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The Plattsmouth Journal.

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PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1924.

NO. 93

CHARRED BODY OF MURDER VICTIM DISCOVERED

GREWSOME DISCOVERY IS MADE ALONG HIGHWAY 2 MILES NORTH OF THIS CITY.

BODY REVEALS FEW CLUES

Car Apparently Bearing Missouri License Number Found Stripped Near the Body.

From Tuesday's Daily—
A story of robbery and probable murder was revealed this morning when the charred body of a man was discovered lying in the ditch along the highway two miles north of this city by Mr. Nord, who was driving into Plattsmouth and saw the man covered by snow lying along the road.

The tragedy had evidently occurred before the snow storm as the body was covered by snow and ice when Sheriff Stewart and County Attorney W. G. Kieck arrived there a few moments after Mr. Nord had reported the body.

At first report it was thought that the man had been caught in his car and burned but on the arrival of the county officers and Detectives Tom Smith and E. L. Underwood at the scene of the tragedy there was found probable cause to think that the man was the victim of foul play.

The car which had apparently been a Ford coupe was lying along the east side of the new highway that was opened the last summer through the Stull farm, and the chassis of the car had been taken away by someone as there was not the slightest sign of the parts to be found anywhere and which looks as though the car had been looted and then later burned as there is only a very small part of the car left. Buried in the snow along the roadside a short distance from the car, County Attorney Kieck discovered a license bearing the number 22-27. There was lying in the wreckage where it had evidently been thrown a two gallon can that was drained and which it is thought was used in furnishing the means of destroying part of the car and also the body of the victim.

The body was given attention at the height of about seven inches in height and of a slender build as indicated by the charred body. The man had dark brown hair and was evidently dressed in a gray sweater and blue coat, pieces of which were found buried in the snow where he had laid. The shoes on the feet were small and bore out the supposition that he was not a very large man. There was no money or valuables found outside of a cheap Ingersoll watch that was lying beneath the body when it was removed by the county attorney.

The body was taken by Undertaker Sattler and brought on into this city and taken to the undertaking rooms for examination and where the inquest will be held later.

The county attorney in searching near the destroyed coupe found an exploded shotgun shell that may have played a part in the tragedy.

The body was given attention at the undertaking rooms and gave a few more facts as to the man, indicating that he was apparently a young man of 19 or 20 years, and a portion of the collar band of a white soft shirt bore the initials of C. A. X., which with a part of a letter address to Carl, evidently places the first name of the unfortunate man. He was apparently very heavily dressed as portions of the heavy underwear, dress shirt, vest, coat and sweater were found.

In the remains of a pocketbook was a cash fare receipt of the Kansas City line of the Burlington that would indicate that the man was probably from Marysville, Missouri.

Later reports from the vicinity of the tragedy state that Joe Thompson, Platte river bridge tender, received word last night from passing auto-lets that a car was burning on the highway and this was about 8 o'clock. The watch of the victim of the fire was stopped at 8:20 which

places very closely the time of the tragedy.

The burns on the body are evidently from gasoline and the right side of the face is badly burned as well as the arms and legs.

So far as could be found there were no wounds on the head or body that would indicate that the man had been shot or injured with any weapon that left a wound.

The absence of the chassis or any part of the car is what lends strength to the theory that these might have been taken before the car was fired.

This afternoon at 1 o'clock the coroner's inquest was held at the Sattler undertaking rooms and a jury impaneled by County Attorney W. G. Kieck, composed of Tom J. Smith, E. L. Underwood, L. J. Butcher, P. T. Becker, Frank Smith and Dr. O. Sandlin, all of whom had been present when the body was removed from the roadway where the death had occurred. The verdict of the jury was that the victim came to his death by foul means at the hands of a party or parties unknown.

HOLIDAY TRIP HAS A SERIOUS ENDING NEAR THIS CITY

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Brittain of Kansas City En Route to Council Bluffs, Hit Hard Luck.

From Tuesday's Daily—
The holiday visit that was started on so pleasantly a few days ago by Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Brittain of Kansas City, had a very unpleasant ending here last evening that will tend to take off part of the happiness of the glad Christmas time. The husband and wife were motoring from their home in Council Bluffs where they expected to spend the holidays at the home of the mother of Mrs. Brittain and their trip had progressed nicely until they reached this locality and ended with their car being put out of commission and the wife receiving a broken leg.

The trip had proceeded very well over the rough roads until late yesterday afternoon when just east of Myrand on the highway the car had the hard luck to have an axle break and which at once stopped the proceedings and halted the auto trip. Word was sent in by a passing car to have a service car come out and assist in getting the car, but a great deal of time elapsed before the relief reached the scene and by this time Mrs. Brittain was thoroughly chilled and cold and the husband had been brought in to the city and the service car to return later and bring in the wrecked auto.

After reaching this city, Mrs. Brittain started to walk from the garage to the Main Hotel and when near the corner of Sixth and Main street fell on the walk and fractured the bones in one of her ankles. The injured woman was carried to the Main Hotel and Dr. P. J. Flynn summoned, who set the injured member and made the patient as comfortable as possible. The husband, who had remained with the car on the cold and comfortless road, was brought in by Ernest Schubeck and his taxi and reached the side of the wife a short time after the accident.

This morning, Mr. Brittain had his wife taken on into Omaha and from there to Council Bluffs, the Burlington as the condition of the roads would not permit the party attempting to make the trip by auto even after the car is repaired and the faithful Ford will remain here until a later date.

CHARGED WITH POSSESSION

From Monday's Daily—
Complaint was filed this morning in county court by County Attorney W. G. Kieck, charging John Eagan with having had possession of intoxicating liquor contrary to the peace of the state of Nebraska, and in violation of the prohibition law. Mr. Eagan, a former resident here, had just returned Saturday to spend a short time and evidently came well but not wisely prepared as he was captured Saturday night shortly before 10 o'clock near the Cloldt Lumber and Coal company yards, with a large jug of the sparkling vintage of the corn and which was seized by Officer Joe Libershal, who made the arrest and had the man placed in the city bastle for safe keeping.

This morning the man as well as the jug of booze was turned over by Chief of Police Hinrichsen to the county authorities and complaint accordingly filed by the county attorney.

The matter was brought up before Judge Beeson this afternoon and a fine of \$100 and costs assessed against the prisoner by the court and which he will board out as an enforced guest of Deputy Sheriff Rex Young.

Dr. P. T. Heineman departed this morning for Geneva, where he will join Mrs. Meineman in a visit at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Dempster and family.

Joe Hawksworth and wife and daughter of Lincoln and Miss Grace Beeson of Omaha will be here for the Christmas holidays at the home of Judge and Mrs. Allen J. Beeson.

AGED RESIDENT OF THIS CITY CALLED TO HER REWARD

After Illness Covering Past Week, Aged Lady Called at 2:15 This Morning.

From Monday's Daily—
After an illness that has covered the past two weeks, Mrs. O. M. Streight, who has been a resident of this city for the past fifty-one years, was called to her reward this morning at 2:15. The death came as a blessed relief to her long suffering and calmly and peacefully she sank into the slumber that was to know no awakening on this earth.

Fannie Potter was born in Oneida county, New York, and in her childhood resided with her parents on Grindstone island, one of the 1,000 island group in the St. Lawrence river and later when some eight years of age she was brought by her parents to Iowa, the family settling near Lamotte, Iowa, where she was reared to womanhood. In 1873, Miss Potter came to Nebraska and located at Plattsmouth where she later married O. M. Streight and here the family have made their home since that time. The husband and father departed this life on January 20, 1922, and awaits the coming of the wife in the everlasting day. There is left to mourn the death of this estimable lady, two sons, Monte Streight of this city, and Harold G. Streight of Oelwein, Iowa, as well as three grandchildren, Guy Streight of this city and Beverly Jane and Shirley May Streight of Oelwein, Iowa. There is also a niece, Mrs. Gazelle Stover Koons of Lamotte, Iowa, to share the sorrow of her death. One sister, Mrs. James W. Sage, preceded Mrs. Streight in death.

In the long years of her residence here, Mrs. Streight won a host of friends by her simple and kindly life and her efforts to be of aid and comfort to her fellowman has been one of the striking features of her life as she labored earnestly for those who she thought were in need of friendly sympathy and her good works, which are many, will live long in the memory of those who knew her best.

The funeral services will be held from the late home Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 and will be conducted by the Rev. H. G. McClusky, pastor of the First Presbyterian church. The interment will be in Oak Hill cemetery beside that of the husband.

MARRIED IN COUNCIL BLUFFS

From Monday's Daily—
The marriage of Mrs. Florence Newton to Mr. Joseph Manasek, occurred on Saturday at Council Bluffs, the young people motoring over from their home at Omaha to have the ceremony performed. The bride was formerly Miss Florence Grassman of this city and well known to a large circle of friends here who will learn with pleasure of the marriage and extend to the young people their best wishes. The bride has in recent years been making her home in Omaha with her mother, Mrs. Ed Stoner and family.

Yesterday Mr. and Mrs. Manasek accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Short, were here for the day and were guests at luncheon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hillard Grassman, the former being a brother of the bride, and while here they were callers on other relatives and friends.

INSTALLS NEW TANKS

From Monday's Daily—
The Collins Oil Co. has just installed two new tanks and pumps at the sidetracks near the Missouri Pacific station that will be used by the company for storing Distillate, a well known fuel oil, that is handled by this oil company and which will be made available for the use of the Plattsmouth people. The Collins company has a car of the Distillate on the road now and it will be here in the next few days to be stored in the new tanks and from there will be distributed to the consumers over the city. Mr. F. W. Elliott, the local manager of the Collins interests will have charge of the disposition of the new fuel oil.

CHRISTMAS TIME NEARING

From Monday's Daily—
The approach of Christmas is making a very busy time at the Nebraska Masonic Home in this city when the incoming trains are good things to swell the Christmas cheer at the great institution of the Nebraska Masons. Every Masonic and Eastern Star lodge in the state is doing something in the way of remembrance for the Home here as well as the orphanage at Fremont and which will assure every resident of being liberally remembered on Christmas morning. The big Christmas tree is now being arranged and with it a real lifelike fireplace has been arranged by Superintendent Evers in the parlors of the Home that lends a touch of cheer to the scene and makes a real old-fashioned Christmas appearance at the Home.

PLACED UNDER PAROLE

From Monday's Daily—
Marvin Rice, who was charged in a complaint filed by County Attorney W. G. Kieck with having committed the crime of forgery, was given his hearing Saturday afternoon and entered a plea of guilty to the charge. Owing to the youth of the prisoner, the court was very lenient as the young man made settlement with those who had received the bad paper and no loss was sustained by anyone, and accordingly Judge Begley paroled the young man to Sheriff E. P. Stewart for a period of 2 years during which time he will be at liberty pending his good behavior and refraining from committing any more forgeries.

BISHOP SHAYLER IS GREETED BY A LARGE AUDIENCE

Episcopal Prelate Preaches at St. Luke's Church to Large Congregation Sunday.

From Monday's Daily—
Yesterday morning, Bishop Ernest V. Shayler, bishop of Nebraska, was at the St. Luke's church in this city to conduct the services of the day, coming down from his home in Omaha to occupy the charge here as the church has been without the services of a rector since the removal of Father Leete from the city.

The celebration of the Holy Eucharist was held at 7:30 and at the 11 o'clock service the bishop gave a very powerful and inspirational sermon on the approaching Christmas time, one of the greatest in the calendar of the Christian world and which brings with it the promise of the redemption of mankind through the intercession of the Christ.

There were a very large number in attendance at the service and the sermon of the bishop was received with the greatest of interest and left a most lasting impression on the congregation.

During the service, Mrs. John E. Schutz gave a very beautiful solo number and the choir of the church sang a number of selections from the hymns.

CAUSES EXCITEMENT

From Monday's Daily—
This noon there was considerable excitement created in the rear of the Arries pool hall when a large can of tar that Jack Brittain was heating to place on the roof of the Westcott building, broke into a blaze and for a few moments there was some excitement in that locality and the members of the fire department arrived on the scene and where they found Mr. Brittain and Emil Veyrich busy throwing ashes and snow on the burning tar and finally getting it extinguished. Bob Walling, the local Oley Walker, arrived on the scene of the fire without even his helmet, so intense was the excitement.

SHERIFF HAS BUSY TIME

From Monday's Daily—
Sheriff E. P. Stewart was kept very busy on Saturday with the sale of several parcels of real estate which were made under order of court to satisfy judgments secured in the courts. The land involved in the suit of the Federal Trust Co. of Lincoln vs Ewald Ulrich, et al, was sold for the sum of \$13,000 and was bid in by C. A. Rawls acting for the plaintiffs in the case. In the city property covered in the suit of the Livingston Loan & Building association vs Fred C. Stewart, et al, the property was purchased by the plaintiffs by their attorney, A. L. Tidd, for \$600. The land involved in the case of the Manly State bank vs Spense, the land in question was bid in by Joe Spense of Maywood for the sum of \$3,200. The land involved in the case of the Home Savings and Loan association of Lincoln, vs Weston, consisting of property in the town of Greenwood was bid in by the plaintiff for the sum of \$2,500.

TWO SEAPLANES MISSING, ACCORDING TO REPORT

New York, Dec. 20.—Two seaplanes flying from the naval base at Hampton Roads, Va., and one at the Brooklyn navy yard, at 3 o'clock yesterday had not put in appearance by dark. It was the opinion of officials at the Brooklyn base that the fliers were held back by strong coastal winds and that they probably landed somewhere along the coast.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH HAS AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM SUNDAY

Choir of the Church Under the Direction of Miss Frances Field, Give Fine Program.

From Monday's Daily—
The Christian church last evening enjoyed a most inspirational and beautiful Christmas program which was arranged by the choir under the direction of Miss Frances Field and presented the Christmas message in song as well as the short sermon of the evening given by Rev. Walter R. Robb, pastor of the church.

The services were opened with the inspiring hymn, "Joy to the World," in which the choir and congregation joined and was followed by the regular order of the service.

Rev. Robb gave the scriptural data of the first Christmas day which furnished the prelude to the special musical numbers.

The choir gave as a special number, "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear," which was followed by a very impressive solo number by Mrs. V. O. Vincent. The specially arranged quartet, composed of Mrs. Hal Gannett, Mrs. Minnie Pickard, Thomas Lee Anthony and B. A. McElwain, also gave a very beautiful Christmas number.

The sermon of the evening was on "Christmas Thoughts" and the words of the pastor, Rev. Robb, a lasting impression with the members of the congregation on the lessons of the Christmas season.

The choir and congregation joined in the hymn, "Silent Night" and with the benediction by Rev. Robb, the beautiful service was brought to a close.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT IS GIVEN AT THE M. E. CHURCH

Beautifully Pictured Story of the Nativity is Presented Last Evening at Church.

From Monday's Daily—
Last evening the auditorium of the Methodist church was filled to its utmost capacity by a very reverent congregation to witness the story of the nativity presented by the members of the church, which, in a series of living pictures told the story of the events leading to the coming of the infant Jesus in the stable at Bethlehem.

The settings of the pageant were most impressive and the special lighting effects added by Mr. R. M. Werner added much to the beauty of the scenes as they gradually unfolded the story of the coming of the Savior. The only illumination of the church was in the spotlights arranged on the platform for the pageant, and the lighted north window of the church that brought out the Shepherd King window of the church in great beauty.

The pageant was arranged in a most reverent manner, the scriptures being read and given by the pastor, Rev. Frank Emory Pfoutz, the story of the scenes read by Mrs. William Baird and at the showing of each scene, Mrs. E. H. Westcott sang a very of the hymns appropriate to the various incidents in the sacred history.

The pageant opened with the showing of the prophecy of Isaiah and was followed by the scene of the Annunciation. The shepherds in the field were shown as they received the message of the new born King and with the wise men repaired to Bethlehem to worship. The baby manger where was born the Light of the World was shown in the greatest beauty and the adoration of the shepherds and the wise men who came bringing gifts and wisdom to the manger side. The close of the pageant was that of the Spirit of Christianity, as the figure representing came with the candle to the manger and lighted the taper that signified the spirit of the Christian faith and in turn was joined by figures representing the church, education, the missionary, the mission worker, the Red Cross and last the evangelist to bring the message of the church to the world. As the evangelist came to the altar the small red cross at the front of the platform lit and its rays added to the beauty of the scene and here the evangelist extended an invitation to those who wished to join the church and four made confession and were received into the church.

During the scenes and the entire service the organist of the choir, E. H. Westcott, gave appropriate and very beautiful selections.

ENTERTAINS CLASS

From Tuesday's Daily—
Last evening the young men's bible class of the Presbyterian church were very pleasantly entertained at the home of their teacher, George L. Farley, and the occasion proved one of the greatest pleasure as well as profit to the young men in attendance. The first portion of the evening was given over to the business session of the class and later the young men enjoyed a social hour in games and contests of all kinds that served to pass the time delightfully until an appropriate hour when the members of the party were invited to partake of the refreshments that were served. Those who enjoyed the occasion were: William and Edward Mutschillat, John and Rudolph Iverson, James Jean, Paul Vandervoort, Roy Olson, Marion Hendricks, Fred Trilety, Willis Hartford, Forest Shrader, Harlan Gorder, Fred Howland, George Ebersole, Joe Hartford, George Palmer.

REACHING HIGH PLACE IN TELEPHONE CIRCLES

Lloyd B. Wilson, Who was Born and Educated in Plattsmouth, Receives New Recognition.

From Tuesday's Daily—
Lloyd B. Wilson, former resident of this city and who for the past twenty-five years has been identified with the telephone work, has advanced another step on the ladder of success in his work and is now receiving the position of commercial engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., at New York and which position he will assume January 1st.

At the present time Mr. Wilson is the commercial superintendent of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Co., with headquarters at Omaha, and has had a very eventful career in this line of work since the time as a high school boy he first took the telephone work in Plattsmouth.

Mr. Wilson is a son of Mrs. Frank H. Wilson of Lincoln and is a grandson of the late Captain L. B. Bennett, one of the pioneers of Cass county.

At Plattsmouth, Mr. Wilson entered upon his telephone career in 1899 as a night operator. He learned the fundamentals of the business by working at the switchboard at night and at times installing telephones, digging holes and climbing poles during the day. In 1901 he went to Lincoln as an inspector's helper with the old Nebraska Telephone company, becoming inspector within a few months.

He was made local manager at Central City in 1903. In 1906 he went to Grand Island as district manager, then to Omaha, Nebraska, division manager in 1913. After four years in this state he was sent to Minneapolis as commercial superintendent of the Northwestern Telephone Exchange company, which position he held for two years before being promoted to the position he now holds.

Attorney Carl D. Ganz of Alvo was here today looking after some matters in the district court in which he was interested.

ARREST MAN ON ARSON CHARGE LAST EVENING

STEVE BIDDICK TAKEN IN CUSTODY; IS CHARGED WITH ARSON AT C., B. & Q.

WILL FIGHT THE CHARGE MADE

Crime Alleged to Have Been Committed On October 18th When Lumber Was Burned.

From Tuesday's Daily—
After an investigation covering the period from October 18th to the present time which has been tirelessly made by Detectives Tom J. Smith and E. L. Underwood of the Burlington detective force, a warrant was issued last night on the complaint of Deputy State Fire Warden L. J. Butcher, charging Steve Biddick, of this city, with arson.

The crime alleged to have been committed by Mr. Biddick was the burning of the lumber shed at the local Burlington shops on the night of Saturday, October 18th, and which involved a loss of some \$10,000 for the railroad company in the burning of a large quantity of fine dressed and seasoned lumber and the damage to a large number of piles of lumber in the vicinity of the destroyed shed.

On the morning after the fire, Mr. Smith and Mr. Underwood arrived here and have been on the search of the party or parties that committed the crime since that time, although they have had to leave at different times to investigate other cases that were in their charge, but have accumulated the evidence that caused the state deputy fire warden, Mr. Butcher, to file the complaint yesterday afternoon with County Attorney W. G. Kieck and on which a warrant was issued for Mr. Biddick.

Last evening at 6:30, Sheriff E. P. Stewart served the warrant and took Mr. Biddick to the county jail where he was held pending the preliminary hearing.

At a previous date Mr. Biddick was examined by the detectives as to any knowledge of the fire and at that time denied any knowledge of the fire or its origin. He will contest the case, it is stated at the court house, and will be represented at the preliminary hearing by his counsel.

CARBON MONOXIDE GAS IN STOVES KILLS TWO

Columbus, O., Dec. 21.—Carbon monoxide gas from flue-less gas stoves took the lives of three people here today. The deaths are the first to result directly from such a cause, Coroner Murphy said.

In pronouncing death as due to "asphyxiation by carbon monoxide fumes from flue-less gas stoves," the coroner was sharp in his criticism of such types of stoves.

Advertise your want in the Journal for results.

DEPENDABILITY

A Right Merry Christmas?

To wish our friends and customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year is to express in the happy phrase of the holidays, the sentiment which we seek to carry into every business day the year around—the sincere good will and warm personal interest of everyone in this bank for every one with whom we come in contact.

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THE BANK WHERE YOU FEEL AT HOME
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