

The Plattsmouth Journal.

Nebr. State Historical Society

Vol. No. LV

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1939.

No. 56

Plattsmouth Family Visits Western Parks

Mr. and Mrs. William Schmidtman, Jr., and Daughter, Return After Fine Outing.

Mr. and Mrs. William Schmidtman, Jr., and daughter, Janis, returned home Saturday evening from a five weeks trip to the west coast and which has taken them through the great national parks that are found in the Rocky mountain regions as well as viewing several of the great engineering projects of the government in the west coast country.

Their first stop in the sightseeing trip was at the Yellowstone national park where they found many places of interest to occupy their time there, going from there to Billings, Montana, where they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Heitzhausen, the former a cousin of Mr. Schmidtman, and also at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Wurl, former Plattsmouth residents. They then drove on to Glacier national park, where they found one of the greatest natural wonderlands of the trip, the massive granite mountains and the bubbling streams that spring seemingly from the solid rock making a very impressive scene. Leaving the mountain country they stopped to visit the Grand Coulee dam and the Bonneville dam on the Columbia river, two of the great federal projects that have attracted national attention.

The party stopped at Portland, Oregon, to visit an uncle of Mr. Schmidtman, E. H. Heitzhausen, for a few days and enjoyed the many points of interest in that vicinity.

They spent several days at the San Francisco fair and found that it was truly a great exposition and well worthy of all of the words of praise that had been given it. The city of San Francisco also proved very interesting to the family and afford an unending delight in the glimpses of the port that serves the seven seas.

Turning southward the Schmidtman family visited Los Angeles and southern California, where they were entertained and visited many places along the coast that they had planned for the trip. They met Mrs. Dora Peacock and daughters while at Los Angeles and had a very pleasant visit with them. Mrs. Peacock is an aunt of Mrs. Schmidtman.

On their return trip the family spent some time at the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, Bryce and Zion national parks, both numbered among the most interesting in the mountain sections of the west. They then visited at the Boulder dam in Nevada, one of the feature spots for the western tourist and another of the great federal supported projects which is to supply irrigation water for the west and a supply for the southern California cities.

HOFMANN LICENSE REVOKED

LINCOLN, Aug. 16 (UP)—The beer license of Philip Hofmann, Plattsmouth, was revoked by the state liquor commission today for alleged sale to minors.

Hofmann's permit was suspended on the same charge for a sixteen day period last year. A youth, who gave his age as nineteen, testified at the hearing that he had purchased beer at Hofmann's establishment and that he had recently become intoxicated at the place.

He denied Hofmann's charge that he had represented his age as twenty-one. Herbert Johnson, night police officer, testified that Hofmann's place was "pretty disorderly" and that numerous complaints had been made.

MAKE DELINQUENT TAX LEVY

For the first time in many years a levy on personal property was made for delinquent taxes and the property taken by Sheriff Joe Mrasek under the provisions of the law.

The property was taken after the sheriff's office made several attempts to secure some settlement and the property so taken will be offered for sale later to satisfy the demands of the county for the delinquent taxes.

The sheriff had the property taken, a piano and a radio, removed to his custody and where it will be held until its sale.

JR. WOMAN'S CLUB BREAKFAST

A large group of young ladies attended the Junior Woman's club breakfast which was held Sunday morning at the Platte river. The committee in charge of the arrangements consisted of Lillian Schmitt, Marion Olson, and Florence Leamy. After the breakfast they all returned home in time to attend the church services.

The next meeting will be held on August 28. It will be in the form of a theatre party. The committee in charge will be: Gertrude Vallery, Edith Solomon, Anne Knieke, and Elva Johnson.

Mynard Couples Home from Fine Colorado Trip

Rev. and Mrs. Paul Dick, Accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Forest Leonard, Return Home.

Rev. and Mrs. Paul Dick and two children, Barbara and Erna Lee, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Forest Leonard of Mynard returned home Saturday afternoon following an eleven-day visit and vacation, spent largely in Colorado. The Dick children had been in Lyons, Colorado for the last six weeks visiting with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Dick and uncle, Victor and Justin Dick. It was through them that Rev. and Mrs. Dick had taken the motor trip to secure them and at the same time they enjoyed a pleasant visit with the parents and brothers of Rev. Dick.

Rev. Dick, pastor of the Mynard United Brethren church and his family, and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard enjoyed a trip through Estes Park and the many other places of scenic interest in Colorado.

Following their return Rev. and Mrs. Dick took charge of the C. E. Cook farm in Mynard as the Cook family are vacationing in the west. They left on their tour on Monday, August 7 and are in Washington at the present time vacationing with relatives and friends.

CALLED TO OCONTO

From Wednesday's Daily—Mrs. Glen Vallery left this morning for Oconto, Nebraska where she was called by the serious illness of her mother, Mrs. E. E. Thurman, aged seventy-eight. Her sister, Mrs. V. D. Parrish of Lincoln, also accompanied her on the journey to be with the mother at her bedside. Mrs. Thurman suffered a stroke Tuesday and has been critically ill since that time.

VISITORS FROM INDIANAPOLIS

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Denny and son, Richard, of Indianapolis, are here for a few days visit at the home of Rev. S. G. Schick and family at the St. Paul's parsonage. The Denny family are former parishioners of Rev. Schick at Indianapolis and they have been visiting at Denver, stopping here en route home to visit with their former pastor and family.

RETURNS FROM CALIFORNIA

Robert W. Hirz, who has for the past several years made his home at Burbank, California, returned home Tuesday to enjoy an extended visit here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hirz, as well as the other relatives and old time friends. Mr. Hirz has a very large circle of friends here who will learn with pleasure of his return.

UNDERGOES TONSILECTOMY

From Tuesday's Daily—This morning Miss Lucille Meisinger underwent a tonsilectomy at the office of a local physician and came through the operation in very fine shape. Miss Meisinger is recuperating at the home here and it is hoped that she will soon be able to resume her usual activities in a few days.

ATTEND STYLE SHOW

Among the guests at the style show luncheon given at the Fontenelle in Omaha Saturday were Mrs. J. L. Capps and Mrs. M. S. Kerr.

Subscribe for the Journal.

Cass County People Tour the Mountain Region

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Pickens and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wunderlich Have Pleasant Trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Pickens of this city and Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Wunderlich of Nehawka, have returned from their motor trip into the southwest that has taken them through many interesting sections, places that lie off the usual tourist line of travel and opened new vistas of country and many interesting classes of people.

The party motored to Masonic park, a park reserved for Masons and their friends, located in southwestern Colorado. The cabins of the Nebraskans were situated in the heart of the Rockies, along the Continental divide where the Rio Grande river has its source. At this point the Rio Grande is slightly wider than a mountain brook, it offers a marked contrast to the Rio Grande that is familiar to the visitors in southern Texas. The natural beauty of Wolf Creek pass and Boc canyon with towering Mt. Blanca is indeed a beautiful sight. At the foot of Mt. Blanca is located the famous sand dunes used for skiing, the only sand dunes known to be used for that sport.

One of the highlights of the trip was an eighty mile drive over an unmarked narrow mountain trail to the once prosperous Lake City, an island, seemingly isolated town. At Lake City the party visited an old silver mine from which fifteen years ago silver ore valued at eight million dollars was mined. The mine was in excellent condition due to the fact that deterioration seldom occurs at such a high altitude.

The "Ski Hi Stampede," the nation's third largest rodeo, at Monte Vista, Colorado, was very picturesque and fascinating to the members of the party, located in natural settings and no importation of professional participants needed to make it a wonderful showing of the west.

In Taos, New Mexico, the party found the interesting homes of the Mexicans made of adobe brick, the many curio shops that appealed to the visitors from the outside world, the Taos Indian pueblos, homes of the ancient race and of which many very fine technicolor pictures were secured. Here they enjoyed special Mexican dinners served in the true style of the southwest.

They also visited San Luis valley which is given over to the raising of lettuce and peas, under the benefits of the irrigation systems and which has sent land values soaring in that section.

To the Cass county people it was truly a journey of worthwhile inspiration in the new and unknown sections.

PLAN WATERMELON CONTEST

Charles Barnard, the chairman of the Farmers' day of the King Korn Carnival, is planning a new feature for Thursday, September 21st, when a watermelon eating contest will be staged and which is open to the world. It will be a contest that will give the lovers of this luscious garden product the fullest opportunity of doing their stuff. The full rules and regulations will be announced later for the contest.

VISITS AT ROTARY

Tuesday at the Rotary club Father Ferguson, of the St. Columbian mission at Bellevue was a guest of the club and gave a very interesting resume of experiences in his fishing trips and his favorite sport of golfing, both in this country and his native land of Ireland. The meeting was under the leadership of Fred I. Rea and who presented the speaker of the luncheon.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

Dr. R. P. Westover, local physician, is announcing that his office will be closed for a few days after Sunday, August 20. He and his family are anticipating taking a trip to the Minnesota country. All patients of Dr. Westover are urged to take notice and all who desire to see him, should do so before that date.

VISIT WITH COMMISSIONERS

From Tuesday's Daily—This morning a group of the officers of the Cass County Agricultural society were here to visit with the board of county commissioners to discuss with the board the matter of the appropriation for the fair and the new building that the association is just completing at Weeping Water and which it is hoped will be ready for the use of the fair this year, or at least a part of the building. Henry Ragoss, Frank Woods, secretary of the association and Mayor Troy L. Davis, of Weeping Water comprised the visiting party.

Returning From Funeral Woman is Killed Near Union

Mrs. Elizabeth Ogden, Corning, Iowa, Killed as Car Crashes From Roadway at Highway Junction.

The highway junction of No. 75 and 34 east of Union, was the scene of a fatal accident Wednesday afternoon and in which Mrs. Elizabeth Ogden, 70, of Corning, Iowa, was killed and her brother, B. P. Burgett, of Grace, Idaho, suffered a knee injury which, however, is not dangerous.

The brother and sister were coming east on No. 34 after attending the funeral of a sister-in-law, killed in a traffic accident near Yuma, Colorado.

Burgett stated to Sheriff Joe Mrasek that at the time of the accident, several cars were coming from the south and north at the same time and all approaching the junction as he reached the spot and he was traveling too fast to stay on the road and miss them. The car he was driving left the highway and crashed seventy-five feet through a fence to the east of the highway and then smashed into a bank, causing the death of Mrs. Burgett in the wreckage of the car.

DEATH OF JOHN MEFFORD

The death of John Mugg Mefford, 81, occurred on Wednesday at the home of a daughter near Greenwood, where for some years he has made his home, his death coming as the result of a long illness.

Mr. Mefford was the assessor of Salt Creek precinct over a long period of years and as long as his health permitted he was continued in that office by the residents of the precinct.

He leaves to mourn his death, two sons, S. E. Mefford of Ashland and J. F. of Kansas City; four daughters, Mrs. Lillie Kelley, of Walnut, Illinois, Mrs. Louisa Homan, of Omaha, Mrs. Ellen Kirk and Mrs. May Bauers of Greenwood; a brother, George G. Mefford, of Ashland.

The funeral services will be held on Friday afternoon at 2:30 at the Greenwood Christian church with the burial at Greenwood.

TRAIN TO MAKE STOPS

The Burlington east bound passenger train due here at 8:40 a. m. will in the future make this city a place for regular stops from the west. This will be greatly appreciated by those who may be coming here from the west. The Burlington now has two of their through trains making stops here, that of No. 5, westbound at 6:40 a. m. and No. 6 at 8:40 a. m.

RETURN FROM THE LAKES

From Wednesday's Daily—Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Cloidt and daughters, Maxine and Frances, returned this morning from a very pleasant outing at East Battle Lake, Minnesota, they being there with a group of other Plattsmouth fishing enthusiasts. They had a fine time and plenty of fishing to make the outing a most delightful one.

HAS TONSILS REMOVED

Franklin Wehrlein, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Wehrlein, had his tonsils removed Monday morning at the St. Joseph hospital in Omaha. The young man returned home today following the operation and period of recuperating in the hospital.

Plattsmouth People Favor Retaining Day

While Many Are Indifferent as to Date, Majority Favor the Day Generally Observed.

In general Plattsmouth democrats and republicans alike heartily disagree with President Roosevelt's proposal to change the original date of Thanksgiving to the next to the last Thursday in November instead of the traditional last Thursday of the month. In a poll taken among some of the citizens of this city the following opinions were given:

Do you approve or disapprove of the president's plan to advance Thanksgiving?

Henry A. Schneider, president of the Plattsmouth State bank, 609 Oak street: "I am absolutely opposed to it, no sense to it at all—100 votes 'no' for me."

Mrs. William Woolcott, supervisor of sewing project: 323 South 8th street: "If the change is in effect this year, it is immaterial to me as Thanksgiving day will fall on my birthday and it will give me the opportunity of observing both occasions at one expense. However, the change makes no difference to me as it will afford all of us another opportunity to enjoy a breathing spell between Thanksgiving and Christmas."

Paul Vandervoort, county assistant director: "As far as the holiday is concerned, it makes no difference when people celebrate Thanksgiving."

Vincent Kelley, president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Hough apartments: "Most of the Retail Credit Association members are in favor of the proposal, and I am inclined to line in with them."

Miss Wilhelmina Henriksen, president of the Junior Woman's club, and secretary to Superintendent L. S. Devoe: "I don't think it makes much difference, although I am opposed to it. We have gotten along very nicely with the present date, and think it should be kept the way it is."

Mrs. Elmer Sundstrom, past president of the Plattsmouth Woman's club, 923 Main street: "Although I haven't given the subject much thought, it doesn't make a great deal of difference whether they change it or not. It is immaterial to me."

Fred Busch, president of the Ad club and Manager of the Ladies Toggery, 405 Main street: "I would like to see it left just as it is. I am opposed to any change whatsoever."

Mrs. Henry Kaufmann, housewife: "It's just a 'bunch of hooey' that doesn't mean anything. It is a traditional season and should be respected as such."

Rev. Samuel G. Schick, pastor of the St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed church, 516 Ave. A: "I prefer the old method of observing the holiday. There is too much commercializing done right now among the holidays and by extending this season it would still commercialize the period from Thanksgiving to Christmas. I believe we ought to stand by the old form because that was the plan drawn up by the old constitution and we should stay closer to it rather than gradually drift away from it."

Waldemar C. Soennichsen, co-chairman of the King Korn Carnival, 914 Ave. E: "I guess it is just one of those things that will happen and we can't do much about it."

Arthur Troop, past president of the Rotary club and Cass county farmer: "It is just plain 'crazy' to change the date of the Thanksgiving holiday. As a farmer it will not affect me, but it has proven satisfactory during all these years—so leave it the way it is."

Dr. R. P. Westover, Plattsmouth physician, 805 Main street: "No! No! Leave it the way it is. No need of changing it."

Mrs. Luke Giles, president of the Plattsmouth Garden club, 1065 Rock street: "It really doesn't make any difference to me; I haven't studied the question enough to see whether it would be beneficial to the people or not."

Attorney W. A. Robertson, 624 North Sixth street: "My idea is that ever since the New Deal we haven't had enough money to observe one week of Christmas, let alone four."

Mrs. E. H. Wescott, an active

worker in community affairs, 905 Main street: "No matter if Roosevelt or anybody else changes the date of Thanksgiving, I will celebrate the last Thursday of November. That is when our dinner will be prepared. It is a custom of long standing and there is no reason in the world for changing it. I don't believe the president tells the truth when he says the business men desire it."

County Attorney Walter H. Smith says: "I can't see any good purpose accomplished by the changing of Thanksgiving date. It seems to me that it has been a traditional day and has been observed as such in previous years, so I don't see any necessity of changing the regular date."

Ofe Service Station Visited by Burglars

Entrance Gained Through Small Window in West of Building—Batteries, Tires, Stolen.

From Wednesday's Daily—This morning when the Ofe Oil Co. service station at Pearl street and Chicago avenue was opened for business, it was found that some time during the night it had been visited by burglars and a number of articles taken from the station.

The discovery of the robbery was made by George Michael Blotzer on opening up, as a number of articles scattered over the station indicated the visit of strangers.

It was found on investigation that entrance had been gained through a window in the northwest part of the station, a pane of glass large enough to admit a child or a very small person having been removed. The person making the entrance had then unfastened a large section of a window on the west side of the station and here the parties had evidently made their entrance and egress.

As far as could be determined in the hurried check there had been three tires taken, two batteries and a number of tubes.

The parties had failed to get into the safe in the office altho they had evidently visited the small office at the rear of the main sales room, a small BB gun that had been left there was found on the desk and from this it is thought that some youngster might have been playing with the gun.

The matter was reported at once and Sheriff Joe Mrasek and Chief of Police William Barclay visited the station to look over the situation and possible clues to the robbers.

The visitation was evidently made by local people familiar with the surroundings of the station.

RETURN FROM IDAHO

Miss Velma Fulton, rural school teacher, returned home Friday morning following a two months' vacation spent in Idaho Falls, Idaho. While in that city she was a guest of her brothers, Everett Fulton and his family, and Glen Fulton, Miss Fulton, whose home is in Mynard, reported a very enjoyable trip.

BIRTH OF DAUGHTER

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sporer of Murray are the parents of a daughter born to them on Thursday, August 10 at the St. Joseph hospital in Omaha. Both mother and daughter, the former Miss Susie Stull, are progressing rapidly. The little one is a granddaughter of Mr. William Sporer of Murray.

SUNDAY AT OMAHA

County Attorney and Mrs. Walter H. Smith were in Omaha Sunday where they spent the day visiting at the home of Mrs. Smith's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ortman. They also enjoyed a picnic dinner at the country home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Pound.

HERE FROM MINNESOTA

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Taplett, of Duluth, Minnesota, who have been here visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Waga and family, south of this city have returned to their home. Mrs. Waga is a sister of Mr. Taplett.

Surface Family Hold Reunion at Union Sunday

Country Home of John Larsh Scene of Very Much Enjoyed Gathering of the Family.

A reunion of the Surface family was held Sunday, August 13th at the beautiful country home of John Larsh northeast of Union.

Those attending were Sally Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Hurst, Mrs. Glen Surface and son, Vaughn of Lincoln; Miss Iola McQuinn, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Surface and sons, Keith and Kenneth of Omaha; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Surface, Mr. and Mrs. Gladys Dyke and daughter, Wanda Lee, Misses Rhea and Lucille Kimsey, all of Thurman, Iowa; Philip Surface of Bellevue; Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Surface of Albion; Mrs. Margaret True of Harbor Beach, Michigan; Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Lovell and daughters, Sandra and Sheryl, Dale Hanna of York; Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Surface and son, Jimmy, Irma Burke, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Fletcher, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Surface, Mr. and Mrs. Tom McQuinn, John and Arthur McQuinn, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell McQuinn, Mr. and Mrs. Donald McQuinn and daughters, Ramona and Donna Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Schafer, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. True, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Surface, Mrs. Rube Eaton and daughter Marjorie, Mrs. Joe Lidgett and Mrs. Sarah Rich, all of Union.

After a lovely picnic dinner was served the afternoon was spent in visiting and playing ball. Everyone departed for home late in the afternoon feeling that the day was well spent.

MANY ENJOY BARBECUE

Sunday afternoon a barbecue was held at the Will Waga grove just south of the Taylor school house near the Louisville road. The event was sponsored by Henry Donat and the preparation of the barbecued ribs was under the direction of William O'Donnell, Sr., a past master of the art of preparing the choice ribs. The afternoon was spent in enjoying the feast and visiting until near the close of the afternoon. Fred Kahler of Murray, with his accordion, assisted in the program.

VISITING IN EAST

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar S. Wescott, of Lincoln, are enjoying a vacation trip in Chicago and Benton Harbor, Michigan and also taking in a number of places of interest in that part of the central west. They are motoring through and stopping at Chicago with Mr. and Mrs. Carter Strand, the latter a sister of Mrs. Wescott and at Benton Harbor they will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Perry H. Murdick, Mrs. Murdick being a sister of Mr. Wescott.

HERE FROM OKLAHOMA

Mrs. Kate Hild is enjoying a visit from her only sister, Mrs. W. E. Floyd of El Reno, Oklahoma, who arrived Sunday to spend some time here with the sister and family and old friends. Mrs. Floyd being a resident here in her girlhood. She was accompanied here by her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Duard Barnes, also of El Reno, who continued on to Minnesota where they will join friends on a fishing trip.

DISCUSS COUNTY LEVY

The board of county commissioners have been here for the past two days discussing the levy that will be necessary taxation for the operation of the county in the coming fiscal year. The board find the problem one that has required a great deal of study as the mounting cost of operation coupled with the lower valuation makes it a real problem. The county in the past ten years has had a loss in valuation of some \$20,000,000.

WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!

Names of those who have lived in Cass county 50 years or more and now live in county. They will receive a Certificate at Louisville Old Settlers Day, Sept. 9. Address—Louisville Chamber of Commerce.