

Cripples' Home Makes Dream of Poet Come True

Two-Million Dollar Haven for Children Built in Memory of James Whitcomb Riley.

Indianapolis, Dec. 25.—"Jim" Riley could look down from heaven today on a place of hope, a "land where dreams come true."

In a \$2,000,000 haven of health, the first of its kind in the country, 20 "happy little cripples" have found promise of relief. And the Hoosier poet's song of prophecy of a time when "nary child in Indiana will have curvature of the spine" has come true.

Eight years ago James Whitcomb Riley, the bachelor who loved all children and wrote immortal poems about them, laid down his golden pen and waved farewell.

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Popular subscription campaigns, immediately organized, added to the sum of \$1,000,000. Forty of the state's 92 counties have subscribed, and campaigns are progressing in the remainder.

In 1923 the legislature appropriated an additional \$100,000 for a power plant to serve the Riley hospital, the Robert Long hospital and the Indiana School of Medicine, which, with the hospital, will include another service unit and a convalescent home to be erected by the Rotary clubs of Indiana, at a cost of \$250,000.

With the present capacity of 120 patients a month, the hospital is to have additional facilities, making possible the accommodation of a total of 400 or more children a month and approximately 2,500 a year.

Those who cannot afford to pay will be given the same attention, in the same wards, as the others and will be allowed to stay until cured.

Mark Noble, 10, of Decatur, Ind., helpless for seven years as the result of an attack of infantile paralysis, was the first patient to be treated. His brave spirit and unyielding confidence has been a joyful example for the other little cripples and a recompense to those who sacrifice to run and play as normal boys and girls do.

Authors, educators, business and professional men and women have been instrumental in making the hospital a reality, and prominent among them are George Ade, Booth Tarkenton, and Meredith Nicholson, all in-

Pawnee City Pair Observes Golden Wedding; Born Near Coolidge Home



Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee. Pawnee City, Neb., Dec. 27.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Chase, long residents of Pawnee county, last Wednesday celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at their home in this city. Their family of nine children were present for the occasion.

Leon Bakst Who Painted Omaha Portrait of Willa Cather, Dies

Leon Nikolaevich Bakst, noted Russian painter, died today in Paris at the age of 59, dispatches state. He cancelled a lecture engagement before the Omaha Society of Fine Arts at the Hotel Fontenelle, January 18, 1924, because of illness.

He painted the portrait of Willa Cather which hangs in the public library. During the time this portrait was being painted Miss Cather visited here for the opportunity to study his personality and art concerning which she wrote to Mrs. Guy Kiddo that "he does his very best work in his perfectly relaxed hours when he is simply playing with his material as he played with his magic lantern when he was a boy."

Leon Bakst. diana authors, William Lowe Bryan, president of Indiana university; Frederick Schortemeyer, secretary of state; George A. Ball of Muncie, manufacturer and philanthropist, and Dr. Carleton B. McCulloch, who was Riley's personal physician.

Pawnee County Stockman Gets High Cattle Price. Table Rock, Neb., Dec. 27.—Pawnee county cattle came in for much publicity at the Kansas City stock market a few days ago when C. M. Clark of Burchard sold a consignment of Hereford heaves at \$14.25. This is the highest price paid on the market here averaging 80 pounds each, which brought the high price, twenty-seven head of steers and heifers that had been on short feed brought \$10. Nine heifers also sold for \$10.

Former Marne Man Dies. Atlantic, Ia., Dec. 27.—W. J. Fleming, formerly of Marne, Ia., died at his home at Sandpoint, Ida. Friends here have been advised. He was past 70 years of age.

Scully Estate Pays \$6,521 in Kansas Taxes. Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 27.—V. R. Johnson has returned from Marshall county, Kansas, where he paid taxes in full on the Scully holding for 1924, which amounted to \$6,521.78. Taxes in 1923 amounted to \$6,521.31. The Scully estate owns 8,000 acres of land in Marshall county.

Ice Harvest Begins. Nebraska City, Neb., Dec. 27.—The ice harvest began here yesterday, with the Morton Gregson company cutting 11-inch ice from the ponds near the plant. They expect to fill their three large houses from the ponds this season. The ice on the river is about 12 inches thick and Thomas Brothers, local dealers, will begin work Monday in filling their houses for sale in outside towns. The local trade is taken care of with artificial ice made at the plant here.

Scottsbluff Mat Match. Bridgeport, Neb., Dec. 27.—On Tuesday evening, December 30, there will be a wrestling match at Scottsbluff that promises to bring a number of sports to the valley. It is given under the auspices of the Elks lodge and will be between Adam Kreiger of Lincoln, junior middleweight champion of the world, and Billy Schober of Clek Lake, Ia., eastern choice for the middleweight mat championship.

Law Halts Marriages. Columbus, Neb., Dec. 27.—In 1922 the last year before the new Nebraska eugenic marriage law became effective, Judge Gibbon of Platte county, issued 229 marriage licenses and performed the ceremony for 63 couples.

John W. Harrington Dies. Geneva, Neb., Dec. 27.—John W. Harrington, 85, died at his home in Geneva early Thursday morning. He came to Fillmore county in 1877 and settled on a homestead near Geneva. He is survived by his widow and 10 grown children.

Mothers Fail to Visit Bandit Sons

Collins and Poffenbarger Back in Bluffs for Second Trial.

Fred Poffenbarger, jr., 22, and Keith Collins, 26, who have served four years in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., arrived in Council Bluffs Friday night at 5:30 from Kansas City, Kan., under guard of two deputy United States marshals and are in the county jail to await further trial on charges connected with the theft of \$3,500,000 in bonds from a mail car in 1920.

Postal Inspector C. H. Glenn says he doesn't know when their trial will begin. Federal court opens January 27, but a great number of witnesses must be summoned, some from the Pacific coast, and preparation for the trial will take long.

Father Meets Them. The youths expressed themselves as confident of acquittal and believe they will be able to obtain freedom on bond of \$5,000 each, pending trial. They said they will engage a Council Bluffs lawyer.

The mothers of the young men did not visit them up to Saturday noon. Fred Poffenbarger, sr., met them at the station, coming there in his work clothes from the junk yard where he works.

Handcuffed Together. Their hands were locked together with handcuffs, their faces were travel-stained. Prison life had apparently agreed with Poffenbarger. He looked well and declared that he felt well. But with Collins the life had been harder. He had lost weight and he had lost a bit of the debonaire air which marked him at the time of his arrest in 1920.

Collins still showed signs of the taste which marked his dress in the days of his freedom. From the breast pocket of his coat hung a silk handkerchief, gaily colored about the border. His clothes, though dusty from the trip, had a semblance of a press. He adjusted his tie before stepping down from the coach.

Crowds Gathered at Station. Quite a crowd had gathered at the station to see the pair return. The crowd, for the most part, was composed of curious persons who had little knowledge of what the youths had done or why they should be of any special interest.

Poffenbarger rushed up to his son and greeted him. Fred, jr., turned immediately with his father and introduced him to James Fee, United States marshal, who, with H. E. McGee, deputy marshal, brought the prisoners from Kansas City.

Poffenbarger, sr., was released from the penitentiary last August at the expiration of his term. He has been working in Council Bluffs since then. Mrs. Poffenbarger did not know that her son was to reach Council Bluffs today and was not at the station. Fred asked his father to have his mother to come to the county jail to see him as soon as she could.

When Poffenbarger saw his son he rushed down the station platform. "How are you son," he cried as he seized his boy's hand. "Pretty good, dad. You folks will all be up to see me, won't you?" Poffenbarger answered him.

Marshall Fee would not allow any of the photographers who had gathered at the station to take pictures of the prisoners. He was a little afraid of the crowd in view of the recent almost successful attempt of the men to escape from the jail in Kansas City.

The prisoners were hurried to a automobile which W. Howell, deputy United States marshal, had waiting in front of the building. They were whisked to the county jail at once.

Once again the doors of the Pottawattomie county jail have closed behind the principals in the train robbery the loot of which was the largest ever obtained in a single "job."

Collins and Poffenbarger again went through the formality of being searched, of being instructed regarding the customs of the institution, and examined for prominent scars. Poffenbarger followed his son to the jail and there talked with him at length.

At the jail supper had been delayed for an hour so the new prisoners might eat with the others. Poffenbarger will likely be assigned to work about the jail, mopping floors and cleaning up. It is the custom of the institution to hold a "kangaroo court" for each prisoner who comes in. If the prisoner has \$2 he is fined that amount; if he has no money he must work out the fine at the rate of 20 cents an hour. Poffenbarger had but 15 cents when he was searched.

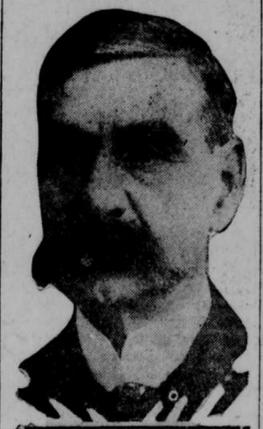
Two Church Homes Bought. Bridgeport, Neb., Dec. 27.—Bavard citizens are charitably inclined and believe that religious organizations should be supported, according to results of two canvasses of the city this week that resulted in getting money enough to buy two church homes. The Assembly of God people purchased the old U. F. church and a parsonage for their pastor, and the German Congregationalist bought a parsonage for their new pastor. Both purchases were made from funds subscribed by Bavard people.

Million-Dollar Mail Robbers Back in Old Home Town



Fred Poffenbarger, jr., and Keith Collins, with their guards, on their arrival Friday in Council Bluffs from Kansas City, Kan., to answer further charges in connection with the \$3,500,000 mail robbery in Council Bluffs in 1920.

Funeral Services for Ex-G. A. R. Commander



John R. Maxon

Minden, Neb., Dec. 27.—The funeral of John R. Maxon took place Friday in the First Presbyterian church here.

He lived in Nebraska since 1878. In 1899 he helped organize the telephone exchange in Minden and was manager of the district court of Kearney county for two terms and G. A. R. department commander for two years. He was a charter member of the Modern Woodmen. His widow and five children and several grandchildren survive him.

FARMERS REJOICE WHEN SNOW FALLS

Wymore, Neb., Dec. 27.—A white Christmas was the order for Wymore, and farmers over southern Gage county are rejoicing over moisture in the form of four inches of snow, which fell the day before Christmas. The thermometer has remained at zero and below for the last three days, and ice is 12 inches thick on Indian creek and ice harvest has begun.

Missouri Man Leading in Harmonica Contest

Shenandoah, Ia., Dec. 27.—"Slim" German of Wilcox, Mo., is leading in KFNB's radio harmonica contest, in which 20,000 listeners have voted. William Sharp of Shenandoah is second and Mrs. John Best of Bradyville, third.

Others ranking high are William Sharpe of Craig, Mo.; Mrs. Harry Brown of Newmarket, Mrs. Fred Platt of Thurman, Ia.; Clyde Johnson of Locust Grove, Mrs. Jake Bussard of Imogene, J. W. Sparks of Forest City, Mo., and Howard Greenwald of Shenandoah.

Pair Married Last April. Friends Now Learn of It

Shenandoah, Ia., Dec. 27.—A wedding last April at Glenwood, Ia., has just become public knowledge. The principals are Miss Marjorie Hevlin, former Clarinda rural teacher, and Lester Aldrich, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Aldrich of Shenandoah. He formerly attended Kemper Military academy at Booneville, Mo.

Woman Tried Thrice.

Bridgeport, Neb., Dec. 27.—Mrs. Ralph S. Ogden of Alliance has passed through three trials for sanity during the past four months. The first was started by her husband when she applied for a divorce, and she was found sane. On the second trial started by her folks she was declared insane by Dawes county jury, and now she is again declared sane by a lunacy commission of Box Butte county.

Christmas at School. Geneva, Neb., Dec. 27.—The state training school for girls celebrated Christmas by each of the five groups of girls having its own tree and treat Christmas eve and 40 of the girls, assisted by the school orchestra, putting on a program for everybody Christmas night. A playlet, entitled "A Christmas Hat" was followed by a cantata. The Christmas dinner comprised food which was nearly all raised on the school farm by the girls themselves.

Clarinda (Ia.) School Pupils Given Mental Tests for Proper Grades



E. L. Weaver

Clarinda, Ia., Dec. 26.—E. L. Weaver, superintendent of city schools here, uses the Intelligence test to place students in the right grade. In this work he is assisted by C. E. Hookinson, principal of Junior High, and each child is given the "once over" if there is any reason to doubt his mental standing. He is given a second test one year later.

Weaver's record shows that 3 to 4 per cent of the students in the Clarinda schools are "exceptional," 20 per cent "especially strong mentally," and about the same number retarded, while 72 per cent lead the class in their new grade within the first six weeks of promotion. He uses the age-grade charts, and a comparison of this chart the chart the year he took charge, 1917, shows but one child (he) on the "normal" step, and an average retardation of one one year, three months. The chart now shows

one-third on the normal step, a few less retarded, and a very small per cent rated as subnormal. Weaver is a graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan, receiving his master's degree from the University of Nebraska.

DELEGATES NAMED TO RAIL HEARING

Bloomfield, Neb., Dec. 27.—E. H. Mason, H. R. Van Auker, E. F. Filter, J. C. Robinson and C. T. Heck have been appointed to represent the local Commercial club at the meeting to be held at Wayne Monday at which time the state railway commission will hear protests against the cancellation by the Minneapolis and Omaha railroad of trains No. 50 and 51 on the Bloomfield branch and No. 40 and 41 on the Crofton branch.

L. D. Case, state representative from this district, will represent the farming community. Hastings, Crofton, Laurel, Randolph, Wauson and other towns on the two branches will have representatives at the meeting. The hearing will open at 11:45 a. m. and will be held in the Wayne county courthouse.

WHEAT IN PAWNEE COUNTY IS FINE

Pawnee City, Neb., Dec. 27.—"Yes, ho hum," yawns the Pawnee county wheat farmer, "we're sittin' pretty now," and he crosses his wool-socked feet in front of the stove before seeking a contented rest that he has failed to enjoy for some time worrying about his crop.

The intense cold wave of this week would have worked a great hardship on the wheat if the storm had not been preceded by a fall of snow several inches deep. The minimum temperature registered was 17 degrees below zero Tuesday night.

According to grain dealers in this city the acreage of wheat planted in this county is less than last year's total, and the dry condition of the soil gave some apprehension over the ability of the grain to weather such a storm as last week's. The snowfall, however put the grain in good condition.

Forger at Bloomfield.

Bloomfield, Neb., Dec. 27.—Bloomfield merchants are watching for a young man who has been cashing forged checks here during the last two months. He writes the checks for small amounts, usually under \$10, and signs the name of some prominent farmer. The checks are marked "for labor" and the signature in each instance has been cleverly imitated.

More Cars Licensed.

Table Rock, Neb., Dec. 27.—The county treasurer's office has begun to issue the 1925 auto plates, and many cars are now carrying the new numbers. Figures compiled in the office of the county treasurer show an increase of 300 licenses issued since 1923, the number issued in that year being 2,278 and for 1924, 2,578.

Sugar Fire Halted.

Bridgeport, Neb., Dec. 27.—Fire of undetermined origin that started in a pile of sacked sugar at the warehouse of the Great Western Sugar company in Gering, which had not been visited for several days, caused damage of \$4,000 to 5,000 sacks of sugar that was stored there. Much of the damage was done by water from the automatic sprinkler that saved a much more disastrous blaze.

Poultry Show to Open.

Pawnee City, Neb., Dec. 27.—The annual Pawnee county poultry show will open in Pawnee city Tuesday to continue until Friday night. Officials of the poultry association are planning to make this year's show the largest ever held in the history of Pawnee county. Edie Smiley will judge the contest.

21 Fire Victims in Trench Grave

Caskets Lowered for Burial by Flickering Lantern Light.

By International News Service. Hobart, Okla., Dec. 27.—A long, deep trench in the Hobart cemetery is rounded over today. The fresh-turned earth holds the bodies of the 21 victims of the Christmas eve fire disaster at the Babb schoolhouse. Other fresh-turned graves are the final resting place today of 13 other victims of the fire.

Of these 13, identity was reasonably sure, but whether the assembled blackened bones in the long trench are actually those of the bodies whose names they bore in life, not even the grief-stricken relatives know.

It was a weird climax to the Yuletide tragedy, a great funeral service at night in the hillside cemetery under the shadows of the Wichita mountains. All day shopkeepers, laborers, clerks and bankers had labored at the frozen earth to make ready the last resting place for those who died in the fire.

Yesterday afternoon, as the evening shadows began to lengthen, ministers of Hobart and the surrounding countryside paid tribute to Hobart's dead in a community funeral service.

At its close, with dusk fallen, the long procession wended its way to the cemetery and there, at night, in the flickering lights of lanterns, by the glare of automobile headlights, the caskets were lowered into the earth. All that could be done for the dead had been done.

RED OAK COUPLE MARRIED 56 YEARS

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee. Red Oak, Ia., Dec. 26.—Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Watkins were married on Christmas eve at Red Oak just 56 years ago. Their wedding march was played on the first piano in Red Oak. To celebrate their 56th anniversary they gave a dinner Wednesday to a large number of relatives and friends.

Mrs. Watkins has lived here for 63 years. She was born in Bloomburg, Pa., August 17, 1849. With her parents she came to Red Oak in 1861. Mr. Watkins was born in Vernon, O., December 8, 1844, and came to Red Oak soon after his wife died.

Their two children, Mrs. W. M. Lloyd of Ogden, Utah, and Mrs. Harry E. Stevens of Red Oak, were both present at the celebration. Both Mr. and Mrs. Watkins are in good health.

UPLAND RESIDENT FOR 30 YEARS DIES

Upland, Neb., Dec. 27.—Henry Butenschoen, 83, a resident of Upland and vicinity for the last 30 years, died at his home Friday after a short illness. He was a tailor, born in Germany, came to America in 1889, settled on land near Upland in 1894, and retired to town in 1914. He is survived by one son, Claus, drayman of Upland, and several grandchildren.

School Meet Planned.

Shenandoah, Ia., Dec. 27.—Eight southeastern Iowa schools are planning a meeting to be held early in January, probably at Red Oak, to increase friendly feelings between the schools. Superintendent H. M. Taylor of Shenandoah has written to superintendents of Atlantic, Red Oak, Creston, Corning, Villisca, Sidney, Glenwood and Clarinda.

Farmer Trade Less.

Wymore, Neb., Dec. 27.—According to Wymore merchants an effect of the present embargo on Nebraska poultry was reflected in the Christmas trade this year. While business in the Wymore stores was fair, it is claimed that it was not what had been expected nor what it should have been, and it is said that the farmer trade was much less than last year.

Adams Resident Dies.

Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 27.—Mrs. George Iden, formerly a resident of Adams, died at the home of her daughter at Neosho, Mo., according to word received here. The body was buried at Paola, Kan. Her husband died several years ago.

Advertisement for Fletcher's Castoria, featuring an illustration of a baby and text describing its benefits for children's ailments like constipation and colic.

Advertisement for 1/2 PRICE Julius Orkin, located at 1512 Douglas Street, offering women's and misses' coats.

Advertisement for Knights of Columbus Evening Schools, offering free instruction in everything from service to women, with a winter term opening Monday, January 5, 1925.

Advertisement for BURBON & CO. featuring women's footwear, including 'THE OLGA' and 'THE PARIS', with prices starting at \$6.85.

Advertisement for OSTEOPATHY, describing it as an efficient curative system for various ailments.

Advertisement for Adams Resident Dies, providing details about the passing of Mrs. George Iden.