

ONE OF OMAHA'S FOUNDERS

James M. Winship Tells of Days of City's Infancy. COMES HERE FORTY-SEVEN YEARS AGO

Settled on Farm Where Ames Avenue and Thirtieth Street Now Meet and Has Lived Here Ever Since.

An interesting personality, closely identified with the early history of Omaha, is that of James M. Winship of 325 Franklin street.

During 1827, when it was the fashion to settle on the star of empire westward, Mr. Winship left Laurel, Franklin county, Indiana, in a covered wagon, bringing with him his wife, father, mother, two sisters and a brother.

Mr. Winship has three sons, Frank M., George W., and Alphonso B., two daughters, Mrs. Andrew Kiewit and Mrs. W. H. Bullock, and twelve grandchildren.

Speaking of the first few years of his residence in Omaha, when history was being written more than it is now, Mr. Winship said:

"Well, as near as I can remember, there were about 1,000 people here when I first came to Omaha. I followed my trade as a painter for a while and painted the houses that James E. and John Boyd built when they were contractors.

"But let me tell you about the famous robbery at the Taylor ranch, then located twelve miles out on the old Military road. My memory is failing me, so I cannot tell you the date when it occurred, but it was at the time recruits were being mustered here for the war.

"It was on a Friday morning, in the winter time, and I was on the road near the Taylor ranch when I met Frank North and two men coming to town in a sleigh. North was then drilling Indians for the army and just happened to pick up the men on the way to town.

"The next time I had particular occasion to notice them was on the following Sunday morning, when the men went into a barber shop and had their hair cut short and their faces shaved smooth. I then said to myself: 'You will have to cut your heads off if I fail to recognize you fellows.'

"Three days afterward I met Taylor coming out of the Tremont house. I asked him how the folks were and he replied: 'They are all well, but we had a bad robbery down at our place last Sunday night. I was away at Logan on my farm at the time, and two men bound my wife and the hired man by the hands and stole nearly \$1,000 and our jewelry and trinkets. My wife says one of the men appeared to be quite young, while the other was much older and seemed to be the leader. The older one was telling to kill my wife if she did not want where the money was kept; then the young fellow pleaded with his companion to spare Mrs. Taylor's life. They found the money in the cellar.'

"Have you any suspicions who the men might be, and do you think they might be the men who stayed at your place last Thursday night?" I asked of Taylor, who replied: "Yes, I believe it was those fellows," he answered.

Advices Him to Be Silent. "Then I told Taylor to keep still about the matter for the present and assured him that the men were in town. I told him to go over to Lucy & McCormick's grocery store and stay there until I came. I went after Sheriff Tom Sutton, but being unable to find him then I soon came across Marshal Riley, whom I sent to join Taylor at the store. Sutton then came and joined the others. I ordered a rig sent from Homan's barn on Thirtieth street for Mrs. Taylor and the hired man, so that they would be on hand to identify the robbers when caught.

"The men were soon arrested, and released on some technicality, but public feeling grew to such a pitch that their rearrest was soon accomplished. "Mrs. Taylor and the hired man soon arrived from the ranch and both identified the robbers out of more than 200 men. Public sentiment was growing as evening approached, and the prisoners knew this. When the robbers were identified the younger of the two pleaded with Mrs. Taylor to intercede for his life, even as he had done for her when his partner threatened to kill her with a knife on the evening of the robbery. Mrs. Taylor pleaded successfully. A mob broke into the jail that evening, hung the older of the criminals and escorted the young man out of town and told him not to return. He, however, did come back the next day and slipped into the recruiting office and enlisted.

Gold to Prove His Stories. Mr. Winship tells a little story about an Omaha citizen of the early time who went to Denver to start a newspaper and returned with samples of gold to vindicate his published statements that there was plenty of gold in Colorado.

"Bowers," said Mr. Winship, "left Omaha at the time of the first rush to Pike's Peak. He opened a printing office in Denver and, if I remember correctly, his office was attacked by disgruntled prospectors who took exception to his reports of the gold possibilities of Colorado.

"Bowers came back to Omaha and was at the big dance being held out at Elk-horn. I was at the hall and was the only one to recognize Bowers, or at least the first one. I said to him: 'Hello, Bowers, I'm glad to see you.' 'Bowers said, 'Don't speak too loud; they are going to kill me.'

"You see, he was afraid that people here were angry at him for publishing such glowing statements of the gold fields, when so many had returned home disappointed, not having stayed at it long enough. I assured Bowers that there were lots of Omaha people at the hall and that he need have no fears as to his safety. The next morning, bright and early, Bowers displayed a wheelbarrow of gold nuggets in a show window on Farnam street.

"No, I did not get the gold fever; in fact, my first visit to Colorado was six years ago."

OUT OF THE ORDINARY. An extremely fine quality of green leather made in Turkey is manufactured from the skin of the squirrel.

Nothing had to be put over the whistle of a big powerhouse at Racine, Wis., to shut out the sparrows that nested there and choked it.

Yankeland is not the only original, inventive country on earth—not by any means. A Dutch manager is building a moving theater, with seats for 2,500 persons and liberal provisions for appeasing the hunger and thirst of his patrons.

Captain Ludwig Eisenbaum, the lone navigator who crossed the Atlantic from Boston in a sixteen-foot dory, has come back to New York as a member of the crew of the Red Star line steamship Kronland, from Antwerp.

The Cherokee Advocate is one of the oldest and most remarkable newspapers in the United States. It is the official organ of the Cherokee Nation, and is published at Tahlequah at the nation's expense.

The action of the committee was a surprise to the "frat" boys, who had assembled in the board rooms to await the outcome of the meeting. When they heard of the action taken they declared it would strengthen the societies.

The Neady School Ma'am. Charlotte Perkins Gilman writes in Success: Our present laws against the marriage of school teachers—no, I mean not sweeping against the marriage of women school teachers, on pain of official decapitation, are historically amusing.

Why should not a school teacher have a husband if she chooses? The married state does not detract from the ability of an educator. Indeed, as all teaching originated in motherhood and as that experience is understood to have a widening and ennobling influence, it is hard to see why school children should be debarred from the advantageous society of the married teacher, with her calm happiness, or of the mother-teacher, with her new depths of love.

Not at all. The contention is that the teacher who marries has got another job, and should give up her former position to one who needs it more than she does.

It has been wisely and conclusively answered that the married woman who elects to continue her school work does so either because of special devotion to that work or because she continues to need the salary. So the upholders of spinster school-ma'ams are caught on either horn of the dilemma—if the married teacher wants to teach because of special interest in the work she has a right to do it on the

FEATURES OF SCHOOL WORK

Progressive Strides of Education Call Forth Comment and Criticism.

CAUSES FOR TRUANCY AND THE REMEDY Demand for More Men Teachers—Demand for the Married School Ma'am—Specialists Come in for a Roast.

In a carefully prepared "diagnosis of the truant," read before the national conference of charities at Portland, Me., Superintendent MacQuary of the Chicago Parental school corrected the popular notion that truant are "diseased or degenerate children," or that they constitute a particular class of defectives.

In the second place truancy in a city like Chicago cannot be ascribed to causes found in the defects of the public school system or in the incompetency of teachers. "The real causes of truancy in a large percentage of cases," said Superintendent MacQuary, "are to be found outside the school and the truant, in unfavorable homes and social conditions."

Seventy-five per cent of the boys committed to the Chicago parental school are below normal in physical development, and defect most egregiously in individual cases, if not the most prevalent defect, is found in those disturbances which arise from a defective nervous organization.

The cause of truancy must be sought in circumstances and conditions over which the truant has absolutely no control. Some of the boys in the parental school come from "good homes," where they get enough to eat and wear, but the vast majority suffer from bad environment and unfavorable domestic conditions.

The first remedy, in the opinion of Superintendent MacQuary, which must be applied is permanent change of environment, and this change must embrace a scientifically evolved system for physical improvement and development and moral training.

Specialists in Schools. Comptroller Grout has long contended that the Board of Education of New York City is spending too much money in special instruction, and, with a view of strengthening his case, he recently employed Mrs. Mathilda Coffin Ford, an educational expert, to investigate the school system of the city.

A Blow at Frats. Stringent measures to crush high school secret societies were taken by the Chicago school management committee when it adopted resolutions forbidding "any student who is known to be a member of a fraternity or sorority, or other so-called 'secret' society," from representing the school in any literary or athletic contest, or in any other public capacity.

The committee also forbids such organizations the use of the school name, denied them all public recognition, including the privilege of meeting in the school building, and called upon principals and teachers to acquaint parents of pupils attending the high schools with the fact that the Board of Education, Superintendent Cooley, and the faculties of the various schools unanimously condemn all secret societies.

Not at all. The contention is that the teacher who marries has got another job, and should give up her former position to one who needs it more than she does.

It has been wisely and conclusively answered that the married woman who elects to continue her school work does so either because of special devotion to that work or because she continues to need the salary. So the upholders of spinster school-ma'ams are caught on either horn of the dilemma—if the married teacher wants to teach because of special interest in the work she has a right to do it on the

ground of fitness; if she wants to teach because she "needs the money" she has a right to it on grounds of necessity. The essential error in the whole discussion lies in our common misuse of the term "need," which implies that the schools of our country are maintained at great public expense for the purpose of providing food and clothing to a number of single women. A school is an institution for the education of children, and all its processes and standards are to be judged and measured as they conduce to that end.

If a woman is a good school teacher—though married to a millionaire—we have as much need of her services as we should if her husband should die and take his fortune with him, or if she should be dependent on her salary for bread.

President Hall may have exaggerated the evil when he said that the preponderance of the feminine influence in the public schools means "racial degeneracy," says the Chicago Tribune, but an increasing number of close observers are coming to the opinion that the loss of the male element in the American school system of instruction is a matter requiring serious attention.

As teaching is an occupation in which more than any other imaginative power, individuality, insight and originality are wanted, it is important that men rather than women should exercise the predominant influence. In other countries it is important that we should discover means of attracting men of practical instincts and superior mental gifts into the teaching profession.

If mere booklearning was the sole end of the common school education it would be immaterial whether it was administered by a man or a woman. Teaching could properly be regarded as a sexless. Or if children could be made to absorb nothing but the knowledge contained in textbooks it would not matter who listened to recitations. But the teacher has an influence which springs from the personal element and is especially strong with the young, because of their inclination to imitate and idealize those with whom they are brought in contact.

The preponderance of women teachers might be objectionable if all the pupils were females. But would not the mothers raise a protest if the Board of Education should announce that next year 85 per cent of the teachers would be men? It is important that boys should, at a certain stage of their education, be brought into close personal relations with strong, manly men. Boys need the point of view which the right kind can inspire the respect and confidence of boys to a greater degree than can a woman, even if she be a model of womanliness and purged of the sentimentality which is proverbially associated with the youth of her sex.

It is not a mere increase in male element that is desired, but the introduction into the schools of the right class of men. The number of such men would not have to be relatively large. But they are needed, and proper inducements should be offered to enlist their services.

Famous Napoleon Relic. In the ponderous iron safe of Miss Florence Hayward's office in the Administration building, at the World's fair, guarded by a combination known only to the superlative Napoleon relic loaned for exhibition in Miss Hayward's department.

The relic is a bronze cast of the death mask of the great conqueror made a half hour after his death on the "lonely Isle." The bronze cast is one of five authorized by the French government. It bears under the chin the seal of the French government, vouching for its authenticity.

Here five bronze casts from the original were authorized by the French government to be made. Two of these were placed in the Louvre, one in the British Museum, one kept by the physician and the fifth eventually found its way through various hands to the possession of Laurence Hutton of New York, its present owner.—St. Louis Republic.

HISTORIC DAY FOR OMAHA

One of the Great Dates in the Annals of the Gate City.

BREAKING GROUND FOR UNION PACIFIC

Ceremonies that Attended the Turning of the First Sand Symbolic of Commencement of Construction.

At the reunion of old settlers, held in conjunction with the semi-centennial celebration of the passage of the Nebraska-Kansas bill, Edward Rosewater gave an account of the ceremony of breaking ground for the Union Pacific road. At the request of General Grenville M. Dodge, Mr. Rosewater's remarks are here published.

"The second day of December, 1853, was a gala day in Omaha. A proclamation had been issued by Abraham Lincoln, a few days previously, locating the terminus of the Union Pacific railroad, and the people of Omaha and Council Bluffs participated jointly in the breaking of ground for the great trans-continental railroad.

"I occupied a seat on the top of the stage, with other distinguished deadheads. Governor Saunders, Peter A. Dye, chief engineer of the Union Pacific; Ed Creighton, superintendent of telegraph; Dr. Atchison, superintendent of the Western Stage Lines; Mayor B. E. Kennedy and George Francis Train, who had been expressly commissioned to come all the way from New York to participate in the ceremonies, were on the inside of the coach.

Ceremonies at the Site. "When we reached the sandy shores of the Missouri, near the telegraph poles, there were about 500 people on the ground. Presently Peter A. Dye struck the ground with a pick a few times and handed the pick to Governor Saunders and he in turn handed it to Augustus Kountze, and when half a dozen of the dignitaries of pioneer days had scratched sand to their satisfaction, Rev. Thomas B. Lemon, tall, gaunt and gawky as Abraham Lincoln himself, delivered himself of prayers and blessings.

"Among the speakers whom I remember were Governor Saunders, Mayor Kennedy, Peter A. Dye, and Augustus Kountze. When Mr. Kountze got to speak he assured us all that he was trembling in his boots, because this was his first effort. George Francis Train, who followed him, created much merriment by declaring that he also was trembling in his boots, having never yet faced such a large audience. Train was then in the prime of life, and his speech was full of protechnics and prophetic forecasts. He professed to be in a trance and cried out, 'Passengers for China, this way! Passengers from New Zealand and Australia to the rear.' All this sounded to the bystanders like the talk of a man who had broken out of a lunatic asylum.

Andrew J. Poppleton's Speech. "After Train had gotten through, amidst uproarious applause, a man with a very florid face, whom I had noticed frequently walking about the streets in a red woolen shirt and who I had always taken for a butcher, climbed on the tall end of a wagon, got into the box and delivered a speech that elicited all the other speakers and simply paralyzed everybody. I was dumfounded and asked a bystander, 'Who is this man?' 'Why, Andrew J. Poppleton,' said he.

"After the speechmaking congratulatory dispatches were read. One of these was from John Hay, private secretary to the president; another from William H. Seward, secretary of state; one from Leland Stanford, governor of California; another from Governor Yates of Illinois; one from Brigham Young, governor of Utah; there were also dispatches from Mayor Updyke of New York, and mayors from many other American cities.

"In the evening Omaha City gave itself up to a grand jamboree. The principal buildings were illuminated with tallow candles and roaring bonfires consumed all the stray boxes and planks within reach of the small boys. The celebration wound up with a grand ball at the Herndon house, at which Train was the star attraction, and Omaha pioneer aristocracy departed itself and out the pigeon wing."

International Union of Hotel and Restaurant Employes has 600 locals in 508 cities, with a total membership in good standing of 50,000, a gain of 11,559 since last year.

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