

Cass Countyman of the Week

Transplanted Canadian Among Elmwood Pioneers

BY RUTH MILLER
Special Correspondent

In 1881, an enterprising land agent made his way into Ontario, Canada, and so intrigued Archibald McFall with his tales of the Nebraska prairies that Mr. McFall left his home and journeyed southward to see this state for himself.

It must have been all that the land agent promised for the journey led to the purchase of a farm 2 miles east and 1/2 mile south of Elmwood.

Mr. McFall returned to his native Canada and rented several railroad cars upon which he loaded all his livestock, including cows and sheep. He and his two sons tended the livestock while his wife and five girls rode in the passenger car. Thus it was that Bertha McFall, now Mrs. F. J. Fitch, came, in 1881, to Nebraska.

Mrs. Fitch was born in 1878 in the Province of Ontario, the youngest of 7 children. Although she was too young when the family moved to remember much about their home in Canada, the stories told by older sisters are still remembered in the family.

Archibald McFall carved his home out of the Canadian woods with no other help save two strong hands and an ax and from the strongest and straightest timbers built the log home for his family.

No doubt Nebraska winters seemed almost mild after seeing the snows pile about his home until one could climb out the upstairs windows, as the little girls did, to slide on the snow.

The McFall girls could recall, too, many happy times in those winters when they would bundle up and go out to tap the maple trees for the sweet, brown maple syrup and sugar.

But they left all this behind and boarded the train for South Bend, Nebraska, and from there to Elmwood where they lived in a simple shack on a neighbors farm until their own house could be built.

One year the price of corn climbed to the phenomenal figure of fifty cents a bushel and at that price Mr. McFall made so much money on his corn that he was able to pay the mortgage on the place and Mrs. Fitch recalls the celebratory which followed as the family burned that mortgage.

The McFalls made sure their children got an education, beginning with the Stove Creek School just north of them, and 4 of the 7 children became school teachers.

Mrs. Fitch delivered the valedictory address when she graduated from high school. When daughter Ahlene asked if it was because she was the smartest, she replied with a chuckle, "No it was because I was the best speaker."

Mrs. Fitch taught a year at Clear Creek School, riding to and from her school on a bicycle. She decided to return to school the next year and she entered the School of Oratory, a University connected school. She then taught at Stove Creek, Chilson, and a Plattsmouth rural school. She says the highest salary she got teaching was \$30 a month.

While at Plattsmouth she met F. J. Fitch, a Union Pacific engineer from Omaha who was visiting the family with whom she boarded. She and Mr. Fitch were married in October of 1903 and for the next 6 years lived in Omaha.

Ahlene explained that, just as a doctor is on 24 hour call, at that time a railroad engineer

could be called at any time of the day or night. There were no telephones so the railroad sent call boys for the engineers. The fact that 24-and 36-hours on duty were often required caused Mr. Fitch to leave his job and move to Elmwood where he went into well drilling. Before his death in 1938, he sold real estate in the area.

Mrs. Fitch has three daughters; Mrs. Henry Knaup, Weeping Water; Ahlene Fitch, Elmwood; and Mrs. C. V. Stillgen, Gettysburg, So. Dak.; and two grandchildren; Rodney Knaup, Falls City; Mrs. Bernard Poppe, Lincoln.

She has been an active member in the Christian Church at Elmwood for 71 of her 85 years and is the next to the oldest member and the oldest residing in the area. The oldest member is, of course, her older sister, ninety-five-year-old Mrs. George Hall who lives in California.

Mrs. Fitch has also been an active Rebekah and is a past noble grand. She has enjoyed good health and is still very active, doing much of the housework and spending part of each summer with her daughter, Ahlene, at their Lake Park cabin at South Bend.

Mrs. Fitch is looking forward to having her family all with her this week for a very special occasion. On Sunday the family will attend church for a dedication of the communion service which the 3 girls are giving in memory of their father.

The words are not to be found which would tell the patience and devotion this mother has given unstintingly to her family. However, a tribute has been written, written in the lives of her charming daughters and expressed in the tranquility of the mother.

Ordinances Asked To Add More Paving

The City Council Monday night instructed the City Attorney to prepare ordinances to create three street improvement districts in the hope they can be constructed along with the present program.

The stretches are:—7th Street from 6th to 7th Avenue.

—Avenue D from 4th to 5th Street.

—15th Street from 3rd Avenue north to the existing paving.

Street Commissioner Art Hellwig and Mayor L. W. Moore said residents of those areas were anxious to have the paving done this summer.

The ordinances will be considered at the next regular Council meeting.

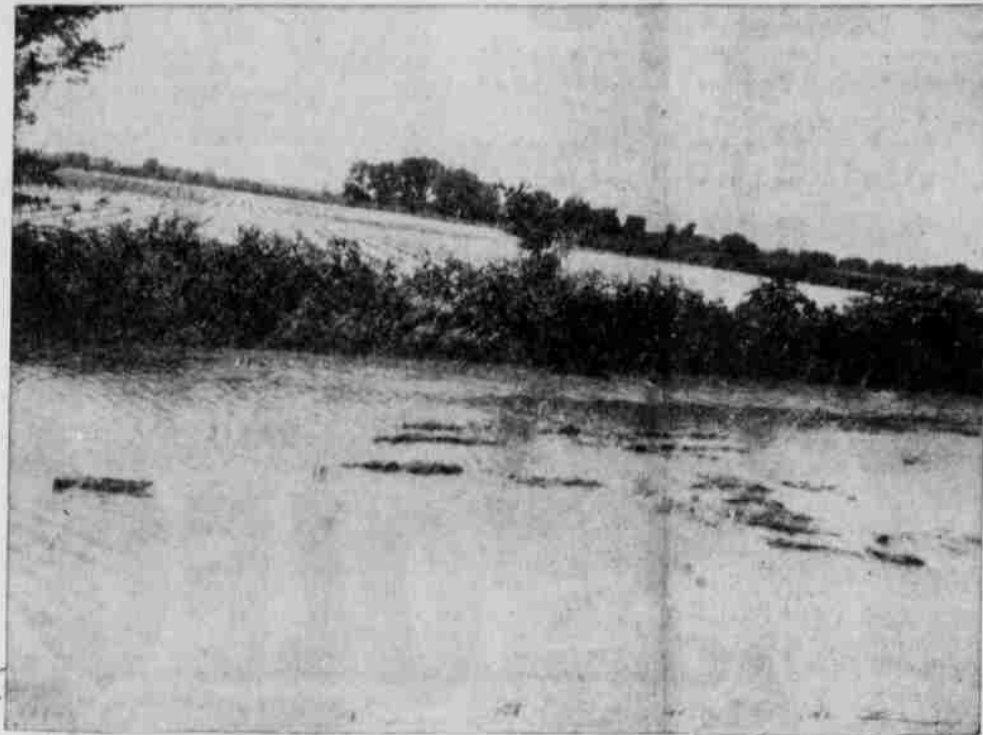
Helping Hands School Begins Summer Session

The Helping Hands School for retarded children began the summer session Wednesday. Thirteen children are enrolled for recreation and handicraft for the six weeks session, each Wednesday.

School hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with three teachers.

The last four weeks will include swimming at Nebraska City.

The Cass County Association for Retarded Children asks parents of retarded children who are interested in enrolling their child or children for those sessions to contact the school.



PLATTE WATER—The Platte River overflowed its banks north of Plattsmouth Tuesday when the crest of the floodwater found its way to the Missouri. Shown above is a field of corn on land farmed by Fred Rutherford of Plattsmouth just west of the north part of the Waterfowl Management Area (Game Refuge) on the Missouri River bottom. Water in the foreground is on the refuge. The crest of the Platte, according to Harold Edwards, Plattsmouth, manager of the Waterfowl Area, reached the Missouri between 10 and 11:30 a.m. Tuesday. The Platte crested at Louisville at 6:30 that morning when it rose to 11.4 feet. By 9:30 it had dropped to 11.06 and by noon to 10.34 feet and the worst there from rains ranging to 14 inches to the west of Cass County had passed.



MISSOURI BANK-FULL—The Missouri River here was bank-full Tuesday for several hours and even flooded a little in low-lying inlets. This was the scene about 2 p.m. Tuesday just north of the Corps of Engineers Warehouse where the road which leads north along the Game Refuge was under water. At that time the water had just begun to recede.

Varied Weather Pattern Brings .41 - Inch Rain

By P. J. DINGMAN
Nebraska has been a melting pot for weather during the past three days.

Monday will be a day few people who live in Nebraska will forget. South-Eastern Nebraska suffered under as much as 14 inches of rain while the Central and Western part of the state was sweltering to the tune of up to 104 degrees (at Imperial), the hottest in the entire nation. Needless to say the 14 inches of rain caused extensive flooding.

Tuesday little happened, the state high was ONLY 97 at Grand Island and ONLY 3 inches of rain fell in the flood stricken area. The rain just added to the misery of the underwater portions of the state.

Wednesday was more like Monday as up to 5 inches of what seemed by this time to be "thick dew" hit the state and the mercury again jumped into the 100's as it reached 102 at Imperial.

Last night a nature's preview to the 4th of July sent .41 of an inch our way.

The Chart:

Day	p.m.	Pres.	Hi	Lo.	Prec.
Mon.	7:30	76	79	68	.43
Tues.	6:35	83	90	70	.00
Wed.	6:30	85	89	72	.T

Monday-Wednesday Papers Next Week

The Journal will be printed Monday and Wednesday next week, because the 4th of July falls on Thursday, the usual second publication date each week.

Advertisers and news sources are asked to note the arrangement for next week only, and cooperate.

The classified advertising closing will be 9 a.m. Wednesday for the issue to be printed that day, carrying the Thursday deadline.

More Donations To Public Library

The following have recently contributed to the Public Library drive for new chairs for the auditorium:

- Mr. and Mrs. Howard Wiles \$3
- Maxine Clout \$5
- Alice Pollock Perry \$3
- Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Lang \$3

Steve Davis recently presented the Library a copy of "Complete planning for college," the Kiplinger guide to education beyond High School.

THE BARGAIN TRAIL LEADS Classified

Dr. Brendel Takes Rotary Presidency

Plattsmouth Rotary Club Tuesday noon had its final meeting of the club year and C. E. Shellenbarger, retiring president turned over the office to Dr. R. F. Brendel, the new president.

Other new officers are Harold Edwards, vice president; Jim Markham, secretary; George Smith, treasurer; Ron Schneider, sergeant-at-arms; and James F. Begley, Ralph Wehrlein, R. R. Furse and Ray Evers, directors who serve on the board along with the president and past president.

Shellenbarger thanked his officers of the past year for their assistance and also the past presidents who "helped greatly." He also thanked Priscilla Woster, piano accompanist for the club the past year.

Dr. Brendel, in taking the club's reins, noted that he was a Junior Rotarian from Plattsmouth High School 31 years previously.

Among guests at the meeting was Lynn Minor of Illinois, a former member of the club.

Lions Install Bulin as New Club President

Chris Bulin was formally inaugurated as president of the Plattsmouth Lions Club at its regular meeting Tuesday evening.

International Councilor Harry Anderson of Millard was installing officer.

All other officers recently elected by the club were also installed at this meeting.

The annual Lions picnic will be held at Merritt's Beach July 9. Members and their families and invited guests will enjoy the outing together.

Sewer Accepted As Completed

The City Council Monday night accepted a certificate of completion of the 10th Street sanitary sewer project, the certificate by Henningsen, Durham and Richardson, special engineers.

Cost of the two and one-half block project was \$2,490.54. Leroy Polloff of Plattsmouth was the contractor.

Rodeo Begins 3 - Day Stand Here Tonight

The Cass County Horse Show Association will produce its 10th Annual Rodeo at the Plattsmouth Sale Barn arena tonight, Friday and Saturday. Each performance will start at 8 p.m.

A pony will be given away each night to a child under 12 years of age accompanied by an adult.

Cowboys and cowgirls from "5" surrounding states have signed up to compete in the Round Riding, Steer Wrestling, Roping, Bull Riding and Girl's Barrel Racing.

Among the cowboys competing are old favorites like Myron Lintner, Darrell Groff, Sterling Norvell and Ralph Norvell plus Collegiate and High School Champions from Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri.

At Fritchler of Henderson, Iowa, a Rodeo Contractor for 38 years in supplying the Rodeo Stock which includes such top bucking horses as Ridge Runner, Payday, Chill Bean, Mountain Fever and Tumbleweed.

There will be a lunch stand open during the Rodeo serving sandwiches, coffee, tea, pop, candy, popcorn and homemade pie.

It's still there and will be until the river goes down and another "Cat" can be used to pull it out.

Morehead and a crew were shelling corn Monday night on the River bottom just below Plattsmouth's Main Street opposite Pollock Field.

Previous experience with Missouri and Platte River water prompted Morehead to get cribbed corn shelled and off the bottom before the crest of the rain runoff floodwaters hit the mouth of the Platte.

He managed to get the 11,000 bushels of corn out.

But in the process the "Cat" got away.

The machine was being used to pull loaded trucks through mud to the road. It was idling between chores, facing east.

Came time to pull another load about midnight. No "Cat."

Word was sent to part of the crew across the road to bring it back.

Flashlight search then disclosed the runaway's path, about a half-mile through a clump of large trees, across a corn field, up over the River road and down the bank between two trees that would have stopped it and into the river.

The spot is marked now and the river is expected to yield its visitor.

Morehead hopes to salvage parts from the machine for use on a similar one but doesn't hope to be able to repair the runaway.

Morehead thinks the clutch might have heated, grabbed and sent the "Cat" on its way.

Ground Broken for RLDS Church on Lincoln Avenue

Ground breaking ceremonies were held Sunday morning, June 23, at the building site of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at 2204 Lincoln Avenue.

Taking part in the services and representing the church's World Headquarters in Independence, Mo., were Elder David W. Bowerman, president of the Omaha-Council Bluffs District and Elder Harold Cash, bishop.

Elder Harley M. Butler, pastor, was in charge of the services.

Local Priesthood participating were Elder Elwin L. Coolman who presented a history of church activities since its beginning in the Plattsmouth vicinity; Priest Jerry Pratt, Youth Leader; and Teacher Andrew N. Epperson.

In recognition of their long-time active membership, Mrs. Minerva Coolman and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Burcham were invited to lead the membership in ground breaking participation.

The prayer of consecration was given by Elder David W. Bowerman.

Andrew Epperson, building contractor, has contracted to construct the new house of worship. Plans are to have the building completed and ready for use in early August.

Also present was Priest Harold Chandler of Seattle, Wash., a former member of the Plattsmouth congregation.

A new shovel, presented for the ceremonies by Andrew Epperson, will have the names of all who participated in the program inscribed on the handle and it will be kept in the new building.

The congregation is presently meeting in the Plattsmouth Library Auditorium. Church services are at 9 a.m. and Church School at 10 a.m.

(News note: Harold Chandler and family spent some time last weekend visiting the Raymond Case home. Mrs. Chandler is the former Lucille Case.)



GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY—Those taking part in the RLDS Church ground breaking ceremony Sunday, from left, were: Elder E. L. Coolman, Priest Jerry N. Pratt, Teacher Andrew Epperson, Bishop Harold S. Cash Jr., District President David W. Bowerman and Elder Harley M. Butler, pastor of the Plattsmouth congregation.

Red Cross Annual Meet Set July 1

The Cass County Red Cross Annual Meeting will be held Monday, July 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Chester Hopper in Weeping Water. (Mrs. Hopper's home is across the street from the south door of Weeping Water High School.)

This is an open meeting. All Cass County residents are invited.

All officers and committees will give the fiscal year's final reports.

Election of officers for the coming year will be held.

This is the time for questions, comments and suggestions.

Programs held in Cass County are: Home Service, First Aid, Water Safety (Swim classes) Blood Program, Disaster Relief and Jr. Red Cross.

Spring Fund Campaign totals only amount to apprx. 34 per cent of Budget goal of \$4,801.

Totals by communities are: Alvo, \$74.50; Avoca, \$220.50; Cedar Creek, \$77.50; Elmwood, \$113.50; Greenwood, \$102.00; Murray, \$20.75; Mynard, \$111.50; Nehawka, \$107.75; Plattsmouth, \$389.14; South Bend, \$50.05; Union, \$149.55; Washburn, \$28.00; Weeping Water, \$115.91. (No report from Murdock, Eagle or Louisville.)

Freda Bornemeier, 74, Murdock, Dies; Funeral Is Friday

Mrs. Freda Bornemeier of Murdock was born Oct. 1, 1888, and died Tuesday, after a one-month illness. She was 74.

Mrs. Bornemeier was born in Ceresco, and moved to Ithaca with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William F. Smith, in 1900.

March 18, 1910, she was married to John F. Bornemeier and they established their home west of Murdock.

After her husband's death in 1956, Mrs. Bornemeier continued to reside at the family farm with her son, Don, and his wife and family.

Surviving are children: Ralph of Denver, Robert of Elmwood, Don of Murdock, Merle of Springfield, Mrs. LaVerne Sutton of Alvo and Mrs. C. C. George of Denver. An infant son, Warren, died in 1926.

There are 18 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at Callahan Community Church west of Murdock Friday with Pastor Edmund Neubauer officiating. Burial will be in the family plot at Callahan.

More ZIP Code Numbers

More ZIP code numbers, the Post Office Department's new system of identifying post offices, have been announced for Cass County.

Patrons of post offices are urged by the department and post mistresses to learn their ZIP number and use it on all return address.

The new system goes into effect July 1.

The County numbers: MURRAY—68409, MURDOCK—68407.

Call Your News And Social Items to 2141



MRS. BERTHA FITCH OF ELMWOOD is seated left, with her daughter, Mrs. Knaup (behind her), and Omaha relatives.