

The Plattsmouth Journal.

Nebr. State Historical Society

VOL. NO. XLVII

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1931.

NO. 24

Cars Crash on Highway Near Union Sunday

Miss June White of Omaha Injured Quite Badly in Smashup—Tell Conflicting Stories

Early Sunday morning a message was received by Sheriff Bert Reed that an auto accident near Union had resulted in the injury of several persons and as the sheriff and deputy started for Union they met a car with two men and a girl and also a pursuing car that contained the marshal of Union, "Curly" Keene, and after stopping the car with the girl the officers received the first of several conflicting stories as to the why and whereof of the accident.

The girl was seemingly badly injured and the two men claimed to have taken her to Weeping Water where she was given temporary aid by a physician and then ordered to the hospital at Omaha, but the two men instead of driving direct to Omaha came on east to Union and thence north on highway No. 75 until they met the sheriff. Sheriff Reed took the young woman on to Omaha and where she was placed in the hospital.

The girl gave the name of June White, 22, of 1221 North 21st street and she stated that the car in the wreck was hers and that she was alone at the time of the accident and that as the car was going up the hill west from the east Union corner into the town of Union she had tried to pass a car in front and at the same time a small truck came over the hill going east and with the result that the car crashed into the truck, a small one used by a Grand Union tea company salesman, the truck being hurled down a six foot embankment while the Ford coupe that Miss White was driving was also nearly demolished.

When Deputy Sheriff Young arrived on the scene of the wreck, another chapter was told by a man giving the name of J. V. Peters of Council Bluffs, who stated that he had met Miss White at a dance in Council Bluffs and they had started out on a ride, he had gone to sleep and Miss White was driving the car and the first he knew was when the smashup occurred.

The occupants of the tea truck were Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Gregory and little child of Nebraska City, who stated that as they came over the hill they saw the coupe coming and headed for their truck. Mr. Gregory had driven as far to the roadside as possible to avoid the crash and had set the brakes of the truck but the impact was so great when the coupe hit them that they were forced from the road and down the embankment.

The Gregory family stated that a passing autoist had called the ambulance from Nebraska City for them and Peters and Miss White and while they were waiting a car containing two men who gave the names of Edward Morrison and J. W. Parker of Omaha, came along and had offered to take the injured girl, the worst hurt of the party, on to seek medical aid, stating that they intended to go to Nebraska City but instead wound up in Weeping Water and later returned to the scene of the accident and were recognized and where Marshall Keene started after them.

The Nebraska City ambulance arrived and the Gregory's who were not seriously hurt, as well as Mr. Peters, were taken on to Nebraska City.

REV. A. F. PLOETZ DIES

From Monday's Daily—
The message was received here this morning by the L. L. McCarty family announcing the sad news of the death at an early hour today at Rochester, Minnesota of Rev. A. F. Ploetz, former resident of this city.

Rev. Ploetz had been at the Mayo clinic at Rochester for the past several weeks taking treatment and examination and was operated on Saturday, April 11th for some intestinal trouble and was apparently growing better but was taken with a sudden change for the worse and death followed.

Rev. Ploetz was for a number of years pastor of the German Presbyterian church in this city, located at Ninth and Main street and later served in the ministry in South Dakota. While a resident here Rev. Ploetz was married to Miss Anna Gorder, who has preceded him in death, passing away in 1926. In the past few years Rev. Ploetz has made his home at Omaha and several weeks ago accompanied his brother-in-law, John F. Gorder of this city, to Rochester where they both were receiving treatment. Rev. Ploetz was a member of the Masonic lodge at Afton, Iowa.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank our many good friends and neighbors for their acts of kindness shown us in our recent bereavement, also for the remembrance at the funeral services of our mother and for the tender words of sympathy—Fred Kunsniann and Children.

FINDS AN UNUSUAL KERNEL OF CORN

Addison Kiser of near Mynard, was in the city Saturday afternoon for a short time and while here was a caller at the Journal, bringing in an unusual kernel of corn. The kernel had two sprouts and would undoubtedly produce two separate and distinct stalks of corn. Mr. Kiser located the kernel while he was sorting over his seed corn and is one of the first of its kind that he has seen in some time.

Young People Wedded Here Last Evening

Miss Ruth Sitzman of This City and Mr. Herbert Stoll of Nehawka, Married by Father Agius

From Tuesday's Daily—
On Monday evening at the residence of Rev. Father Marcelus Agius in the St. John's church parish house occurred the marriage of Miss Ruth Sitzman of this city and Mr. Herbert Stoll of Nehawka.

The wedding was very simple, the Catholic marriage service being read by the pastor and in the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Gerbeling, the latter a sister of the bride, who served as matron of honor and best man.

The bride wore a very becoming gown of flowered chiffon with hat and accessories to match, while Mrs. Gerbeling wore a costume of the flowered crepe with picture hat, shoes and hose in the pastel shades.

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The bride is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Sitzman of this city, where she was born and reared to womanhood. She was educated in the schools of this city, graduating from the local high school in the class of 1927. Since graduation Miss Sitzman has been engaged in clerical work in number of professional offices and for the Burlington in the local offices. The bride has a large number of friends in this city and community who will join in their well wishes to the young people on their new found happiness.

The groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Stoll of near Nehawka and grew to manhood in that locality, receiving his education in the schools of that place. He is a young man esteemed and respected by a very large circle of friends for his many fine qualities as a gentleman and is numbered among the energetic young farmers of Cass and Otoe counties.

DEATH OF MRS. ROTHMANN

Sunday night at midnight Mrs. Hans Rothmann, who has been very poorly for the past week or ten days, was called to the last reward, death coming to ease her illness that has covered several months altho it was only in the last week that her condition became so grave. Mrs. Rothmann has made her home in this city many years and possessed a very large circle of friends in the community who will share with the family the sorrow that her going has brought. The deceased lady was born in Germany and was some seventy-two years of age at the time of her death. The family has resided here for the greater part of their married life, making their home in the residence property on Wintersteen hill where Mrs. Rothmann received the last summons. The deceased lady was a member of the St. Paul's Evangelical church of this city and a member of the ladies societies of the church for a great many years.

There is surviving the death of this lovely lady the aged husband, one son, Louis Rothmann, of Rochester, Minnesota, and five daughters, Mrs. Anna Thompson, of Omaha; Mrs. B. A. Davis, Omaha; Mrs. John Bergman, Lincoln; Mrs. Paul Steinson of Denison, Iowa, and Mrs. Roy Stewart of this city and with whom the parents resided in late years.

HAS EYE INJURED

Chet Smith, one of the baseball enthusiasts of the city, was quite painfully injured on Sunday afternoon while playing ball at the old grounds on Chicago avenue. There was a large group of the young men and boys at the grounds and they had chosen up "sides" and were engaging in a short workout at the national pastime. Chet sitting along the sidelines awaiting his turn to bat. The batsman hit the ball which fouled into the crowd of players and the ball struck Chet full in the right eye, coming with a great deal of force and in a few seconds the eye was badly swollen and closed up. The injured young man was hurried to the office of Dr. T. P. Livingston where temporary aid was given him and he was sent on to the University hospital at Omaha to have the eye treated. It was feared that the force of the blow had caused a hemorrhage of the retina of the eye and which had caused the young man to lose at least the temporary sight of his eye, altho it was thought that this condition might pass off in a short time.

SOME CHILLY WEATHER

The rain of Monday which did a great deal of good, was followed by an unusually cold night and which sent the mercury down to near the danger point, the official registration being thirty-four above zero this morning at the Burlington station. The cloudy condition and a stiff breeze through the night also served to keep off the freezing and frost from the early vegetation.

Course of Man Shooting Rex Young Revealed

While Parties Searched This Locality for Man He Was En Route to Omaha Hideout

New light on the course of flight of the man who shot and wounded Deputy Sheriff Rex Young, has been revealed in the last few days and the man who shot the deputy and escaped from a northbound Missouri Pacific train at the local railroad station, was safe in his Omaha hideout as posses of armed men searched all over this section of Cass county.

The story of the flight of the man was told by a resident of the vicinity of Aphiurn, whose nephew was forced at the point of the revolver in the hands of the bandit, to drive him to the outskirts of Omaha and where he was successful apparently in covering his traces.

It will be recalled that Mr. Young in response to a call from Nebraska City had gone to the local Missouri Pacific railroad station to apprehend a man wanted at the Otoe county city for the robbery of a cigar store at that place. As the early morning passenger train from the south drew in Mr. Young boarded the train and going through the cars discovered the man answering the description of the man he sought and requested him to get up and accompany him. The man started peacefully from the train and as the deputy started to search the man in the vestibule of the car the bandit suddenly drew a gun apparently from an armpit holster and shot the deputy twice, apparently trying to avoid a fatal injury that he might easily have inflicted. The man leaped from the train and ran across to the station and around the corner in the direction of the Nebraska Masonic Home grounds and the last seen of him was when he darted to the north of the Home buildings.

The part that was unwillingly played by the Auburn young man started in a few moments later, the young man driving a truck load of logs, happened to be driving north towards Omaha and as he swung around the curving roadway he was forced to slow down his truck as other cars were passing and at this time the bandit leaped into the truck with his drawn revolver, commanded the youth to keep driving north. When the truck reached the road near the Oreapolis crossing the bandit ordered the young man to drive west, assuring him that if he kept on going and did not attempt to stop, that he (the bandit) would see that they were not molested.

When the truck reached the outskirts of Omaha the bandit prepared to leave the truck and the badly frightened young man that had driven it and informed the driver that if he told of the incident within a week that he would return and take a revenge on the truck driver.

While several suspects have been rounded up in different parts of the state none have proved the man sought and who seemingly lost himself in the lairs of the Omaha underworld until his escape was possible.

CARGO IS CAPTURED

Saturday evening at a late hour Officers Joe Libershal and Dave Pickard while patrolling the business section of the city captured a Ford touring car of ancient vintage and with the two occupants, two men giving the names of Elmer Cooper and T. J. Murphy. The men had apparently partaken too freely of the forbidden beverages in Omaha from which city they were en route to Union where they claimed to be employed on the grading work of the new line of highway No. 75. The police also discovered that the men had a small amount of the popular hooch on their person as well as two bottles of tonic that carried a high alcoholic content and which tonic had apparently been partaken of very freely by the men. They were lodged in the city jail by the officers, but on Sunday afternoon were released to allow them to go on to Union and endeavor to secure funds sufficient to satisfy outraged justice and also to secure the return of their car.

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HAS FRACTURED ARM

From Monday's Daily—
Last evening Mrs. F. M. Colby, one of the staff at the Nebraska Masonic Home, was unfortunate enough to fall and fracture the left forearm and at the last reports was resting as comfortably as possible. Mrs. Colby had stepped out on one of the porches of the Home and fell over some timbers that had been placed there and which in the dark she had failed to see.

Women's Club Hears of City Planning Work

Prof. M. I. Evinger of the State University Tells of Work in Community Planning.

From Tuesday's Daily—
The members of the Plattsmouth Women's club and a large number of interested residents of the city were given the opportunity last evening of hearing a real discussion of city planning and landscape engineering. Prof. M. I. Evinger of the University of Nebraska being the speaker and through his long years of experience and training along this line of landscape engineering and planning he gave a clear insight into this line of work that makes for better community conditions and a more attractive and concrete method of landscaping.

The speaker had with him a number of illustrated slides that showed many different projects before the work was undertaken and after the carrying out of the planning which had made places of beauty out of many very unsightly spots. These views covered several cities in which Prof. Evinger had been secured for the landscaping work and included the very elaborate plans in planning of Lincoln where the city is linking up the various units of the state buildings in an attractive manner.

Prof. Evinger also discussed his planning work here where he has been secured by the board of education and city government in planning a program to cover a period of years in the landscaping of the grounds around and adjoining the high school and Central school buildings and the new athletic park which it is planned in time will be made a very handsome, permanent community center and one the equal of any in the state.

Prof. Evinger was introduced by Mrs. Bert Coleman of the community service center for the basketball-debate banquet and we are glad that we have someone in our midst on whom we can depend to provide us with high-class entertainment.

JUNIOR CIRCLE MEETS

Junior Circle No. 27, auxiliary to the Woodmen Circle, met at the home of Mrs. Shellenbarger on North 6th street Saturday afternoon. A large number gathered for the meeting which was presided over by Marie E. Kaufmann, Junior supervisor. Each month the Juniors have some special purpose in mind. At this meeting the members reported that they had visited the sick. The young member reporting is six years old, who had gone to visit a lady twice who has been bedfast since last November. This Juniors are making every effort to help protect the birds, in fact not only the birds but other animals which might be in danger. The Junior supervisor told the members that April 19 to 25 inclusive was "Be Kind To Animals" national week. After the close of the business session the two charming little daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Krueger, entertained the audience with a song and dance which was very pleasing to the members. Three mothers were present, one visitor, Wave Smith, who accompanied Louise Fitzmayer to the meeting. At the close of the refreshments Mrs. Krueger, the hostess assisted by her daughter Margaret. An unanimous vote of thanks came from the Juniors to their hostess who had so graciously entertained them.

IS AWARDED \$300

From Tuesday's Daily—
The jury that heard the case of Mrs. Lucille Horn Gaines vs. J. G. Scott, a suit for personal damages, received the issues of the case last evening shortly after the opening of court, returned a verdict for the plaintiff in the sum of \$300.

The action was one in which the plaintiff brought suit for the recovery of \$5,000 alleged to be due the plaintiff by reason of damages received from the automobile of the defendant. It was claimed in the petition of the plaintiff that she with her minor child was crossing the intersection of Fourth and Vine street on October 26, 1929, that the auto of the defendant which had been parked a short distance east of the intersection had started to move west down the incline, there being no one in the car, that the plaintiff was knocked down by the car and hurled to the pavement in an effort to prevent the injury of her child and as a result she sustained injuries that prevented her carrying on her usual occupation of school teaching.

IS LAID TO REST

From Tuesday's Daily—
The body of the late Patrick Egan arrived last evening over the Burlington, reaching this city on No. 2, and the body was taken direct from the station to the Catholic cemetery for interment. The members of the family and a number of the out of town relatives accompanied the body to the old home.

Plattsmouth Girl Scores Success at Hastings

Miss Catherine McClusky Has Part in College Banquet and Poetic Work Wins Praise.

Miss Catherine McClusky, Plattsmouth girl and daughter of Rev. and Mrs. H. G. McClusky of this city, has scored a distinct success at Hastings college where she has been for the past term. In speaking of her work and the recent college banquet the Hastings Collegian has the following:

"At the first annual basketball-debate banquet held Friday, March 17, at the Presbyterian church Fred Gruntz was announced as honorary basketball captain and Donald Dearborn as honorary debate captain, by their respective coaches, Clarence Keel and LeRoy Laase. The banquet given in honor of the basketball and debate teams, at the close of a very successful season, was attended by more than 250 students and guests.

"A singing debate was very cleverly presented, with Edna Johnson, Helen Hunter and Elizabeth Lewis upholding the affirmative and Thais Mickey, Elmira Ament and Catherine Nail the negative. Words to the debate were written by Catherine McClusky and set to the tune of "The Cannibal King." Evelyn Wiese was chairman, with Helen Staley as time keeper for the melody clash. The debaters furnished plenty of proof that the basketball and debate teams have made a real success this season."

"Miss McClusky has won a great deal of distinction and applause for her poetic work at Hastings college. The singing-debate was one of the most clever compositions ever used at a college banquet or social. People were very generous with their applause and many complimentary things were said about the poetry."

"This is not the first time that Miss McClusky has had the honor of having her poetry accepted for use. She also wrote about twelve verses which were used at a debate rally held several months ago, by the students."

"She is always very willing to do this kind of work and it is done quickly and well. The fact that she may not be much time doesn't seem to bother her in the least."

"We know that Miss McClusky will have a permanent job of writing poetry for college occasions after her work for the basketball-debate banquet and we are glad that we have someone in our midst on whom we can depend to provide us with high-class entertainment."

FARM HOME BURGLARIZED

From Monday's Daily—
Yesterday morning Mr. Woodward, who rents the W. H. Verner farm near Mynard, was working in the barn when he discovered that the house formerly been occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Verner, but which has been unoccupied since the family moved into this city, noticing that the door of the house was open, Mr. Woodward with C. C. Barnard, investigated the matter and had been attracted to the house ransacking the house apparently. There had been furniture left in the home by Mr. and Mrs. Verner and apparently some tramps had made a headquarters there as curtains which had hung from one of the doorways had been pulled down and apparently for a bed and a writing desk that had been locked was almost torn to pieces by the person ransacking the house in breaking into the desk. As far as known there was nothing missing and it is thought that the Verner family thought that there had been a wrist watch at the house and which cannot now be found, but of this they are not certain. When the prowlers were around the house is a matter of doubt as the indications pointed to several days ago.

DEATH OF AGED MAN

From Tuesday's Daily—
Dooley Hall, 65, a long time resident of Louisville, was found dead this morning at his home where he resided alone for a great many years. The death was discovered by neighbors who had called to see Mr. Hall found at his usual activities. The deceased had spent his lifetime in and near Louisville and was a familiar figure to almost every resident of the community. The deceased and his sister, Mrs. Charles Spence, have been all of the family circle surviving and for the past years he has lived alone at the home. Death is thought to be due to heart failure.

TAKEN TO HOSPITAL

On Tuesday morning Mrs. L. G. Meisinger of near this city, was taken to Omaha where she was placed in the Clarkson hospital at that place for treatment and care and may possibly have to undergo an operation, but this has not yet been decided. Mrs. Meisinger has not been in the best of health for some time and it is hoped that the treatment will place her back in her former good health. The many friends are trusting that she may soon be able to return home and to resume her usual activities.

INITIATE LARGE CLASS

From Wednesday's Daily—
Last evening a party of some nine of the Plattsmouth aerie of the Eagles motored to Omaha where they attended the initiation of a large class of candidates into the South Omaha aerie which is now the largest aerie in the state. The class of 221 members was known as the Joseph Koutsky class, named in honor of the South Side city commissioner. The meeting was attended by large groups of the Eagles from the Omaha aeries as well as Council Bluffs, Plattsmouth, Missouri Valley and other towns near Omaha.

SHOWING IMPROVEMENT

The many friends over Cass county will be very much pleased to learn that Hon. James M. Robertson, prominent Nebraska Mason and a long time resident of the county, is doing very nicely at the Clarkson hospital at Omaha. Mr. Robertson has been taking treatment for several weeks at the hospital and recently underwent a major operation which has proven a very successful and it is thought will give the patient permanent relief from his poor health of the past year. Mr. Robertson will probably remain at the hospital for some time, however, before he is able to return to the home here.

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PLEASANT WITH SCHOOL WORK

Mrs. George B. Mann of this city, who is teaching in the high school at Clearwater, Nebraska, was home for the week end and enjoying a visit with the family and friends here. Mrs. Mann, who was in her services in the local schools, an outstanding teacher in the next teaching department of the high school, has made a very great success of her work at Clearwater and that her services have been recognized is shown by the fact that she has secured a re-election of the principalship of the school for the next teaching year. The work has proven very pleasant and the community there has been one that Mrs. Mann has very much enjoyed and feels pleased that she will continue in the work there for the next year.

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VERY HAPPY OCCASION

Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Kearn of Council Bluffs are rejoicing over the arrival in their household of a fine son and heir, the little one being the first child in the family and accordingly is the object of a great deal of admiration from the parents and relatives. Mrs. Kearn was formerly Miss Henrietta Koukal of this city and she has for the past several weeks been here at the home of her sister, Mrs. Tom Krachtville in the west portion of the city.

A. L. Zink, Judge of Red Willow County Dead

Former Pastor of the First Christian Church of This City Over a Period of Years.

A. L. Zink, 61, county judge of Red Willow county, Nebraska, over a period of some twelve years, died Monday at his home in McCook after an illness that has covered the past year.

The news of the death of this jurist-minister comes as a severe blow to the many old time friends of the Zink family in this city where Rev. Zink was pastor of the First Christian church some twenty-five years ago.

After serving the local church as its pastor over a period of several years Rev. Zink and family departed for the west part of the state and in 1917 settled at McCook, to which place Rev. Zink had been extended a call to the Christian church.

After two years in the ministry at McCook Rev. Zink was named as a candidate for county judge in 1919 and has since held that office, being given a leave of absence last year by Red Willow county owing to his failing health.

Rev. Zink entered the ministry when eighteen years of age and has been a most faithful worker in the cause of the church since that time. He was a brother of the late T. M. Zink of LeMars, Iowa, who died last year and attracted national wide attention for his work in the cause of a "womanless library" providing funds for a library in which women were not to be allowed.

Mrs. Zink preceded her husband in death last November, she also being an ordained minister of the Christian church.

Rev. Zink is survived by one son, who is in the Y. M. C. A. work in Hawaii and also two daughters.

FUNERAL OF MRS. ROTHMANN

From Wednesday's Daily—
This afternoon at the Sattler funeral home at Fourth and Vine streets there was gathered a group of the old time neighbors and friends to pay their last respects to the memory of Mrs. Anna Rothmann, who was called to the last reward at the family home on Wintersteen Hill on Sunday night.

The services were in charge of Rev. O. G. Wichmann, pastor of the St. Paul's Evangelical church and who gave a tribute to the memory of Mrs. Rothmann as well as giving words of comfort to the family circle which have lost a kind and loving wife and mother. During the services the choir of the church gave two of the old and loved hymns.

At the conclusion of the service the body was borne to Oak Hill cemetery to be laid to rest in the long rest.

Anna Kuhr was born July 17, 1859, in Breckendorf, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and passed away in Plattsmouth on April 19, 1930, at the age of seventy-one years, ten months and two days. She was married to Hans Rothmann in Germany and in the year 1881 the family moved to the United States, settling first at Denison, Iowa, where they resided for several years. In 1887 Mr. and Mrs. Rothmann and family moved to Plattsmouth and have resided here continuously since that time. To bless their union twelve children were born, six of whom have preceded the mother in death. There are surviving, the husband, Hans Rothmann, and six children, Mrs. Ed Thompson, Omaha; Henry Rothmann, Sioux City; Mrs. Emma Davis, Omaha; Mrs. Alvina Bergman, Lincoln; Louis Rothmann, Rochester, Minn.; and Mrs. Elsie Stewart of Plattsmouth. There are also surviving two brothers and two sisters, Henry Kuhr of Cleveland, Montana; Hans Kuhr of Melfa, Montana; Mrs. Catherine Akin of Sac, Montana; and Mrs. John Jasper of Chinook, Montana, as well as fourteen grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

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R. E. Bailey Named Head of Rotary Club

Members of Club Have Opportunity of Hearing Miss Madge Garnett in Her Oration

The members of the Rotary club had a session Tuesday noon that was filled with a great deal of business, the annual election of officers being the chief matter taken up, and they also had the opportunity of hearing Miss Madge Garnett district oratorical prize winner at the Plattsmouth declaratory contest.

The nominations for the various offices were made at the session a week ago and the club Tuesday made their selection of their leaders and the following were selected:

President—R. E. Bailey.
Vice-President—William Baird.
Secretary—George K. Petting.
Treasurer—Frank M. Bestor.
Directors—Searl S. Davis and Dr. P. T. Heinemann.

The newly elected officers will take over their duties on the first of July.

The club had the pleasure of having as a feature of the day Miss Madge Garnett, local high school girl, who won the oratorical honors of the second district declaratory contest held in this city on April 10th. The subject that was given by Miss Garnett was that of "Least We Forget" and the talented lady proved a real orator in her well chosen subject and which she presented with force and vigor.

The review of the April Rotarian was given by Rev. H. G. McClusky who took up and discussed the various leading articles of the month in the magazine and which covered many questions of international interest.

The new president of Rotary is superintendent of the city schools and a charter member of the Plattsmouth club, one who has taken a great interest in the advancement of the organization and his ability and leadership has been much appreciated by his associates in Rotary.

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The many friends over Cass county will be very much pleased to learn that Hon. James M. Robertson, prominent Nebraska Mason and a long time resident of the county, is doing very nicely at the Clarkson hospital at Omaha. Mr. Robertson has been taking treatment for several weeks at the hospital and recently underwent a major operation which has proven a very successful and it is thought will give the patient permanent relief from his poor health of the past year. Mr. Robertson will probably remain at the hospital for some time, however, before he is able to return to the home here.

INITIATE LARGE CLASS

From Wednesday's Daily—
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