with several boys swam out to the spot where Mr. Bezdek had disappeared and after several efforts Mr. Martin brought the body up and the rescue party bore it to the shore some ten feet away where every effort was made to revive the spark of life but without result as death had apparently come very swiftly.

It is not known whether the icy waters of the lake at that point had brought on an attack of heart trouble or a sudden attack of heart trouble had caused the swimmer to sink as he disappeared without a struggle.

As soon as the drowning occurred Sheriff Quinton was notified and hurried to the scene as did Undertaker John P. Sattler and the body was brought to this city about 10 o'clock and placed in the Sattler undertaking parlors.

Mr. Bezdek was forty years of age and leaves to mourn his death the wife and five children, the eldest of whom had not been at the scene of the accident but remained in the city. He came to Plattsmouth five years ago and has since been in the Burlington shops as a carman, but the last two weeks has been with his fellow workers on the strike.

The family resides in the old Janda property at 15th and Vine street and this is another chapter in the series of tragic deaths that have been visited on the residents of that property as the former residents, the Howich family, suffered two tragedies, one of the brothers being killed by a hand saw breaking and another brother by electricity while working on a motorcycle.

## FUNERAL OF MRS. LUTZ

The St. Paul's Evangelical church in this city was filled to its utmost capacity Saturday afternoon by old friends to attend the funeral services of the late Mrs. George Lutz of Louisville, whose tragic death has stirred the county for the past week. From the old home at Louisville there were some seventy-five friends present.

The services were conducted by Rev. H. Kottich, pastor of the church and the sermon delivered in both English and German as the pastor spoke words of comfort to the bereaved husband and children and other members of the family to whom the death has come as such a severe blow.

## CLUB WILL CLOSE UP

The Cosmopolitan club which has been in existence in this city for the past eleven years is to be disbanded from the reports that have been made public and will be closed for the present if not permanently.

## LITTLE RUTH PICKETT ANSWERS SUMMONS

### After Illness of Long Duration Spirit of Little One Called Home to Rest Eternal Saturday.

Saturday evening at 9 o'clock at the University hospital in Omaha, the spirit of little Ruth Pickett answered the final summons and passed to her home in the bosom of the Father where she may enjoy the peace and rest that her long illness had made most welcome to the little sufferer.

Ruth Pickett was born November 6, 1912, and was the third child of Mr. and Mrs. Luther P. Pickett of this city. The little one had been attending the schools in this city and up to the last term was one of the brightest of the little folks in school, and her showing in the school work was the first intimation that her bodily strength and vitality was failing, as she failed to merit the higher grades that had always been hers in the past, and often complained of being tired and listless.

Last May her condition was followed by more serious symptoms and since that time her health had been gradually failing. She was taken dangerously sick a few weeks ago, while visiting with relatives at Hamburg, Iowa, and was brought on home and taken from here to the hospital in Omaha, where she had been since, with the exception of a few days at home.

On Saturday morning the specialist Dr. Young and Dr. J. J. Keegan operated on the little one for tumor of the brain and the patient never fully recovered from the operation that had been performed as the last hope of saving her life.

The death of the little girl has been a deep blow to the parents and the little brothers and sisters, Marjorie, Paul, Darline, Jaunita and Eliza Samuel, and in their sorrow, the sympathy of the community will go out to them.

## OMAHA AUTO PARTY HAS A NASTY SPILL

### Attempt to Make Curve Near M. P. Depot Saturday Night Brings Expensive Results.

Saturday night about the time that the far-famed midnight Missouri Pacific was to arrive in the city from the state metropolis, a Dodge coupe occupied by a gentleman and lady was seen dashing out Washington avenue at considerable speed and apparently not traveling as straight as it might and indicating that the driver was not altogether with his mind on his work.

All went well with the car until the approach to the sharp turn in the pavement near the Missouri Pacific depot and here they failed to make the turn in the street but instead their car turned over, striking the curb and at the speed they were going it was easy to cause the car to move gently over and the next thing that the occupants of the car knew their gas wagon was lying in the street upside down. Charley Tilton, the taxi driver, and Howard Jolly, who were at the M. P. station, hastened to the scene of the accident and succeeded with some difficulty in getting the two occupants of the car out uninjured but considerably shaken up by their experience.

The rescue party found it necessary to tear out a considerable part of the top and side of the car in getting out the man and woman and immediately after the rescue the victims of the accident hailed a passing car and were able to get a ride on into Omaha. Yesterday morning a truck from Omaha came down and removed the badly demolished car from the scene of the accident and took it on back to Omaha.

## BIG MYSTERY AT LOUISVILLE IS UNSOLVED AS YET

### Cause of Death of Mrs. George Lutz Raises Questions That May Have Bearing on Case.

From Monday's Daily.  
So far there has been little new light shed on the case of Mrs. George Lutz, whose death occurred Thursday from the effects of poison administered in an alleged assault on her home in Louisville on last Monday.

The only clue that might lead to the guilty man was that relative to Mewhorter, the escaped prisoner from the state reformatory who was reported to have been seen in Louisville on Sunday last, and this Superintendent Miller of the state reformatory admits may be true, but he doubts it very much.

In speaking of the matter, those who have investigated the case closely have brought out questions as to the case.

While neighbors apparently are satisfied that the true story of the poisoning of Mrs. Lutz was told by her, they cannot account for the following:

How the man got in without being seen by neighbors.

How it happened that all doors to the house were locked when Mr. Lutz returned.

One door, however, locks with a padlock on the outside. It would be possible for a burglar to enter an unlocked door and lock it when he departed. In this instance, according to neighbors, the man may have played to bring about delay in discovery of the deed.

The Lutz home, although among the trees, is on high ground. It can be seen by those of neighboring houses on three sides. It is directly opposite the garden and home of L. E. Twiss.

Mr. Twiss told the officers that his mother was at work in the garden, a short stone's throw from the Lutz house, when the poison presumably was being poured down the victim's throat.

Amos Cecil Pettis, who lives but a short distance from the Lutz home, expressed the belief that some one may have overheard Mr. Lutz in a possible discussion of money matters and in this manner obtained information of the currency in the house.

Another question which is given considerable thought is the difficulty presumably experienced when one person attempts to pour liquid down the throat of another person while the latter struggles against it.

Mrs. Lutz was a nurse. She was called out frequently and was away from home quite often at night. There is no way of fixing the time of fatal poisoning. In her death-bed statement, the victim is said to have given it as between 2 and 5 p. m. Since the so-called shadow man was not seen to enter or leave the house, that statement furnishes the only evidence as to time.

## RETURNS FROM ENGLAND

From Tuesday's Daily.  
Yesterday afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Richard Avard and son, Dickie, arrived in this city from an extended visit covering the past year in England where they have been with relatives in Sheffield and London, and it is with pleasure that they return to the land of their adoption.

## W. C. T. U. HAS PLEASANT MEETING YESTERDAY

### Miss Olive Gass, Assisted by Miss Lucy Arnold and Mrs. H. C. Leopold, Hostesses.

From Tuesday's Daily.  
The members of the W. C. T. U. society yesterday afternoon enjoyed a most delightful meeting at the home of Miss Olive Gass on Marble street, and for the occasion the hostess was assisted by Miss Lucy Arnold and Mrs. H. C. Leopold.

The business session was devoted to a discussion of the primary election and the ladies devoted much time to the studying of the manner of casting their ballot and the candidates for the various offices within the gift of the voters and on which they are passing today.

After the close of the business meeting a most delightful musical program was given by a number of the pupils of Miss Gass on the piano, and in which the young people showed much skill and artistic ability.

There were a goodly number of the ladies in attendance and at the close of the afternoon dainty refreshments were served that aided in making the occasion one of the greatest of pleasure.

## OLDEST MASON IN STATE OF NEBRASKA

### J. D. Edwards of Stromsburg Nebraska's Oldest Mason—Is Presented With Jordan Medal

J. D. Edwards of Stromsburg is the oldest Mason in Nebraska. He is 92 years of age and has been a Mason for 67 years. He was presented with the Jordan medal from the Masonic order by the grand officers of the Masonic lodge of Nebraska on July 8. The presentation was made in the Stromsburg park in the evening where appropriate exercises were held.

Mr. Edwards joined the Masonic lodge at Fairfield, Ia., in April, 1855. He demitted from this lodge in 1874, and joined the lodge at Stromsburg, Neb. He served nine years as master of the lodge and has been a secretary of the DDBNS—A2VM a secretary for twenty-one years. He has been secretary of the Stromsburg lodge continuously for the past sixteen years.

Mr. Edwards served four years and nine months in the Civil war on the frontiers in the Dakotas, being a volunteer from Iowa. He has also been active in civil affairs. He was postmaster under the administration of President Harrison, and more recently he has been police judge, serving in this capacity until a year ago. He is still enjoying the best of health and visits in Lincoln several times each year.

## FUNERAL OF LITTLE RUTH PICKETT IS HELD TODAY

From Tuesday's Daily.  
The funeral services of little Ruth Pickett were held this afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Christian church and quite largely attended by the friends of the family and the little school friends of the deceased girl.

Rev. A. G. Hall officiated and spoke briefly from the text, "He shall gather the lambs in His arms and carry them in His Bosom." In his remarks the pastor took up the thought of the protecting love of the Father for his little one and the strength that this love gave in the protecting of the little one of the earth. During the services, Mrs. E. H. Westcott and Mrs. George Nelson gave a number of the well beloved hymns.

## CAUSES FOR TUBERCULOSIS ANALYZED

### Government Survey Indicates Number of Them Exist—Cattle Responsible for Spread.

In view of the campaign now being made in Nebraska to get rid of bovine tuberculosis, recent data secured by the federal department of agriculture is of great importance. The question was what is the common method of spreading the disease and was asked in the interest of establishing tuberculosis free herds.

In North Dakota, where range conditions are typical of those in many other states of the northwest, unrestricted ranging of cattle was given as a common cause; drinking at the same pool was another. The introduction of the disease was laid to cattle not properly tested being shipped into the state.

In parts where the pastures are fenced the complaint was that the disease is spread by cattle nosing each other at fence lines. One breeder advocated a double line of fence to prevent this means of contact. In this state, where purebred cattle are generally tested before being sold, but grade cattle are not, much of the spread of the disease is laid to infected stock. Close housing in poorly ventilated buildings was given as a cause of disease by a few breeders. Some, from observation and experience, laid the spread of the disease to feeding calves and pigs milk from tuberculous animals.

From other sources came the claim that it was spread from dead animals by dogs and hogs running at large and feeding upon the carcasses. From Oklahoma came fewer reasons, but of the same type; common pasture, importation of untested animals from other states and the sale locally of untested animals, foul stables and contact with infected cattle in adjoining fields by breachy stock crawling through fences or stock nosing at fence lines.

Among the chief causes given in New England were the low price at which untested animals are sold, the lack of testing hogs and grade cattle to be sure they as well as purebred animals, are free from disease when sold, the breeding to a common bull, serving cows outside the herd, the common drinking trough, milk from other states fed to calves, and hogs, unsanitary barns, drafty barns, underfeeding, the common pasture or pasturing boarder animals and nosing at or breaking true fence lines by cattle which may be diseased.

The twelve causes of the spread of the disease reported generally were:

- 1.—Unrestricted range or common pasture.
- 2.—Common drinking pool or trough.
- 3.—Introduction of untested cattle.
- 4.—Nosing at fence lines.
- 5.—Close fowl housing.
- 6.—Milk of infected animals fed to calves and hogs.
- 7.—Trading of untested animals.
- 8.—Dead animals eaten by dogs and hogs.
- 9.—Breachy stock.
- 10.—Breeding to a common bull.
- 11.—Serving cows outside the herd.
- 12.—Conditions unfavorable to health, as drafty barns and underfeeding.

## THE HAIL AT GREENWOOD

The roof is completely gone from the home of John Anderson as the result of the storm Monday night. The wheat was badly damaged by the hail and farmers are putting in tight bottoms in hay racks to save as much as possible. Cedric Fulmer had his car badly damaged Monday when the storm overtook him near the entrance to the cemetery. The car was overturned. The rain fell in torrents nearly drowning Mr. Fulmer. Among the Greenwood vicinity residents whose corn crops are a total loss are John Gable, Alfred Hutchison, John Anderson, Joe Johnson, Joe Armstrong, Evan Armstrong, Ed Bell, Lewis Laune, Tim Brittenham, Lloyd Jeffery, Ole Olson, Fred Hartsook, Everett Drake, Nellie Almy. These farmers live northwest of town, D. L. Talcott, O. S. Hartsook, George Hansen, O. A. Johnson suffered crop losses west of town. Will Leesley had a barn destroyed and two big barns were destroyed on the farm of Delbert Leesley. The home of Lyman Momey was damaged and his crops ruined. Very little wheat had been threshed and the entire crop in the hail section will not only be cut in yield but loss in grade. One horse was struck and killed by lightning and chickens were killed by the score.

## WILL UNDERGO OPERATION

From Wednesday's Daily.  
This morning Mr. and Mrs. Dave Pickett departed for Omaha where Mrs. Pickett will enter the St. Luke's hospital in that city for an operation for appendicitis. Mrs. Pickett, who was formerly Miss Nellie White of this city, has been suffering for some time from the attack of appendicitis and it was deemed necessary by the attending physicians that she undergo an operation in the hopes of securing some much needed relief.

## ENTERTAINS FOR GUEST

From Tuesday's Daily.  
Yesterday afternoon Miss Mariel Streight was hostess to a very charming 1 o'clock luncheon in honor of her house guest, Miss Vivian Bahr, of Broken Bow, at her home, "Cragstone Lodge" in the north portion of the city.

The guests were seated at one long table which was attractive in its appointments of lace, silver and crystal. The centerpiece of the table was of snapdragons, carrying out the color scheme of yellow and white.

Those present were Mesdames Waldemar Soenichsen, J. D. Hawksworth, Charles Dovey and W. C. McIntyre, of Council Bluffs, Misses Vivian Bahr, Mary Rosencrans, Nellie Mae Cowles, Madeline Minor, Eleanor Burnie and the hostess, Miss Streight.

## ASK FOR PAYMENT FOR CORN CROP

### Carl L. Ellison and Jens Bundgaard File Action Against Farmers' Union Co-Operative Co.

From Tuesday's Daily.  
An action has been filed in the district court in which Carl Louis Ellison and Jens Bundgaard are the plaintiffs and the Farmers' Co-Operative Co., the defendants. The plaintiffs in their petition state that they delivered to the defendant company at their elevator, 5,101 bushels of corn in the year 1921 with the order that it should be kept in storage and sold or disposed of on the order of the two plaintiffs, and that on March 28, 1922, the plaintiffs ordered the corn sold and at that date the market price at Weeping Water, where the corn was disposed of, was 43c per bushel. They further allege that they have not received the price of their corn and therefore ask that the sum of \$2,192.61 together with interest from March, 1922, be allowed them in judgment against the defendants.

Another action in the district court is that of Mrs. Laura E. Rydberg, et al., against James Gray, in which the plaintiff is the case leased a tract of land to the defendant for which he was to pay certain cash rental and which has not as yet been paid and for which the plaintiff asks judgment in the sum of \$1,215 with interest.

## HAIL CAUSES HEAVY LOSS

Norfolk, Neb., July 17.—Between \$500,000 and \$750,000 damage to crops was the estimate made by a correspondent who toured the region ten miles in diameter laid waste Saturday night by the most severe hail storm ever known in Pierce county. Between seventy and eighty sections of the richest farm land in the county are in the devastated district. Corn and uncut grain were beaten into the ground and hundreds of acres of shocked grain swept into creeks. A deluge of rain amounting to six inches in places accompanied the hail.

Hail fell for an hour and a half and in places it formed dams behind which water collected in small lakes inundating fields. Late Sunday hail stones as large as hen eggs were to be seen on the ground.

The storm which had its center about seven miles northeast of Pierce was accompanied by a wind of almost tornado proportions, the no serious damage by wind has been reported.

## PATRONS MAKE A FAST EXIT DURING RAID AT LA PLATTE

### State Officers Raid Tent Containing Booze a Mile and One-Half South of La Platte.

Two cars were stationed in front of a small tent one-half mile south of La Platte Saturday evening, when State Sheriff Hyers, Deputy State Sheriff Karl Schmitt, Jr., Superintendent Gus Miller of the reformatory, and others drove up in a state car. In addition to the two standing cars a third slowly approached from the south. One glimpse at the man at the wheel in the state car caused a rapid disappearance of all visible patrons.

L. A. Gray, proprietor of the soft and hard drink place, was found on his cot. He is sixty-five years old. He is a wreck of a man. He told the officers that one arm and part of his jaw were shot off in the Indian territory. He is minus one leg and claims that four ribs are missing on one side. The leg and the ribs, he said, were lost when a woman ran over him in Iowa. He declared that he is merely waiting to die and that he doesn't expect it to be a long wait. He employs a man to do his work.

Deputy State Sheriff Schmitt entered the tent alone. He asked if any liquor was on hand.

"Where you from?" whispered the old man.

"Chadron," said the deputy.

"Look under the counter."

"This the deputy did. He found a quart bottle about one-third full of 'hooch.' He started out thru the tent entrance with the bottle in one hand.

"Don't take it out. Bring the fellows in," said the proprietor. The deputy then took in the state sheriff and others of the party. Gray said that he purchased the stuff of a man who delivered from Omaha at \$10 a gallon. He sold it in the tent, he said, at 25 cents a drink.

"I wish I hadn't ever got that last gallon," he said.

Because of the wretched condition of the man, the officers did not attempt to move him. He promised to be ready whenever they may send for him and also declared that he will handle no more booze. The man in charge of the toll bridge just below the tent, said that many cars cross the river and return in from thirty to forty-five minutes.—State Journal.

## DEPARTS FOR CALIFORNIA

From Tuesday's Daily.  
Today J. J. Melsing, wife and children, and accompanied by Mrs. Melsing, departed via the auto route for California, where they expect to make their home in the future and in their new home will carry the well wishes of the many friends in Cass county. Mr. Melsing and wife have long contemplated removing to the coast country where they have a number of friends residing and just a short time since purchased themselves a home at Santa Anna.

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