

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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NO. 22

### JURY IN DAMAGE SUIT FINDS FOR THE DEFENDANTS

**Deliberate For Four Hours Saturday to Reach Verdict for the Defendants**

The jury in the case of Sophie M. Seabek, administratrix of the estate of Marie Anderson, deceased vs. the Gordon Storage Van Co., et al., debated the issues of the case from Saturday noon until late in the afternoon when they returned the verdict in favor of the defendants in the action.

Previous to the submission of the case Judge Thomas E. Dunbar had dismissed the action as to the Gordon Co., Manilla Hall and W. A. Gordon.

The action was for the recovery of damages in the sum of \$3,000 for the death of Mrs. Anderson that occurred in an auto accident near Greenwood in which two soldiers were also fatally injured.

The jury had the case for four hours before reaching a verdict in favor of the Highway Motor Freight Lines, Inc., of Omaha, and Otto T. Pulec doing business as the Pulec Transportation Co., of Crete, whose vehicles were involved in the accident.

The trial of the case occupied four days of the district court, starting Wednesday morning when the jury appeared for duty.

### Pvt. M. H. Williamson Has Visit at Home

Pvt. M. H. Williamson arrived home Saturday for a short visit with Mrs. Williamson and the two sons, enjoying the opportunity of being home while enroute back to his station.

"Bill" as he is better known, is engaged in service on hospital trains from San Francisco, conveying the wounded or ill service men to the base hospital or their homes and is kept on the road a great deal as the men are arriving at San Francisco are then being sent to other points for hospitalization.

### Sheriff Has Luck At Wolf Hunt

Sunday a wolf hunt was staged in the vicinity of Weeping Water and while the crowd was small the conditions were very good for the hunt, the fields being dry and easy to get through.

The hunters secured one coyote for the bag of the day and this animal fell to Sheriff Joe Mrasek and his accurate shooting.

It is planned to hold another hunt on next Sunday in the vicinity of the Eight Mile Grove Lutheran church and it is hoped a large crowd will be in attendance.

### INTRODUCING ABE MARTIN

Abe Martin makes his bow to readers of The Daily Journal Monday and will be back daily to make them chuckle with observations on all that goes on around us. This Plato on a cracker barrel has been amusing newspaper readers more than 25 years and his comments are especially appreciated now when the need for relaxation is felt by a war-weary public. Abe will bring that lift, watch for him daily! Now meet Abe, who says:

### ABE MARTIN



You couldn't hire some fellers to carry a watermelon, but they jest love t' lug a bowlin' ball through town. Ther's too many folks with opinions an' no information.

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### Mobilization of Scouts Sunday

Sunday afternoon a general mobilization of the Boy Scouts of the city was held, this being an annual event to test the quickness and dispatch shown in assembling.

The gathering place was the Cass county court house, within twenty minutes of the call there were fifty boys on the scene and ready for duty.

The Scouts reported to Deputy Sheriff Emery Doody who gave them a crime problem to be solved, and on which they were to be tested. The solution came in twenty minutes after the officer had given the problem to the Scouts. Glen White was Scout that made the discovery of the razor blade, that was used in the committing of the crime in the problem, finding this concealed near the county jail building.

### RED ARMIES DRIVE WEDGE INTO MAIN ALTDAM DEFENSES

**Soviet Assault on the Last German Toe Hold on the East Bank of the Oder**

LONDON, Mar. 19. (U.P.)— Russian siege forces have driven a wedge almost a mile into the main defenses of Altdam, fortress city on the east bank of the Oder before Stettin, the Germans reported today.

The Soviet assault on the last German toe hold east of the lower Oder at Altdam entered its final phase. Russian victory there will secure Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's flank for the big push on Berlin.

Moscow dispatches reported that after the capture of the big port of Kolberg, 63 miles northeast of Stettin, the Baltic coast was clear from Stettin Bay to the suburbs of Gdynia.

Soviet dispatches said fighting went on unabated along the central Oder front before Berlin and in Silesia, although the red army command still withheld confirmation of nazi reports that the Russians were across the Oder in force and gathering strength for a frontal assault on the capital.

Ernest von Hammer, Berlin radio commentator, said Zhukov had thrown fresh infantry into the attack on the Altdam bridgehead. The Russian attack as many as fifteen times in separate sectors before the town, Von Hammer said, without forcing a substantial change in the tactical situation.

The troops drilling in from the southeast penetrated almost a mile into the main German fighting zone, Von Hammer said, adding the customary propaganda claims that they were sealed off.

In extreme southern Silesia, Von Hammer reported a two pronged battle between Breslau and Ratibor reaching a climax. The Soviets kept on the pressure in attempts to link up armored forces advancing from the east and north.

The capture of Kolberg gave the Russians the first major open Baltic port since they seized Memel in east Prussia in late January.

The third white Russian army gained up to three miles in east Prussia and reduced the Koenigsberg pocket to 275 miles square. A second east Prussian pocket a few miles to the west was whittled down to 165 square miles.

### Raymond Yelick Wins Bond Award

Mr. and Mrs. James Yelick of this city have received word from their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Raymond Yelick, of San Bruno, California, telling among other things of the work of Mr. Yelick in the war bond drive.

Ray is employed in the propeller department of the American Airways plant where he has been since the start of the defense work.

In the recent bond drive he was in charge of the prop section and as the result he sold everyone in the department but one at least one bond. Bob Yelick, one of the employees took a \$1,000 bond and most of them \$100.

In recognition of his services Ray received a handsome picture of one of the American Airway planes and was also presented a \$25 bond by one of the men in the plant for his work.

### PARTY ON ST. PATRICK'S EVE

On the eve of St. Patrick's day Miss Doris Finnefrock and Miss Eugenie Smith entertained eleven girls at a lovely party in the home of the latter's parents.

Games and dancing were enjoyed, followed by refreshments.

### WILLIAM F. EVERS COMPLETES 25 YEARS AT MASONIC HOME

Sunday, March 18th marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the superintendency of William F. Evers at the Nebraska Masonic Home, years that have been eventful in the growth of the Home and the development of the plant in every way.

Mr. Evers had worked at the Home previously but later entered the contracting business with the late A. B. Smith, and was engaged in this line of work when James M. Robertson, then the president of the Masonic Home association, March 18, 1920, asked Mr. Evers to look after the affairs of the Home for a two weeks period. So successful was Mr. Evers in handling the business affairs and the care of the residents that he was prevailed upon to continue and his since served in that capacity.

Since his regime the infirmary building has been erected, much additional land has been secured and the Home has grown to one of the largest and finest in the state. Here there are a hundred of the old members of the Masons and Stars enjoying their declining years.

Sunday the residents of the Home with the Evers family enjoyed a quiet observance of the day with reminiscence of the past years given by Mr. Evers and recollections of the large number that made their Home there in the past. Mr. Evers in speaking of the recollection of the years read a very clever poem on the residents of the Home:

"Oh! The goodness of their goodness when they're good, "But the rudeness of their rudeness when they're rude,"

"To the goodness of their goodness when they're good,"

Raymond C. Cook resident member of the board of control of the Home association also gave a few remarks. Leslie A. Martin, president of the Home association, had planned to attend but was unable to be here.

### Propp-Resso Wedding At Christian Church

On Saturday afternoon at 2:30 at the First Christian church on North 8th street, occurred the marriage of Miss Wanda Dell Propp, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl William Propp of this city and Donald Neal Resso of Nehawka.

Preceding the service Mrs. Jess Hedges sang "I Love You Truly" with the accompaniment being played by Mrs. C. J. White.

The young people were attended by Miss Betty Alexsen as bridesmaid and Leroy Ahrens of Weeping Water as the best man.

The marriage lines were read by Rev. J. W. Taenzler, the pastor of the church.

Following the wedding at the church the members of the party enjoyed a reception at the home of the bride's parents and attended by a large group of the friends from this city as well as Nehawka and Weeping Water.

Mr. and Mrs. Resso expect to reside on a farm near Nehawka.

### State Expenses Decline in Month

LINCOLN, Neb., March 19. (U.P.)— Expenses of the state's government declined slightly last month, with warrants drawn totaling \$2,240,695 compared to the January amount of \$2,417,211, tax commissioner Robert Armstrong reported today.

Payments for salaries and wages last month totaled \$484,496. Other expenses included supplies, \$209,188; expenses, \$121,325; materials, parts and repairs, \$30,136; equipment, \$40,066; land and buildings, \$19,242; public improvement, \$376,352; and fixed charges, \$963,824.

### Sons in Widely Scattered Areas

Mrs. and Mrs. Herman Ellingsen of this city have all three of their sons in the armed services as the youngest, Edward, has just recently been called into the service and is now stationed at Camp Hood, Texas.

Sgt. Ralph Ellingsen, who is with the coast artillery, is now stationed in the Philippines with the American forces.

Clp. Lawrence Ellingsen is a member of the tank forces and in service in the European area and it has been some weeks since the family has heard from him.

# Nazis Retreat From Saar Triangle; Yanks Blast Osaka-Kobe Area For Second Day

PARIS, Mar. 19. (U.P.)— American armies tightened a strangling grip on the mauled German forces fleeing the Saar-Palatinate triangle under a deluge of bombs today, and in the Remagen bridgehead the Yanks advanced two and one half miles and broke out into the flat Rhineland plain.

Paris, MAR. 19. (U.P.)— The German first and seventh army began a general retreat from the Saar-Palatinate triangle today under a rain of American air bombs and gunfire.

A gap of forty miles or less remained open between the American third and seventh armies, closing in around the confused Germans from the north and south.

Inside the pocket, long columns of German troops and armor were reported streaming eastward toward the Rhine in a belated and apparently disorderly attempt to withdraw before the points of the American pincers closed.

American bombers attack the packed roads at dawn. By mid-day the U. S. 9th air force had sent more than 1300 medium bombers and fighters bombers against the fleeing nazis and the mass slaughter was still going on.

Flying weather was perfect over the target areas with indications that the number of sorties would be doubled by nightfall.

Returning flyers said the highways were black with German troops and civilians. The scenes were reminiscent of the German invasion of France in 1940, the flyers said.

About 1,000 nazi motor vehicles and 100 tanks or armored cars were destroyed or damaged yesterday. Today's toll promised to be greater.

An estimated 80,000 German soldiers were believed left inside the closing pocket. Their long delay in starting the retreat threatened to cost them heavily in the last few days. Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's U. S. 3rd army spearheads already were within fifteen miles of Kaiserslautern where the main escape roads center.

The Germans were reported putting up only sporadic opposition in the pocket. They fought hardest along the northeastern shoulder of the gap to keep open the roads to Mainz and Ludwigshafen, Rhine cities.

Patton's troops early today were only 14 miles southwest of Mainz and about 35 miles northwest of Ludwigshafen. They crossed the Nahe river main German defense position on the northern flank of the Rhine-Palatinate at several points.

Strong German covering forces were still manning the Siegfried line fortifications along the southern rim of the Saar against the advancing 7th army in a large scale delaying action to cover the retreat.

Field dispatches said the 7th army and French 1st army troops moving down the Rhine valley scored gains running to five miles and more today and were crowding hard on the heels of the retreating nazis.

With the U. S. Seventh army plowing ahead in giant strides through the Siegfried line fortifications covering the southern rim of the Saar, the whole German position in the industrial basin appeared to be collapsing.

Field dispatches said the roads leading eastward from the pocket formed by the converging Third and Seventh armies were jammed with tens of thousands of civilian refugees and retreating nazi troop columns. Many of the highways were reported hopelessly blocked by the confused traffic, leaving the fleeing enemy columns easy prey to the hundreds of allied fighter-bombers ranging overhead.

Far to the north, the American First army battled out of the towering Rhine bluffs surrounding its Remagen bridgehead and moved up powerful tank and infantry forces for a drive into the open country rolling some 25 miles northward to the Ruhr.

The big Ludendorff railway bridge at Remagen, which collapsed Saturday afternoon, was being repaired at top speed and front correspondents said its temporary loss was not

### Plans Aid to Other Veterans



Among the first graduates of a five-month education program for discharged World War II veterans at American University, Washington, D. C., is Maurice H. Pion, right, of Arlington, Va. Sponsored by the Disabled Veterans and U. S. Veterans Administration, Pion, holder of the Purple Heart and Presidential citation, who lost an arm in action, plans to aid in rehabilitation of other disabled soldiers. He is shown receiving his diploma from Dr. Paul Douglas.

### Popular Young People Wedded

Sunday, March 18th, at the Grace Methodist church in Omaha, occurred the marriage of Edward Lushinsky, formerly of Plattsmouth, and Miss Pearl Elaine Whitmarsh of Omaha.

They were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Gormer Worthen, the latter a sister of the groom, of Murray, and Mrs. George Lushinsky.

The bride wore a two piece suit with black accessories and wore a corsage of carnations and sweet peas. The groom wore a dark blue suit.

Mr. Lushinsky is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Lushinsky of Omaha and the grandson of the former mayor George Lushinsky of this city. He attended Plattsmouth high school until two years ago when the family moved to South Carolina where he attended the North Charleston high school.

The bride attended the Ralston high school and the South Omaha high school.

After a short honeymoon the groom will leave for the navy on March 21. The bride will make her home with her parents for the present. The young couple will have the best wishes of their many friends in this community where both are well known.

### Honor March Births at the Forty et Eight Club

Saturday evening the Forty et Eight club was the scene of a very delightful party that honored the birthday anniversaries of the members whose natal anniversaries occurred in March.

The St. Patrick's day theme was carried out in the observances and the birthday cakes with the tiny green candles were presented to the members. A special treat was the birthday cake presented by Mrs. J. M. Sedlak for the occasion.

The members of the club and guests honored were Erwin Helm, Mrs. Dorothy Gansemer, Joseph M. Sedlak, Howard Kennell, George Thun, Frank H. Smith, T-S George Kerns, Dr. Paul McLaughlin, Mrs. Lela Ferris, Mrs. Ruth Devers, O. W. Finney, Edward Gradoville, R. H. Fitch, Fred Uhlik, Pvt. James Holy, Forrest Todd, John Speck.

### AMERICAN SUB TOLL

WASHINGTON, Mar. 19. (U.P.)— American submarines have sunk 15 more Japanese ships including five combat vessels, the navy announced today.

The combat craft included three destroyers and two escort vessels. The other victims were one large tanker, one large cargo transport, seven cargo vessels and one medium transport.

The total of enemy ships sunk by American submarines now is 1,072 including 117 warships.

American undersea craft have reported destruction of 27 enemy vessels already this month—an average of more than one a day.

### TODAY IN GERMANY

Berlin had its twenty-seventh consecutive nightly air raid after a 2000 plane raid that sent thirty tons of bombs crashing down every thirty seconds, on a bright, springlike Sunday.

Four army officers were reported executed for allowing the Americans to capture the Remagen bridge.

There were reports that Adolph Hitler had taken one or several women with him to a hideout to assure himself of an heir.

### New Law Considered On Drunken Driving

LINCOLN, Neb., Mar. 19. (U.P.)— A bill to prevent the sober from being unjustly accused of intoxication, and to increase the number of convictions of drunken drivers, remained in the hands of the legislature's judiciary committee after public hearing.

Under provision of the proposed legislation, a chemical analysis disclosing fifteen hundredths of one per cent alcohol in the blood of an accused person would be admissible evidence in any law court. The bill was introduced by Sens. Harry A. Foster, Cliff N. Ogden, and Sidney J. Cunningham, all of Omaha.

Also held in committee was Sen. John E. Mekota's (Crete) bill providing that county attorneys shall notify the governor and attorney general by mail upon filing of a petition for probate or administration.

Appearing in favor of the blood count bill were Bernard Stone and Ed Mehrens of the Omaha Safety Council; Donald S. Berry, Chicago, National Safety Council; Dr. A. C. Andersen, Creighton University, and Robert Munch, Omaha, chief of police.

Virtually every high school chemistry laboratory is supplied with the equipment for making the blood analysis, Andersen said. Stone urged favorable action on the bill on the grounds it would protect sick or injured persons who appear to be intoxicated, while en a b l i n g a greater number of convictions of drunken drivers.

GUAM, March 19. (U.P.)— Tokyo said wave after wave of U. S. navy planes attacked the factory-packed Osaka-Kobe area for at least nine hours today, sending a powerful carrier-based assault on Japan thru its second straight day.

Only 85 miles to the east, Nagoya, Japan's biggest aircraft manufacturing center and third largest city, still was ablaze from a pre-dawn attack early yesterday by 325 to 350 Superfortresses, greatest B-29 armada of the war.

(A communique issued by the 20th air force in Washington said none of the giant bombers was lost due to enemy action. Returning crewmen reported "huge fires" in the industrial heart of the city with dense smoke rising to 6,000 feet. Fighter opposition was meager and ineffective, it said, but anti aircraft fire was more intense than it was a week ago when Nagoya first was raided by a 300-plus force of B-29's.)

A Japanese communique issued shortly after 3 p. m. (Tokyo time) said carrier planes had been attacking the Hanshin district—Japanese name for the Osaka-Kobe area—and Shikoku Island, to the southwest, since this morning.

Another Tokyo propaganda broadcast said the raids began at 5:30 a. m. and reported that Kyushu, southernmost of the Japanese home islands, also was under attack. Kyushu was the main target of a force estimated by Tokyo at 1,400 carrier planes yesterday.

The communique claimed that counter-attacking Japanese planes had sunk an aircraft carrier, a second aircraft carrier or battleship, one battleship or cruiser, and two destroyers in attacks on the American task force southeast of Kyushu yesterday.

Another aircraft carrier was damaged heavily, the communique said, and 46 planes shot down. Damage to ground installations in yesterday's eight-hour carrier raids on Kyushu, Shikoku and southeast Honshu was said to be "slight."

Both Osaka and Kobe, identified by Tokyo as among today's targets, were blasted heavily last week by 300-plane armadas of Superfortresses. Osaka is Japan's second largest city and biggest war production center, while Kobe is her main port.

Huge fires were kindled in Nagoya, 165 miles west of Tokyo, by 2,500 tons or more of incendiaries dropped by the record fleet of Superfortresses yesterday. One Tokyo broadcast said the fires finally were brought under control after five and a half hours, but another indicated they still may not have been controlled.

The B-29s were out to complete the destruction begun last Monday, when two square miles—285 city blocks—were burned out in a similar raid. It was the fifth major fire raid on Japan in 10 days.

### Mrs. John W. Rummel Honored On Birthday

A very fine birthday party was held at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Rummel on Sunday in honor of the birthday of Mr. Rummel which fell on Saint Patrick's day. Supper was served and to finish the happy occasion a huge birthday angel food cake was provided.

Those who were present were Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Nolting and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. John Rummel.

### OMAHA GUESTS HERE

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Young of Omaha were in the city Sunday afternoon for a visit with the relatives and friends for a few hours. Mrs. Young was formerly Miss Elizabeth Holly of this city.

—Weather Forecast—  
High—48  
Low—42  
Nebraska forecast:— Partly cloudy today, tonight and Tuesday; cooler today eastern two-thirds of the state; not quite so cold extreme west portion; cooler southeast and extreme east tonight; low tonight middle 20's.