NEBR. STATE HIST. SOCIETY XXX 1500 R ST. LINCOLN, MEBR.

# State Highway Department Employee County's Only 'S-D' Day Victim

Cass county had the unwanted honor of recording the first personal-injury accident in Nebraska Wednesday (Safe-Driving Day) when 24-year old Eli P. Best drove his car into a center island at the intersection of highways 75 and 34 near Union.

Best, an employee of the state highway department, was driving south on highway 75 and rammed into the island at 5:20 a.m. He suffered cuts on the face, hands and neck, and was released after treatment at St. Mary's hospital in Nebraska City.

Best told Sheriff Tom Solomon, who investigated. that he didn't see the island. Best was struck in the face by flying glass after a large sign, mounted on a four by four timber, knocked out the car's windshield. The sign warned motorists to drive to the right of the island.

Best was dazed by the accident, and drove nearly 400 feet down the road before he stopped. The car was damaged about the bumper, hood and windshield. It was Cass county's only personal-injury accident of

the day.

The nation recorded only 41 deaths Wednesday. which is relatively low. Admiral H. B. Miller, director of the president's action committee on traffic safety, said "There is every reason to believe America is demonstrating its ability to use teamwork, common sense and caution to reduce the traffic toll substantially."

Nebraska had no traffic deaths Wednesday, as patrolmen worked long, hard hours to keep motorists from risking their own and others' necks. Iowa recorded one death near Northwood about 11 p. m. Wednesday.

Officials are reporting the world's first Safe-Driving Day as a success. Although there were many accidents and many deaths, there seemed little doubt but that at least a few lives were saved and at least a few persons were saved from serious injury.

The record left Nebraska significantly lower in accident death rate over last year when 328 died from automobile mishaps through December 15. This year only 306 had become traffic victims. However, neighboring Iowa was up from 558 in 1953 to 591 in 1954



Ray Wiysel, a member of the Plattsmouth Volunteer Fire Department for the past 15 years, this week was elected as fire chief for the 1955 year by members of the department.

Officers elected and listed by for the city council Monday night were approved by a unanimous vote. Wiysel succeeds Sam Arn as chief Carl J. Schneider was elected president of the organization; William J. Highfield, vice president; John V. Svoboda, secretary; Howard Hirz, first assistant; Louis Swoboda, second assistant; A. W. Huebner, driver; Walter Bryant, driver; Leo A. Hohman, driver; and Herbert Baumgart, chemical. Other for the first time in several members for 1955 are Dr. O. Sandin, William Schmidtmann, Fred Lugsch, Franklin Kief. C. T. Woster, H. F. Schuetz, W. Ray Herring, John Sattler, Louis W. Kief, James Begley, Ernest Yenney, Carl Chriswiser, D. B. Ashbaugh, Herbert Minor, Hugh Stander, Jr.; Ben Anderson, Clark Finney, John J. Cloidt, Jr., Joseph Kruntorad, and Winford Dasher. Secretary John V. Svobeda reported to the city council that V. T. Arn was given a leave of absence and that Harry Cane and James Aspedon resigned.

leaving the job as police chief had nothing to do with the police department or the operation of the city council. The council had held up accepting Dunlap's resignation until they could urge him to stay. But Dunlap was determined and the council Monday night ac-



would start the very next morning after the sidewalk was finished. So, in 1923. Vroman says.

he finished the sidewalk as specified.

Last Monday, 31 years later, city mail delivery started at Vroman's home.



open the remaining evenings

until Christmas, until 9 p.m.

including tonight (Thursday)

and Friday. Stores will be open

It is an added effort by

Plattsmouth merchants and

businesses to ease the last-

minute shopping efforts of

and merchants have urged the

people of Plattsmouth to take

advantage of the convenience

"Your hometown merchants

have established their busines-

ses for the purpose of service

your appreciation to those mer-

chants for their efforts directed

toward giving you better ser-

vice. Why shop out of town,

parking problems, overcrowded

stores and streets, picked over

merchandise, impersonal serv-

ice and frayed nerves?" He

mind, not only during the

Christmas season, but during

the entire year," he continued.

"Your home town merchants

are interested in satisfied cus-

tomers and will give every con-

sideration at their disposal to

serve the people of Plattsmouth

Merchants and business men of

Plattsmouth are constantly

The Chamber of Commerce,

civic leaders, sponsor for cus-

tomer benefit various activities

such as special sales promotions.

barbeques, banquets and other

striving to make service better,

"This is something to keep in

The Chamber of Commerce

as usual on Saturday night.

their customers.

# Choral Concert Well Received

A well received choral concert was attended by 300 to 400 persons at the Plattsmouth's new high school auditorium Tuesday night.

The high school choral group of 128 voices presented a variety of choral numbers during the first half of the program and sang Christmas music during the last half under the direction of Melvin McKenny, Plattsmouth High School choral and band director.

a vesper service which was given last year.

Shirley Story was soloist of the evening accompanied by a madrigal group.

The Madrigals will perform end.

A boys quartet, "The Uncalled presented a specialty Four." on the program Tuesday night. Members of this group were Bob Carr. Marion Hild, Bill Todd, and Terry Ernst.

Mr. McKenny has announced that Plattsmouth will be host to all schools of the Ak-Sar-Ben for a 350-student school build- tion at the Nehawka auditor- will come from funds already Conference on Feb. 10 for a ing to serve newly created Dis- ium. choral clinic. About 600 visit- trict No. 103 was voted in here ing students are expected.

#### Cash Taken In Station Break - In

The sheriff's office is investigating a break-in at Huebner's mittee, will be at the northeast and perhaps 2 teachers. It is Phillips 66 service station Wednesday night. The only loot was the city limits partly out, and the athletic field. some petty cash left in the sta- amounting to 61/4 acres and Members of the site committion overnight.

cepted and placed on file the letter of resignation which is effective Dec. 23.

Meisinger told the council that he had several prospects for chief in mind but that none seemed to measure up to the

The council finally became a critical mass Monday night and exploded like a nuclear device when all four councilmen and the mayor sat down together meetings. Earlier, absences or resignations had held off a quorum on the explosive city attorney question.



Paul E. Fauquet

But last night they were all there and they put Fauquet in on a 3-2 split vote, with Mayor Leo Meisniger voting when the four councilmen stood each other off 2-2.

To the councilmen, the vote on the city attorney appeared easily foretold but when Meisinger tossed in the name of Fauquet again for confirmation, The choral concert replaced the last of a number of times since May 1, Councilman Clark Finney exploded in an extensive monologue which left the council and those present with little doubt that he was against confirming the attorney. Counciltraditional Christmas carolling man Howard "Hob" Hirz also in Plattsmouth during the week expressed himself, though less violently, against confirming

NEHAWKA (Special)-A site\*

Monday night. Now the board,

(Continued on Page 4)

of building on it.

when cash prizes will go to the person who can identify this im-6 to collect 11 cents per 1,000 cubic personator. The Santa Claus will be in an Elmwood store window feet of fuel used. from 3 to 4 p. m. Saturday. Thirty-five balloons containing merchandise certificates will be released at 2:30 p.m. The Christmas project is sponsored by the Elmwood Commercial Club. With Santa Claus in this photo are Carol Wilken, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wilken of Elmwood and Arman Nielsen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Swain Nielsen of Wabash .-- Journal Photo,

\$25 Reward

decorations.

for replacement.

newspaper.

of filing charges.

tion of Christmas street

During the past two weeks dozens of globes have been

taken from decorated trees

in front of stores. Not only

has thefts spoiled the ap-pearance of Plattsmouth's

decoraing efforts, but has

cost merchants a good sum

have been reported to this

A person would have to be

several degrees lower than

Nehawka School Site Set

#### Schools Close **For Christmas** As a public service, The Plattsmouth Journal will This Friday pay \$25.00 in cash to anyone for the apprehension and proof of theft or destruc-

Plattsmouth school will halt for a Christmas vacation Friday with the completion of regular school hours.

break in studies and return for pany under bond to be returned classes on Jan. 3, 1955.

Most other county schools would break on various days with varying length vacations, some one week, some two.

Most Plattsmouth schools A group of youths driving a York (17) county license were winding up work with programs with Christmas themes. was seen by a Journal employee taking lights from programs at various times durone tree but escaped before being apprehended. Others

ing the week. Grade school have generally set their Christmas programs and parties for Friday afterncon shortly before dismissal for vacation.

a snake's belly to stoop to At the high school, the annudestroying the spirit of al program will be held at 2 Christmas. So bring in the p.m. Friday. A guest reader, proof and get \$25.00 in cash. The Journal will take care will give "The Fourth Wise Man.

Gas Costs More Next Month

Natural gas rates of more than 1,300 Plattsmouth users will go up on Dec. 27 this year. This will be in line with plans of the Central Electric and Gas

Company, which serves the area,

An ordinance presented by Walter Gleason, manager of the local company, was advanced to second reading Monday night by the Plattsmouth City council and it was expected to be passed establishing the new rate at the next meeting.

Gleason told the city council Monday night that the Central

asking for no raise in rates on of the proposed additional Natural Gas Company, the pipeline company.

The raise in rates is now before the Federal Power Commission for approval. Until the proposal is acted upon, the raise in rate Students will get a 2-week will be collected by the gas comif the new rate is not established

A previous raise asked by the gas company, which was collected under bond beginning Nov. 27, 1952, was refused and is now under a process of being figured out by the company for | Packard program. Kindergartens were holding refunding to customers. This retween four and five cents per 1,000 cubic feet of gas used, will plementary and non-competi-

be made as soon as the figuring can be completed and court approval made. in every price field.'

#### Plattsmouth Motors Auction Is Tonight

A used car auction will be held Mrs. Ray Norris of Plattsmouth, in Plattsmouth Thursday night for the sale of 25 cars and trucks by the Plattsmouth Motor Company, it has been an-

> nounced. Sale opens at 7 p. m. Thursday with selling by Auctioneer Frank Sorrell of Syracuse, beginning at 7:30.

Plattsmouth Motors have announced that they will also trade at the auction and urge inspection up to sale time. Terms will be one-third of auction price with balance on monthly payment if needed.

#### **Attends Meeting** In Grand Island

L. A. Caldwell, of Caldwell-Linder Funeral Home, drove to Grand Island Wednesday morn-

on Wednesday for the first showing of the 1955 Packard

Highlight of activities planned

for an open house celebration

in Plattsmouth about Jan. 17

in the dealer's show room on

**Ray Wiysel** 

one, handling both the Stude-

baker and Packard lines. The

of the first dual franchises es-

tablished under the Studebaker-

models.

As a joint effort of several towns in western Cass county, 101 pints of blood were contributed to the Red Cross bloodmobile Monday. The goal of 120 wasn't reached because 49 persons failed to appear for their appointments.

As it was, 115 persons appeared but 14 of them were rejected because of the sniffles, high blood pressure or other causes. A physical examination is given all donors to insure against offered by this added service. them having a reaction or passing along diseases to the recipients.

Mrs. Emily Gonzales of Elm- | the public in and around Plattswood, temporary chairman of mouth," Charles Allen, manager the blood drive, was in charge of the Plattsmouth Chamber of of the operation. Voluntary Commerce said today. "Show nurses who helped were Mrs. Ralph Dreamer of Alvo, Mrs. Donlan of Eagle, and Mrs. Rich-ard Pratt and Viola Bornemeier adding to cost by travel plus frustration in traffic and facing Electric and Gas Company was Chicago avenue, will be the first of Elmwood. Lunch was served by the Legion Auxiliary, Mrs. Vincent Phillips, president.

Wiysel has been in the auto-Dale Fleischman, commander charge will go to the Northern mobile business since 1938 when of the American Legion post, was in charge of procuring help for Well known in civic as well as loading of equipment, etc. Drs. automotive circles, Wiysel is the O. E. Liston and Glen. D. Knost present fire chief, having been of Elmwood helped give the examinations.

### James Assigned as **Fighter Mechanic** Airman 3/c Johnny R. James,

son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Plattsmouth designation is one James of Platsmouth, has been assigned to Amarillo air force base in Texas as a student jet fighter mechanic. He was trans- the organization of Plattsmouth

ferred to Amarillo from Lack- business men, merchants and "This will give us two lines of land A.F.B., Texas. passenger cars which are com He is a graduate of Plattsmouth high school. Amarillo is tive," Wiysel said. "Thus we have the nation's only training cencomplete coverage of the pas- ter devoted exclusively to the senger car market, with models training of jet fighter and bomber mechanics.

community activities, Allen pointed out. "They aer interested in you and want you to become interested in them and their services," he said. King, Queen at Monday Party

asked.

he said.

Allen pointed out the difficulty of making exchange of gifts if purchases are made outside Plattsmouth and noted the First Charge System is in operation for the benefit of customers. Plattsmouth has all the advantages of big city shopping plus," he finished.

## Pvt. Roloff Soon Home on Leave

#### Pvt. Bill Roloff Private Bill Roloff, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Roloff of Omaha, will be home from basic training at Ft. Bliss, Tex., early in January.

He is a graduate of Plattsmouth high school, class of 1952, and worked in the Burlington shops in Omaha before his induction.

raised through mill levies in the Boyd Mayfield, chairman of past, now being held for buildthe site selection committee, told ing purposes. A vote to use headed by chairman Mrs. Mar- the patrons Monday night that funds to purchase the site, which were designated for buildion Tucker, faced the problem the board might save enough ing only, was taken Monday money, because of the location The site, chosen from among and already installed water line,

night with 173 voting for using them for the site purchase. three presented by a site com- to add an additional class room three voting against. Though condemnation procorner of town here partly in near the present shop building

ceedings could be used to obtain the land, the committee said it was hoped that the land could

fund, which may amount to be-

showing of the Packard luxury behalf of itself and that none line. he entered at Wahoo.

elected chief by the Plattsmouth Volunteer Fire Department members this week. He has been a member of the organization for the past 15 years. by the federal government. The agency will now be a dual

An attempt was made to raise the south window in the station.	tonding the meeting 149 voted		without recorting to that made	ing where he attended a meet- ing of the Legislative Commit- tee of the Nebraska Funeral Di-		-Journal Want Ads Pay-
thiel forced the west willdow to	for the finally selected site; 31 voted for putting the building	Fred Hansen.	The school district, reorgan-	rectors Association. The group		MAR LAW
THE WEATHER	10 acres at the east end of Main Street: and 10 voted for the	in the final recommendation	and 19 plus the old District 103, plus parts of two districts in	hring them un-to-date		
	edge of town.	Negotiations have begun on	school district in Cass County.	Car Lot To Open		Tonly 7
Dec. 13-15.	Higgens property was that it is	the purchase of the site from Higgens of Kansas City Dr R	trons of the district on Nov. 3,	in Plattsmouth on Friday ac-	party in the high school auditorium Monday night were Ruth	anophind and all 3
Monday	situated on a road with water piped in front of it. The final selection carried on	and Rev. A. B. Small and daugh-	tricts are under invisdiction of	Fink and Sharn will begin on	Bruns and Roger Hild (under the crown). Betty Morris (left) and Doris Ehlers were attendants to the queen, and Roger Wehr- bein attendant to the king. Havely Sayers, honor attendant to the	
Forecast: Today (Thursday) Cloudy, tonight colder, showers	present, with 55 percent of the	no trouble in purchasing the	1-room schools in various dis-	dealing in all makes and models. The lot will buy, sell or trade	king, was not present for the picture. It was the first F. F. A	New the alt
changing to snow flurries.	votes being necessary for pas-	Money to purchase the site	tricts or being brought to Ne-	used cars at 516 Chicago avenue, Plattsmouth.	F. H. A. Party in Plattsmouth, because the farm group was or- ganized here only last fall.—Journal photo.	