

## RURAL CARRIERS UNITE

MADISON COUNTY STARTS TOWARD ORGANIZATION.

HELD MEETING IN NORFOLK

Nineteen Rural Carriers of Madison County Are to Form an Organization, to be Branch of State and National Organizations.

Rural route carriers of Madison county held a meeting in Norfolk yesterday for the purpose of taking preliminary steps toward forming a county organization. There are nineteen rural carriers in the county, and several of them were here from other points. This organization is to be a branch of the state and national organizations. It was determined to hold another meeting here in the near future, at which permanent organization will be effected.

John E. Risk of Battle Creek was made temporary chairman of the organization, and J. E. Frank temporary secretary. Mr. Risk and Mr. Cronk are to decide upon the date for the next meeting.

The carriers held their meeting in the federal building, where they enjoyed a lunch served for them at the instance of John R. Hays, to whom the carriers gave a vote of thanks.

This is the first county in this section of the state to start on organization. Other counties west of here will probably take up organizing later, as those in the eastern part of the state have already done.

The national organization protects the interests of the rural carrier. An effort is being made to increase their now very meagre salaries.

### TO LET CHILDREN PLAY.

Roosevelt Urges Every City to Provide Recreation for Them.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23.—Municipal playgrounds were given a big boost by President Roosevelt and Representative Boutell of Chicago at a banquet given by the Washington Playground association. The president wrote a letter in which he asked that the boys' or girls' inalienable right to frolic be not denied them. Representative Boutell explained his bill in congress for the establishment of more playgrounds in Washington.

President Roosevelt's letter laid stress on the annual meeting of the Playground association of America in Chicago in June. He praised the South Park system of that city as one of the most notable civic achievements in the United States.

The president advised all cities to make provision at once for playgrounds, lest suitable sites be obtained only at immense cost. As an example of hindsight he pointed to New York, where playgrounds recently cost \$1,000,000 an acre.

Close supervision of playgrounds was urged by the president, for, he said, otherwise they fell into disfavor and the hands of rowdies. President Roosevelt's letter, follows:

"I have noted with pleasure the good work which your association has done in promoting playgrounds for the national capital. I am specially pleased with the prospect of congress granting this year an appropriation for the purchase of playground sites. I trust that the bill of Representative Boutell will also go through, so that you may be able to secure sites in the various quarters of the city now while open space still exists and before the price upon them becomes prohibitive.

"The plan of playground development for the district has been so carefully drawn that I hope it may be carried out substantially as outlined. I regard this as one of the most important steps toward making Washington the model city which we all feel that the capital of this nation should be.

"I have been pleased to see also that there is a new interest in play and playgrounds all over the country, and that many cities that have not previously taken up the movement in a systematic way have made a beginning this year.

"The annual meeting of the Playground Association of America in Chicago in June, with its attractive play festival and comprehensive study of play problems, is sure to increase this interest. I trust that all of our larger municipalities will send representatives to this exhibition to gain inspiration from this meeting and to see the magnificent system that Chicago has erected in its south park section, one of the most notable civic achievements of any American city.

"The new appreciation of the value of play in the development of children is shown in many ways. The physical trainers in all of their recent meetings have put a new emphasis on the importance of play and are giving a larger place to it in their work.

"The Public School Athletic league of New York has organized athletics along sane and helpful lines for thousands of school children. A number of other cities seem about to take up this movement. There is a general feeling in our schools and colleges also for larger athletic fields and the participation of a larger proportion of the students in athletic events.

"In Germany a large number of games have been put into the school course as a part of the system, thus extending the kindergarten method through the elementary school. In England football and cricket have been a part of the school course at Eton, Rugby, and most of the other public

and preparatory schools for many years.

"In the private schools of this country similar to these English schools, such as Lawrenceville, Groton, St. Paul's, and many others, play is also provided for in the curriculum. I hope that soon all of our public schools will provide, in connection with the school buildings and during school hours, the place and time for the recreation as well as study of the children.

"Play at present is almost the only method of physical development for city children. We must provide facilities for it if we would have the children strong and law-abiding.

"We have raised the age at which the child may go to work and increased the number of school years. These changes involve increased expense for parents with decreased returns from the child. If we do not allow the children to work we must provide some other place than the streets for their leisure time.

"If we are to require the parents to rear the children at increased expense for the service of the state, practically without return, the state should make the care of children as easy and pleasant as possible. If we would have our citizens contented and law-abiding, we must not sow the seed of discontent in childhood by denying children their birthright of play.

"City streets are unsatisfactory playgrounds for children because of the danger, because most good games are against the law, because they are too hot in summer, and because in crowded sections of a city they are apt to be schools of crime.

"Neither do small back yards nor ornamental grass plots meet the needs of any but the small children. Older children who would play vigorous games must have places specially set aside for them. And, since play is a fundamental need, playgrounds should be provided for every child as much as schools.

"This means that they must be distributed over cities in such a way as to be within walking distance of every boy and girl, as most children cannot afford to pay carfare. In view of these facts cities should secure available spaces at once, so that they may not need to demolish blocks of buildings in order to make playgrounds, as New York has had to do at a cost of nearly \$1,000,000 an acre.

"Neither must any city believe that simply to furnish open spaces will secure the best results. There must be supervision of these playgrounds, otherwise the older and stronger children occupy them to the exclusion of the younger and weaker ones. They are so noisy that persons living in the neighborhood are annoyed; they are apt to get into the possession of gangs and become the rendezvous of the most undesirable elements of the population; the exercise and play is less systematic and vigorous when without supervision; and, moreover, in all cities where the experiment has been tried it has been found that such playgrounds are not well attended."

Other speakers at the banquet besides Representative Boutell were E. E. Brown, United States commissioner of education, and Henry S. Curtis, superintendent of Washington playgrounds. Cuno H. Rudolph, president of the association, acted as toastmaster. One hundred and fifty guests were present.

### "A Daughter of Colorado."

"A Daughter of Colorado" drew a good sized audience to the Auditorium, and it was an audience that warmed up and gave appreciative applause to the players, several of whom deserve special mention. It was a bright and breezy little play and it was the general verdict that the audience had got its money's worth, and then a little bit besides. Easily the star of the attraction was Frederick Bernard, playing the role of Ephraim Mosher, who strikes it rich in Colorado and goes down east to put on a few airs with his wife and daughter. Mr. Bernard is a man sixty years of age and he has been on the stage for forty years. In that time he has played with a number of excellent companies and his acting in this piece is decidedly clever. He resembles Jess Dandy, of Prince of Pilsen fame, and brings down the house in a number of ludicrous situations. His efforts to put on a pair of white dress gloves, when he gets into a full dress suit, are laughable to a degree. Louis K. Conaughy, as the young lover, "Dallas," was also a player of ability and it may be said that he has a future before him. He spoke his lines naturally and put into them the force of sincerity. He's alright.

### Funeral of Miss Crawford.

West Point, Neb., Feb. 26.—Special to The News: The remains of Miss Carlotta Crawford, the eldest daughter of the late Judge Crawford, were laid to rest Friday in the family lot in the public cemetery. The death of this estimable woman was a great shock to the community, where she was born and grew to womanhood. She was 39 years of age and unmarried. She was a woman of splendid business training and executive ability and was a constant companion of her father, the late Judge Crawford, and assisted him materially in his law practice. She leaves an aged mother, one sister and a brother to mourn her loss.

### Members Pledged.

West Point, Neb., Feb. 26.—Special to The News: At the last session of the Farmers' Institute of Cuming county, pledges of membership for the year 1908 were received from fifty-five persons, comprising the best representative element of the farming community of Cuming county.

## SOCIETY EVENTS OF WEEK

THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL INFORMAL AFFAIRS.

BIRTHDAYS WERE A FEATURE

The Lenten Season Has Had Its Effect Upon Formal Events, But There Has Been Anything But an Empty Calendar During the Week.

[From Saturday's Daily.] While the Lenten season seems to have had its effect upon formal affairs in Norfolk, none having been scheduled for the past week or the week to come, yet the social calendar has not been altogether lacking in pleasures, several informal affairs having taken place during the past few days.

### Social Pleasures.

A large family gathering was held on Tuesday at the home of Mr. L. C. Mittelstadt, the occasion being his birthday. Dinner was served at 1 o'clock, forty guests being seated at the table, all of whom were relatives of the host. The tables were beautifully decorated with roses and carnations. Before partaking of the feast, short toasts were given, first by Mrs. E. Mittelstadt, then by John Bruce of Laurel and A. C. Goltz of Winside, who related some of the experiences which happened in early days, shortly after he and Mr. Mittelstadt came to this country. The festivities continued throughout the day and in the evening a musical program was given. The out-of-town guests were: Mr. and Mrs. John Bruce and family of Laurel, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Mittelstadt and family and Gus Mittelstadt and family of Laurel, and A. C. Goltz and family of Winside. All the others live in Norfolk.

The birthday of Mrs. I. Powers was taken as an opportune time by her friends yesterday for a surprise visit, and a number of them arrived at her home at noon, their dinners with them, to spend the afternoon. Mrs. Powers was the recipient of a floral gift from her guests. A pleasant afternoon was enjoyed.

Saturday was Miss Faith Johnson's birthday and a few of her friends helped celebrate the event in the afternoon. Games were played and a pleasant afternoon enjoyed, after which a dainty luncheon was served. Marlon Johnson entertained the V. G. club on Saturday evening.

A number of Elks enjoyed a pleasant informal dancing party at the club rooms last evening. Among the out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Nicola of Foster, who will spend Sunday in the city with friends; C. I. Bernard of Lincoln; B. W. Johnson of Lincoln.

Trinity Social guild met with Miss Stella Laikart on Wednesday night. A pleasant evening was spent and quite a lot of sewing done for the Clark hospital. The next meeting place will be announced later.

Last Sunday was the ninth birthday of Miss Loreen Gow and a few of her intimate girl friends were guests at Sunday dinner in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Gow, in honor of the occasion.

The West Side Whist club enjoyed a pleasant evening Friday with Mr. and Mrs. Sol G. Mayer.

Mrs. M. A. McMillan entertained a few friends at dinner on Thursday evening.

The Eagles enjoyed a smoker in their club rooms last evening.

### STANTON AS FEEDING CENTER.

That City is Pronounced One of Best in the West.

Stanton Picket: "Stanton county is the great feeding lot, not only of Nebraska, but of the central west." Thus spoke Amos Snyder of the Jackson, Snyder Live Stock Commission company of South Omaha, who spent several days in Stanton during the past week.

Mr. Snyder's duties with his company takes him to all parts of the country during the cattle feeding season and when he talks of live stock and livestock interests, he knows whereof he speaks. In visiting the country when cattle are fed, he goes among the men who feed, thus getting a correct idea of to what extent the business is carried on.

Speaking of the feeding done in Stanton county, Mr. Snyder said:

"Here I find some of the largest feeders in the west. There are a dozen or more in Stanton county, who this winter are feeding from 100 to 1,000 head. Besides these, there are probably 200 men in the county who are feeding from 10 to 100 head.

"In Stanton county cattle feeding has brought large sums of money here. The word has gone abroad that the mild and dry winter climate of the Elkhorn valley makes this location especially adapted to feeding and as a result, more people are bringing their cattle into this country each year.

"The cattle fed in this locality this winter, generally have come from the western ranges and when put onto corn here, take flesh rapidly. The result of such great numbers of cattle being fed here has been a splendid thing for the farmers who have corn to sell. Instead of selling their corn at the elevators, they sell direct to the feeders, thus receiving fully two cents per bushel above the market price and a market for every bushel they raise.

"In addition to feeding cattle, most of the feeders are running droves of hogs behind their steers, thus greatly increasing their income.

"It is more than likely that the rich grasses of the Elkhorn valley has had much to do with this locality having been selected as a winter feeding ground. It is known that here wild grass grows in great abundance and that the quality is superior to many of the varieties of tame hay grown in Kansas, Iowa and Illinois.

"Another thing that makes Stanton county a desirable feeding ground and Stanton a desirable shipping point is its nearness to market. Here cattle or hogs can be loaded in the afternoon, sent out at night, and be on the South Omaha market at the opening next morning. The run is so short that there is no unloading to feed and water and when the animals arrive at the yards they are in the best possible condition, having lost hardly anything by shrinkage.

"As to the future of this locality as a stock feeding point, I cannot say, though I can see no reason why it should not increase in importance. Most of the men who are in the business in the county are enterprising and pushing fellows. They know they have a good thing and are going to keep right on pushing it along."

### M. B. A. Resolutions.

Warnerville, Neb., Feb. 23.—At the meeting of Warnerville lodge, No. 664, M. B. A., Saturday evening, February 23, 1907, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, it has pleased a merciful and all wise Father to call from our midst our beloved sister, Mary A. Ranney, and

Whereas, in her death Warnerville lodge loses one of its most valuable and exemplary members, therefore be it

Resolved, That to her sorrowing and stricken relatives we tender our deepest sympathy in their great and sudden bereavement.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of this lodge, and a copy of the same presented to the relatives of the deceased, and a copy sent to the Norfolk News for publication, and that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days as indicative of the great loss our order has sustained in her death.

Tillie Green,  
Chas. A. Green,  
F. E. Reed,  
Committee.

## FREE FROM GASOLINE NOW

"WATER" GAS PLANT IS ACCEPTED BY COMPANY.

HIGH DEMAND FOR GASOLINE

D. C. Tenny, Operator for the American Construction Company, Who Leaves for Central City, Says Automobiles Increase Cost of Gasoline.

[From Tuesday's Daily.]

The new gas plant in Norfolk has been accepted by the Norfolk Light & Fuel company and the American Construction company shipped its material from Norfolk to Central City during the day. D. C. Tenny, who has been here for more than a month operating the new "water gas" plant, has finished his work and goes to Central City to install another similar plant. At Ord another of the same sort is to be built. The company here are pleased with their new plant and have accepted it as satisfactory from the construction company.

Gasoline's Price Cuts Figure.

The price of gasoline, according to Mr. Kenny, is driving out of business many of the old style gasoline gas plants, such as was operated here for some years. The price has raised to 27 cents and it is difficult to get at that. The demand for gasoline, Mr. Tenny says, is so great that it is not supplied at any cost in a regular way and many a town has received its last carload with the statement that no more could be shipped.

"While the trust has this in control," said Mr. Tenny, "yet I believe that the price would be just the same if it were handled by individuals. Supply and demand regulates the price, and with automobiles coming into use so extensively, gasoline is becoming more and more a rare article. The last car here came from as far away as Pennsylvania."

He told of a number of plants that had been put out of business by the gasoline price or by scarcity of that material. He said that the Norfolk plant did well to survive the rise in material and that only a large business was accountable for it.

The new process renders the firm free from the worry over gasoline.

### BROWN ELATED OVER VICTORY

Says Roads Will Have to Pay \$100,000 Interest, \$600,000 Taxes.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 25.—Special to The News: Senator Norris Brown, who as attorney general for the state prosecuted the suit of the state of Nebraska against the Union Pacific and Burlington railroads, carrying the case to the United States supreme court, and in which it was sought to compel the roads to pay taxes against whose collection injunctions had been issued, is elated at winning the case.

He says that the railroads will have to pay \$100,000 in interest on the delinquent \$600,000 in taxes, making in all, he says, \$700,000 that the state will get as a result of the decision.

## BONDS MUST BRING MORE

SEWER BONDS HERE CARRY TOO LOW INTEREST RATE.

SO SAYS FINANCIAL FIRM

City Treasurer Haase Has Just Received a Letter From a Toledo Brokerage Firm Giving View on Norfolk Situation.

It begins to be apparent that the Norfolk sewer bonds will have to be offered in connection with a greater commission than that which is already offered, if they are to be sold. The following letter just received by City Treasurer J. E. Haase explains the situation from the viewpoint of the firms who buy bonds:

Mr. J. E. Haase, Norfolk, Neb.—Dear Sir: We acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9th inst, concerning the \$40,000.00 thirty year 4% sewer bonds. In reply will say that after talking the matter over we concluded that a 5% basis would be about the best we would care to pay for these bonds—that is we would take the bonds bearing 5% interest or possibly it would be more advantageous from the city's standpoint to issue the bonds bearing 4 1/2% interest and make us an allowance for blank bonds, attorneys' fees and expenses, which would be equal to a 5% basis.

There has never been a time when the financial situation would warrant your city selling bonds at as low a rate of interest as 4%. However, three or four years ago when money was very cheap you could probably have sold 4 1/2% at a small premium, but as you probably know, there has been such a big demand for money in all lines of business in the past two or three years, particularly in the east, that no one feels like buying bonds unless they can get them on about a 5% basis, except in the very large cities.

We recently purchased an issue of \$52,000 city of Omaha, Neb., 4 1/2% bonds at about par, and the city of Toledo recently sold \$100,000.00 worth of 5% bonds. Of course the Toledo bonds are short time bonds, but your bonds are no better, for as you know, under the law they are optional after five years and have to be sold at this optional period.

We regret this change in the rates of interest more than anyone else as it affects us more than it does your city—in fact, it practically kills the investment business when banks and private investors are able to loan their money at exorbitant rates as they have been doing in the past eighteen months, for in these times there is little incentive for them to buy 4 1/2% and 5% bonds, and the most discouraging feature is the fact that we are now nearing another presidential year, which as you know always creates an unrest in all the large financial centers, and so it does not look as though we were going to have cheap money again for a good while to come, for heretofore, when there was a stringency in the money market here it was plentiful in Europe, but as you probably know, both the Bank of England and the Imperial Bank of Berlin raised the discount rate this year to 6% which is a condition that our firm has not seen in the thirty-six years that they have been in business, and so as above stated, we do not expect to see bonds selling on as low a basis again for years to come.

We have handled bonds of your city in the past and should be glad to negotiate with your good people for these sewer bonds, but if we buy them it must be at a rate consistent with present financial conditions.

If, upon receipt of this letter and after talking the matter over with your finance committee, you would like to have us send a representative there to submit a proposition along the line of selling these bonds bearing 5% interest or the bonds bearing 4 1/2% interest with sufficient allowance to make a 5% basis, please advise us and we will have our western representative go to Norfolk within a few days. Awaiting your reply, we are,

Yours truly,  
Spitzer & Co.

### FREMONT HILL LEFT TOWN

Yankton & Southwestern Promoter Went to Omaha.

[From Saturday's Daily.] Fremont Hill of New York, promoter for the Yankton & Southwestern railroad company, left at noon for Omaha, together with three other men who accompanied him here on business for his project. Those who accompanied him to Omaha were Edwin H. Van Antwerp of Yankton, a member of the surveying firm that is doing the survey work; John Holman of Yankton, and A. A. Kearney of Stanton, an attorney.

Mr. Hill said while he was here that he had come to meet the surveying corps of twelve men and to get maps from them. Whether or not they arrived has not been learned. It is said by one man that they came into town at midnight and left at daybreak for the south. From inquiries that have been coming to town, it is certain that they expected to reach Norfolk, and it may be that they will headquarter here for a time.

### TO CRIPPLE SERVICE.

Railroad Men Say They Will Attempt Revenge for Legislation.

Chicago, Feb. 23.—Railroad officials everywhere are stamped by the 2-cent passenger legislation. Yesterday two conferences were held, one in Chicago for the discussion of the subject, and one in St. Louis.

In Chicago Warren L. Lynch, passenger traffic manager of the New York Central lines west of Buffalo, gave out a remarkable interview, warning Illinois that if the people demanded a 2-cent fare they will certainly

get a "2-cent service."

This interview was issued after a conference among the passenger officials of all the Illinois lines, during which they determined to exert every possible influence to defeat the 2-cent legislation in this state.

This decision closely follows the lines of that reached in St. Louis, as told in yesterday's special dispatches.

### EXTENDS TIME FOR BRIDGE WORK

Yankton & Norfolk Gets Till March, 1910, to Build Structure.

A Washington telegram says that a favorable report has been made to the house of representatives on the bill extending the time of construction for the bridge over the Missouri river, by the Yankton, Norfolk & Southwestern railroad company, to March 1, 1910. It is said that the bill probably will pass. It has already passed the senate. Senator Gamble is interested in the new railroad.

### FAVOR TWO-CENT FARE.

Part of Omaha Commercial Club Resent Board's Action.

A petition is being circulated in Omaha by members of the Commercial club objecting to the recent resolutions by the executive board of that organization protesting against the two-cent passenger fare in Nebraska. The Omaha Commercial club sent resolutions to the legislature protesting against this law and now certain members of the club are out with a petition denouncing the resolutions and seeking to remove from the Commercial club executive board the right to represent the organization in matters of this kind.

### May Fight Two-Cent Law.

According to a statement in the Lincoln State Journal, the Nebraska railroads will fight the two-cent rate in the courts. The Journal contains interviews from various railway men in which it is claimed that the legislation will stop construction work in the state, that the rate will either be contested in the courts or the freight rates raised to make up for the loss, and that branch lines are not now paying.

One Norfolk railroad man said it was his opinion the rate would not be contested. It is claimed by the Union Pacific that their passenger train between here and Columbus is not paying.

### DEFEAT TWO-CENT FARE.

Bill in South Dakota is Lost in Favor of 2 1/2c.

Pierre, S. D., Feb. 23.—The 2-cent rate was knocked out and the 2 1/2-cent rate, when the railroad commission gets ready to promulgate it, took its place.

The Carroll 2-cent rate bill was amended by striking out all after the enacting clause, and re-enacting the present law, with 2 1/2 cents, instead of 3 cents, as a maximum, which passed the house without a dissenting vote, after considerable discussion.

The bill forcing telephones to make connections, with a forfeiture of rights as a penalty, was defeated.

The honest caucus law was wiped out of existence by being repealed.

### CURB SPEED BY LAW.

Illinois Legislators Plan Legislation as Result of Pennsylvania Wreck.

Pittsburg, Feb. 26.—"I will never ride on a railroad at night again. My wife was so alarmed when Sam Shubert was killed in the wreck at Harrisburg in 1905 that she asked me never to travel by night. I promised her I would not, and the first time I broke the promise I had a wreck and am hurt."

This is what Samuel Nixon, the veteran theatrical manager, said as he lay swathed in bandages at the Altoona general hospital after his experience in the Pennsylvania wreck.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 25.—News of the injury of Postmaster Fred A. Busse in the Pennsylvania railroad wreck started a well-defined movement here to bring about legislation that will minimize disasters of this sort. It took the shape of a plan to prohibit the running of fast trains.

Senator Logan Hay said it was within the province of the legislature to regulate the speed of trains, both state and interstate, within the boundaries of Illinois. Mr. Busse has many influential friends in both branches of the legislature, and the opinion is freely expressed here that this accident will bring home to the state solons the need of legislative action on the subject.

Lieutenant Governor L. Y. Sherman has contended for some time this subject should be taken up before the legislature and be given serious consideration. He is one of those who insist that fast trains are not necessary to the existence of commercial life. Governor Deneen declared that he increasing number of disastrous railroad wrecks may call for special legislation in this state.

### A PIONEER CELEBRATES.

Material for House Came From Omaha by Ox Team Forty Years Ago.

West Point, Neb., Feb. 26.—Special to The News: Charles H. Wilde, sr., one of the oldest residents of Cuming county, celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday on Sunday. Mr. Wilde is a veteran of the German army and in this occasion his compatriots gathered in great force to help him celebrate the day. He has been a resident of Cuming county for forty years, homesteading east of West Point in the year 1867. The lumber for the dwelling house now on the farm was hauled by ox teams from Omaha.