

The Plattsmouth Journal

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WANTS THE COURT TO FIX FAIR VALUATION OF ITS LINES

Rock Island Says Necessary to Secure Justice. State Board Acts Arbitrarily Evidence Shows.

The Rock Island railroad in a brief filed Monday, asks the supreme court to itself fix what is a proper valuation of the property of the company for taxation purposes in the state, and then tell the state board of equalization to make that the basis for levying taxes. The attorneys insist that the legislature, when it adopted a law permitting the railroad to appeal to the supreme court meant to provide a method by which such a dispute can be settled and not juggled back and forth between the supreme court and the state board.

As fixed by the board in 1923 the Rock Island property was valued at \$19,694,469. On an appeal the supreme court said this was manifestly too high as compared with other property, since the evidence showed that farm lands were taxed around 63 per cent of their actual sale value. The board was directed to eliminate the discrimination.

All it did, however, was to reduce the railroad valuation to \$9,571,498 or a little over a million, which reduced the taxes of the company \$19,715. The attorneys for the road said that this action of the board made the arbitrary action of the board and was not based on any relevant material evidence. The declaration of the board that it gave "full and due consideration" does not block a court inquiry.

It is pointed out that the other railroads have gone into federal court, claiming that the state court gains them nothing and that the federal supreme court has held they had this right. Justice Holmes said that when the state court acted on a writ of error it was confined to the record, and that the most it could do was to set aside the excessive valuation and request the board to fix it. The board, a method hardly satisfactory where the board is trying to evade the law.

The Rock Island attorneys say that unless the court takes on itself the duty of fixing the valuation the federal supreme court criticism of the law will stand. It is thought the court should do something more than erase the figures of the board and then hand it back leaving the board free to set down any new figure it wants to do. Acting on the theory that the court will fix a valuation, the attorneys are confident that the state in Nebraska is only about half as dense as on the system the main track mileage basis of proportioning the total value is wrong. A valuation in excess of \$6,450,000 is declared to be about right.

AFTER PAPER NUMBERS

The night police force last evening tagged another of the numerous autolists who are traveling over the country on paper numbers instead of the usual license plates for which the great state of Nebraska has provided a suitable fee. The party taken up claimed his residence as Omaha and deposited a cash bond of \$5 for his appearance here later. The card numbers are given out by dealers on selling a car to give the owner of the car time to secure a license and are good for ten days only from the date perforated by the dealer in the card, but a great many seem to think that they are good for permanent use or they at least try "his stunt and sooner or later they have to pay the piper and lose a great deal more than the cost of a license would have been. The night police have secured several of these in the last week and which will aid in replenishing the police fund of the city. Incidentally war on the paper numbers has been declared by Sheriff Endres at Omaha and which will probably mean fewer Omaha pasteboards here in the future.

Suffers Severe Injury to Hand Monday Forenoon

John Iverson, Jr., who has been employed at the Burlington shops for some time past, is wearing his hand in a sling as the result of a very severe accident occurring yesterday morning at the shops. John was assisting in moving some heavy car wheels and in some manner the right hand was caught between two wheels and with the result that the member was very badly mashed and the thumb of the right hand was almost stripped of the flesh, it requiring twelve stitches to close the wound and making a very painful injury and one that John will carry for some time to remind him of the accident.

Big line of foot balls at the Beta Corner Book and Stationery Store.

Louisville Boy Improving from Long Term of Illness

Andrew Stohman, of Louisville, was here on Monday afternoon and while in the city was a visitor at the Journal office for a few moments. Mr. Stohman stated that his son, Leroy, is showing improvement over his condition of the past eight months and it is hoped that he is now definitely on the highway to complete recovery from his affliction of long duration.

The young man has been suffering from a very severe infection of the leg and foot that has made it necessary for him to spend seven months in the hospital and from which he is still suffering and which requires his receiving treatment and dressings at frequent intervals. However, it is hoped that now some definite steps toward permanent recovery have been made.

DICK DE FORD PASSES AWAY AT LINCOLN HOME

Well Known in This City Where He Has Frequently Appeared With His Orchestra.

From Wednesday's Daily— Last evening at 9:30 at his home, 3261 R street, Lincoln occurred the death of Dick DeFord, well known musician of this part of the state and who has many friends in this city and vicinity who will regret very much to learn of his passing.

Mr. DeFord has not been in the best of health for some time and on the occasion of his last visit here he was complaining of his health not being the best and of late it has been such as to make it difficult for him to carry on his musical work. Mr. DeFord has made his home in Lincoln for the past fifteen years, coming to that city from Seward where he made his home for a long period of years and was identified with the musical work there. He was a member of the musician's protective association and has since located in Lincoln where he has been in charge of an orchestra, playing through Nebraska and western Iowa. He was forty-five years of age and leaves his wife and one son, Dick, Jr., to mourn his death. He was a member of the Elks and the Knights of Pythias. The funeral is being held at the Mores funeral home in Lincoln pending the arrangements for the last services.

A message received here this afternoon by Harley, baker, a close friend of Mr. DeFord, announcing that the services at Lincoln would be at the Mores funeral home at 2:30 Friday afternoon, the body taken to Norfolk where the services will be held at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon and interment there.

EAGLE LADY DIES

The funeral of Mrs. Henry Ketelbut, who died Tuesday last week, was held at the family residence in Eagle on Saturday at half past one o'clock, and was attended by a goodly number of relatives and old-time friends. Rev. John Davis conducted the funeral service by request of the deceased, and the remains were laid to rest in Wyuka cemetery.

The following obituary was prepared and read at the service: Henrietta Hopkie was born in Germany February 25, 1845, and died in Eagle, Nebraska, on May 27, 1924, age 79 years, 2 months and 2 days. She was married to Henry Ketelbut in 1868, and they came to America and settled on a farm south of Eagle in 1879, where they lived until eleven years ago, when they moved to Eagle, where they have since resided. To this union were born twelve children, one having died in infancy. She joined the German Lutheran church at the age of 15 years.

She is survived by her husband, Henry Ketelbut; five sons, Henry, Otto and William of Eagle; Raymond of Nebraska, and Albert of Milwaukee, and six daughters, Kate Oberie, Martha Francke and Agnes Sacks of Eagle, Frances Stang of Bethany, Myrtle Blanchard, of Wray, Colo., and Hattie Knadle, of Missouri Valley, Iowa.

FAREWELL FOR MRS. CRABILL

A few friends entertained last Friday evening at the home of Miss Edith Shryock, for Mrs. Myra Crabill who is moving to Lincoln to make her future home. The guests were the Sunday school officers and teachers of the M. E. Church. Mrs. Crabill has been a teacher in the same organization. A few other friends and neighbors were included among the guests.

The evening passed pleasantly in conversation with music and singing old time melodies and Mrs. Crabill was showered with wishes for success and happiness in their new home and regrets at their departure. She is making the change to give her two sons, Maldon and Jack better educational advantages. During their residence here, they have made a host of friends who are very sorry to lose them from our community, but whose best wishes will follow them.—Louisville Courier.

FOREMAN AT THE LOUISVILLE STONE QUARRY INJURED

Lon Kilgore Suffers Broken Leg and Other Injuries When Part of Tunnel Caves On Him

From Wednesday's Daily— Another very serious accident occurred between 1 and 2 o'clock Monday afternoon at the National stone quarry at Louisville, when a part of the top of a tunnel caved in and resulted in the breaking of the leg of Lon Kilgore, foreman in the quarry.

Mr. Kilgore as is the custom of the quarry had gone into the tunnel after the blasting to assist in removing any loose rock or dirt that might be hanging to the top of the tunnel. He had climbed onto a shelf of rock that was hanging there and which he feared would cause injury to some of the workmen. He found that the shelf was loose and decided to place a shot of dynamite in a crevice above the shelf in order to clear it away. As he was lighting the fuse the shelf suddenly gave away and fell, striking him on the back. The left leg of Mr. Kilgore was broken at the ankle and his back very badly injured and the nerves of the back very badly injured. He also received a wound on the head and about the face and hands.

The injured man was taken by Dr. Wortman to the Lord Lister hospital in Omaha where he has since been cared for and the injuries fortunately were not as serious as had at first been feared.

This accident is somewhat similar to that of last summer which resulted in the death of W. E. Crabbill, who was crushed in the falling of a part of the roof of the tunnel in which he was working and while Mr. Kilgore had a very bad injury he feels that it was lucky it was no worse.

GIVES INTERESTING TALK ON FIGURES

George H. Wood of Louisville Entertains Large Audience at Methodist Church Last Evening

From Wednesday's Daily— The science of figures, their comprehension and use was given the plainest possible explanation last evening at the Epworth League room of the Methodist church when Geo. H. Wood, cashier of the Home State bank of Louisville was heard in his lecture and demonstration of calculation of figures. Mr. Wood has a system all his own and which in his demonstration certainly seems a vast improvement and a more practical means of arriving at the total of figures and problems which the young people are trained in their school work, the present systems that are prescribed.

The occasion was a real treat to the men and women who were in attendance and as the larger part of the audience had not witnessed a demonstration of the work of Mr. Wood it was a revelation as he in a few words added up column after column of figures and gave the totals before the audience was hardly aware that the figures had been placed on the blackboard.

From the demonstration of Mr. Wood's method such as he has evolved would certainly make a great improvement if adapted to school use and its practical uses certainly leads the Plattsmouth people to hope that the Wood system will in time be adopted as one of the methods of teaching the science of mathematics in the public schools.

MANY ATTEND MEETING

From Wednesday's Daily— The meeting held at Lincoln yesterday by the freight and passenger agents as well as the station agents, was attended by R. W. Clement of this city and who reports that some ninety of the working force of the "Q" was present to discuss the plans for stimulating the business of the rail road. At Omaha last evening was held another meeting relative to the handling of freight and express and which was attended by a very large number of the men from over the Omaha division interested in this line of work.

TO VISIT HERE

Mrs. E. A. Woodruff, of Long Beach, California, sister of B. J. Halstead, arrived on No. 6 this morning for a visit here and with another brother at Hamburg, Iowa.

Mrs. Halstead and daughter Bessie, surprised the sister by boarding the train at Lincoln, where they had spent last week, and accompanying her here. While at Lincoln Bessie had her tonsils and adenoids removed by a specialist.

Called Here From Illinois by Death of His Brother

From Monday's Daily— Last evening A. T. Curson of Danville, Illinois, arrived here from his home to look after the disposal of the body of his brother, James Curson, who died very suddenly near the ferry landing here Friday afternoon as the result of a heart attack brought on by the excessive use of pain pills.

Mr. Curson states that he had not seen his brother James for the past ten years, as he had been making his home in Wyoming for the greater part of the time and had not visited the old home in Illinois in this period. The relatives there however had received word that James was enroute by auto from the west for the old home, and had been looking for him when the news of his death was received Saturday afternoon at Danville.

It is probable, Mr. Curson states, that the body will be interred here at the cemetery and he will make the arrangements today for the funeral.

EVERYTHING FREE HERE ON JULY FOURTH

Committee Planning a Real Treat to All Who Attend the Big Celebration That Day

For the big Fourth of July celebration that is to be staged in this city on our nation's birthday, the keys of the city will be given over to the visitors to Plattsmouth, and the bustling committee that has the celebration in charge has made arrangements to make everything free that they can, and which assures the residents here and the guests on the way a real treat that will give the old pocket book a rest—the funds to defray the expenses having been raised by the donations of the citizens.

To entertain the guests of the city there will be band concerts by both the Plattsmouth and Weeping Water bands, two big ball games with Cass county teams participating, as well as dances in the evening at three halls over the city, and all of the above being made free picture shows in the afternoon and not the least of the attractions will be the big fireworks exhibition that will close in a blaze of glory the great day of rejoicing and pleasure.

As the orator of the day at the speaking platform will be James T. Begley, judge of the district court for this district, has been selected, and this feature of the day's program will be in very efficient hands and make a notable observance of the day.

The general committee has announced a number of their sub-committee heads and the concessions will be in charge of Dr. Oscar Sandin, one of the live wire boosters of the city and the athletic events in charge of Fred H. Vincent of the M. D. A. of the local Burlington shops, so that the two departments of the day's program will be in excellent hands.

The task of erecting the huge set pieces and firing the fireworks has been delegated to the American Legion. This display will cost several hundred dollars and will be one of the best seen in southeastern Nebraska this year.

Former Linotype Operator Here Very Ill in Colorado

From Monday's Daily— The many friends here of Earl Irelan, formerly a linotype operator on the Journal, will regret very much to learn that Mr. Irelan is in a very critical condition in Colorado, where he has been for the greater part of the time for the last few years, as he has been suffering from an affection of the lungs that made necessary his going there three years ago.

Mr. Irelan is a member of the local camp of the Modern Woodmen, and when first taken sick was sent to the Woodmen sanitarium near Colorado Springs, which is maintained for the members of the order. Here his condition improved very much, and he was soon apparently well on the highway to complete recovery. Later, however, he returned to Nebraska and was taken with a relapse and forced to return to the mountain country.

His present attack was quite sudden, however, as his relatives and friends had been thinking that his condition warranted the hope of his ultimate recovery. Mrs. Irelan, who was visiting at Nebraska City with relatives and friends, was called back to Colorado Springs by the news of the attack, the message from there stating that his condition was critical.

Mrs. Earl F. Hassler and children, Mary Frances and Jack, of Osceola, Nebraska, are here for a visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Hassler. They will be joined later by Earl for a visit with the parents and old friends here.

HEAVY RAINSTORM SWEEPS OVER THE CITY LAST NIGHT

Sewers Overflow During the Night and Heavy Body of Water Sweeps Over Streets.

From Wednesday's Daily— Following the heavy rainstorm that broke over the city at midnight last night the main street in the business section of the city was turned into a rushing river of water and on the crest of the flood were borne all of the debris and rubbish that has been piled in the waterways and streets and which served to cause a great deal of trouble experienced in keeping open the flood water sewers in the main section of the city.

At the height of the rain storm it was almost impossible to see across from one side of the street to the other so intense was the rainfall and this continued for some little time and the amount of water flowing along the street was carrying with it large amounts of grass and rubbish that commenced to lodge in the sewer intakes and which the night policemen Joe Libershall and Clyde Jackson battled for some time in an effort to keep open the sewers but as the water increased so did the rubbish and several of the sewer pipes were blocked by the limbs, planks and grass floating on the bosom of the small flood. The police then made the call for the fire department and fortunately a large number of the firemen were living close and were able to get onto the scene of action in a very few moments and they at once entered the battle to keep open the outlets for the flood waters.

The points that were chiefly threatened were along Sixth street where the full force of the flood waters was first felt and here on both north and south Sixth street water was way over the sidewalk on the east side of the street and the usual battle staged to keep the water from entering the Kroehler Brothers store as well as the Martin soft drink parlor on the north side for a time. Along the Water street on the southside, Great heaps of limbs of trees and grass were washed up on the sidewalks and the firemen were soaking wet as they fought to keep the sewers open to haul off the water. The obstruction caused it hard to raise very rapidly and at almost every intersection the water came up so high that it swept over the walks at the street corners.

The overflowing of the Chicago avenue sewer occurred first and had practically subsided when that on Washington concluded to empty the great wall of water that had formed there and which swept on to the main part of the city. Had the overflowing of both sewers occurred at the same time with the blocked condition of the sewers it had been hard to tell just what the result of the storm would have been and it is due the firemen and citizens who came down on to the main part of the city to give them credit for their work and the policemen who assisted in keeping open as far as possible the waterways and that allowed the water to keep moving.

The vast volume of water that came from the hills and poured from the sewers transformed the land east of the Burlington station into a small sized lake.

Tabor May Be Here Sunday

The management of the Plattsmouth baseball team is trying to arrange a game here on next Sunday afternoon with the team from Tabor, Iowa, reputed one of the best in the southwestern part of Iowa and which has had a number of very fast games this season. The Iowa team are the best in this part of the country and should give the fans a real treat in the way of a good fast game.

RECOVERS FROM INJURY

George Conis, the genial proprietor of the Palace Shing Parlor, who has for the past two weeks been having more or less difficulty with an injured hand, due to having it cut quite severely on a piece of broken glass, is now back in the harness again and looking after the conduct of the affairs at the shining parlor. The fact that the hand is back in commission again is the source of a great deal of pleasure to George and his many friends.

Gypsies in Country South of Town Cause Apprehension

From Monday's Daily— This morning Sheriff E. P. Stewart received a call that a party of gypsies were encamped on the highway south of this city, where they had been overnight and were causing more or less apprehension to the residents of that locality. A search however failed to locate the parties who had doubtless loaded into their cars and gone on toward the southland, where they were apparently headed for.

From the reports the party evidently consisted of merely one family and not the usual caravan that generally is found in the parties traveling through the country.

Vacation Bible School Opens This Morning

From Monday's Daily— The Methodist church is conducting a Daily Vacation Bible school for three weeks beginning today. The sessions begin at 9 o'clock and close at 12, noon. Children from 5 to 13 are invited. The enrollment fee is 25 cents, which is to be used for materials.

The school opened this morning with forty pupils enrolled. A certificate will be given to all pupils who attend ten days of the fifteen.

Miss Ruth Jacks is in charge of the school, Miss Helen Westcott, the Primaries, Miss Robertson, the Juniors and Mrs. Roman the Intermediates. Recesse time will be conducted by supervised play. Old Testament, New Testament, Hymn study and dramatisation are included in the curriculum. If anyone wishes information, call 185-W.

MODERN WOODMEN OBSERVE DECORATION DAY

Committee From Cass Camp 332, M. W. A. Place Wreathes of Remembrance On the Graves.

From Monday's Daily— Yesterday afternoon the members of the committee of Cass Camp No. 332 of the Modern Woodmen of America met at the hall of the order and marched to the last resting places of their departed brothers in Oak Hill cemetery.

There are some forty of the members of Cass Camp resting in the cemetery here and in token of the love and memory of their former associates the last resting places were marked with the bright flowers of springtime. The regular memorial services were held on last Sunday but it was impossible at that time to hold the decorations of the graves and which was postponed until yesterday.

ENTERTAIN AT MAH JONG

From Monday's Daily— This evening Misses Mia and Barbara Gering will entertain at their home on North Sixth street at a Mah Jong tea in honor of Mrs. J. C. Brown of Cleveland, formerly Miss Claire Dovey, of this city, and who is here visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Dovey. Three tables of the fascinating pastime will be laid.

GREETED HIS NEW SON

From Monday's Daily— Jack Sedgwick, who has been spending the past week at Janesville, Wisconsin, where Mrs. Sedgwick has been for the past month at the home of her parents, returned Saturday while at Janesville, Mr. Sedgwick was able to greet the new seven-pound son that arrived there on last Tuesday. The little son and the mother are doing nicely and it is unnecessary to state that Jack is very much pleased over the addition to the family circle.

Business forms of all kinds printed at the Journal office.



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