

Merrick County, Nebraska  
Old Newspaper Articles & The Palmer Journal  
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They are formatted for easy searching, any email addies are probably invalid.

04 December 2015

**Grand Island Daily Independent, Wednesday, Dec. 24, 1919**

**OFFICE HOLDERS CONSPIRE:--**

A deep, dark plot was discovered late Wednesday between two officers of Merrick County. County Judge Edward T. JEFFREYS and Clerk of the District Court Clara T. FARNAM, came to Grand Island and revealed their plans to County Judge Mullin, soliciting his assistance and finally succeeding in making him a party to the conspiracy. After they had disclosed their plans Judge Mullin decided that, after all, it was not half bad, and lent willing aid in the form of the necessary legal license. The Merrick officials were headed straight for the residence of Rev. Mr. Stitt when leaving the court house, and it is believed that the purpose has been achieved--uniting these two office (r) s of Merrick county.

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**Grand Island Daily Independent, Thurs., Jan. 1, 1920**  
**J. W. BRANDT**

The town of Chapman and community was shocked and saddened last Sunday afternoon to learn of the sudden death of Mr. J. W. Brandt. Mr. and Mrs. Brandt had been in their accustomed places in the Sunday school at the Baptist church Sunday morning and he was in his usual good spirits and apparent good health. On the way home he began to feel ill and his wife had to assist him up the steps and into the room. Dr. Triplett was called at once and found that he was suffering from a sinking spell caused by heart trouble. Shortly after one o'clock the patient had another sinking spell and the doctor was summoned at once but before he could reach the home, Mr. Brandt breathed his last, without being able to rally sufficiently to speak to his wife.

Walter Jacob Brandt was born in Cedar Bluffs, Iowa, July 22, 1857. He spent his early childhood there and later moved to Nebraska, locating at Chapman. In 1882 he was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Morrill. To this union was born one daughter, Eva, on April 29, 1883. She died at the age of four months and thirteen days. Mr. Brandt was at first engaged in farming, but later entered business in Chapman and for the past sixteen years he has continuously been in the mercantile business here, operating up to the time of his death one of the leading general merchandise stores in town.

His rule of conduct in and out of business, was the "Golden Rule" and was scrupulously upright and honor able in his dealings with his fellow-men. He was a man of positive and determined convictions and what was more he had the courage of his convictions. In any efforts put

forth in the town for civic righteousness or improvement he was always a leader and he won the respect of all through his determination and unflinching stand for those things that he considered right.

Mr. Brandt was a member of the Chapman Baptist church since 1885 and he was an earnest, consistent Christian gentleman--a type of man that any community can ill afford to lose. He will be sadly missed by his church, his business associates and the entire community, and not the least by the scores of little children who loved him because of his happy faculty of always remembering to greet them with a smile and a pleasant word.

Left to mourn his sudden and untimely departure are his faithful, loving wife, one brother in Louisiana, two brothers in Colorado and one sister in Oklahoma, besides an entire community which had nothing but love and respect for him.

The funeral services were held on Tuesday afternoon, December 30, from the Chapman Baptist church, conducted by Rev. W. O. Samuelson. The large concourse of friends who gathered at the church and the profusion of beautiful floral offerings spoke eloquently of the esteem in which the departed was held. The remains were tenderly laid to rest in the Chapman cemetery.

#### **Victim - World Trade Center, 11 Sep 2001**

Monte Hord b 24 Aug 1955, Grand Island to Thomas and Gloria M. Hord. Grew up in Central City . 1973 graduate CCHS. 1978 graduate of UN. Married Lisa Sharp on June 7, 1990.

Mr. Hord worked as VP of institutional equities for Cantor Fitzgerald on the 104th floor of the World Trade Center. Died age 46 years, victim of the terrorist attack.

Memorial services will be held at 10:30 a. m. Saturday (Sept. 29, 2001) at the Christ Episcopal Church in Central City with the Rev. Funk officiating.

Survivors include his wife & three children; two brothers, and two sisters.

--- from Grand Island Independent (no publication date given)

**Merrick County, NE**

**News**

These are "accidental" bits of news found on newspaper pages which were for copied for one particular article - in this case for obituaries or death/burial notices.

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Central City Democrat  
8 Dec 1904

J. M. **Bice** fell from a scaffolding last Friday, while working on a house, and landed in such a way as to very severely sprain his right wrist. He only fell a few feet, and it is likely that his arm would have been broken if the scaffolding had been of the usual height.

The cold nights have produced ice of sufficient thickness for skating, and that popular resort, **Stitzer's** pond, was covered several nights with skaters. It was in excellent condition Monday and Tuesday evening, having, as is peculiar with ice, frozen slick side up.

Mr. F. W. **Edmunds**, of this city, has started a new industry, in the manufacture of an article which he calls "luncheon cheese." He is starting in moderately, but contemplates an increased output soon. It is being put on the market in pound glasses, and retails at fifteen cents.

John **Ellis**, of Hamilton County, the original Socialist of this section, was in town Tuesday, and we had a short but pleasant talk with him. Mr. Ellis is a very pleasant man to meet, and a few minutes' talk with him shows that he uses his own head when he thinks, differing from many people we know in this particular.

The fire drill at the school one day last week made the hearts of some of the timorous beat quite rapidly for a few moments. The call was made, and in some way the smoke from a

The early arrival of good old St. Nick is presaged by the appearance of the interior of the various stores of the city. One is quite apt to find half emptied packing cases in the isles and a mixed array of Christmas goods upon the counters now-a-days. From present appearances there will be quite a number of fine stocks to select from this year.

Samuel **Evans** received a brief telegram from a son in Montana Monday advising him that another son had been killed, and requesting him to come at once. No particulars have as yet reached us, and even the name of the deceased is unknown to us. He was superintendent in a mine, and it probably that the death was an accident.

There are now four quarantined cases of scarletina in and near this city, but none of them are very serious and will shortly be raised. An adopted daughter of Ira **Walker's** is quarantined at the Walker home south of the city, and a child in each of the families of Mrs. Alice **Lock** and Finley **Dye** in town, and Wm. **Lock**, across the river, are also afflicted.

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To Sub-Rent.

In order to secure W. T. Thompson's property, which is soon to be rented, I will sub-rent my present residence south of Geo. W. Aryes', very cheap.

FRED A. MARSH.

pile of waste paper, which was burned out in the yard, blew into the corridors, thus giving a touch of realism that was not down on the bills.

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Go to Curtis for oil. He sells the best made.

**Central City Democrat**  
**15 Dec 1904**

**CHAPMAN HAPPENINGS**

Items of interest from Our Wideawake  
Correspondent Up the Line.

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CHAPMAN, Dec. 14.

A. **Zankbeil** was in town Saturday.

Millie **Smith** spent Sunday at home.

Shoes repaired at the B. C. C. station.

Joe **Paro**, of Grand Island, was in town  
Friday inst.

Henry **Stoltenberg** made Grand Island a  
call Saturday.

Con **Orre** drove to Grand Island Saturday  
on business.

J. C. **Vermillion** and W. **Corcilus** Jr.  
Sundays at home.

Frank **Wallage** was in town Saturday on  
urgent business.

Mrs. J. **McCormick** went to Grand Island  
Monday evening.

Dick **Hennecke** and family drove to  
Grand Island Wednesday.

T. B. **Hord** was in town early Wednesday  
morning looking over his cattle here.

Con **Orre** wants your turkeys. Give him a

**TORN TO FRAGMENTS**

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**First Authentic Account of the Horrible Death**  
**Last Week of Delbert Evans.**

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Blast in Stone Quarry Explodes Prematurely,  
Mangling Him Beyond Recognition.

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As noted, in last week's issue, Mr. Samuel **Evans**, of this city, was called to Montana by a brief telegram informing him of the death of his son Delbert. The meager details contained in the telegram were all the information obtainable here up to Tuesday, when full particulars reached relatives in this city.

The deceased was foreman in a rock quarry at Whitehall, Mont., about thirty-five miles east of Butte, on the Burlington. On December 4, while Evans and another man were placing a blast of dynamite and tamping it in place, it was prematurely exploded. The explosion literally tore Mr. Evans into fragments. The other man was lifted bodily to the height of about forty feet, and landed upon a shelf of rock, escaping with comparatively little injury. Such fragments of the body as could be found were gathered up and the funeral was held Thursday, the father arriving there Wednesday.

Delbert Evans was about thirty-five years of age, and had been in the West some ten years. He formerly lived near Clarks with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Evans, now of this city, and was not generally known in this immediate vicinity. His brother Edward, who has been teaching in Montana for the past three years, is a son-in-law of Jas. **Stephen**. Edward was well known here, having graduated from the academic course of the college. The message conveying the news of the accident came from him. The deceased was married in Montana, and leaves a wife and one child. The quarry in which he met his death belonged to his father-in-law.

chance to buy them at the highest market price.

J. **Wrasse** and Will **Tivia** both had their cornshellers in town Saturday to have some repairing done.

A. W. **Clark** was in town Wednesday putting in his order for a Christmas turkey with Con Orre.

Mrs. L. **Cahow** returned Monday from Denver, where she has been making her parents a month's visit.

O. **May** was in town Monday looking for a warm stove, as the weather was most too cold to stand on the corner and argue.

Jim **Anderson** made a double drive Tuesday. He went to Central City in the afternoon, and on his return changed horses and went to Grand Island.

The Beatrice Creamery wants you cream. Give the a trial can and you will be given good treatment. Price for butterfat for the first half of December was 25¢.

Con Orre, Manager.

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### Honey from Other Hives.

Ord Journal. -- J. B. **Gietzen** went to Central City to look after business interests there.

Fullerton News-Journal -- T. N. **Gosnell**, of Central City was visiting at the home of H. A. Borst last Tuesday.

Four former Merrick County boys, Thomas **Hays**, Charles **Edward**, Delbert Evans and Harry **Strickler**, have met with violent deaths in the West within the last four months, and a feeling of dread hovers over every family with some loved one out there.

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### Card of Thanks.

To those who so kindly assisted us during our recent affliction we desire to return our heartfelt thanks.

MR. AND MRS. J. B. STRICKLER  
AND FAMILY.

From "Clarks Enterprise"?  
about 10 Dec 1914

### CENTRAL CITY ROUTE 3

Mr. and Mrs. Clell Baird and children spent Sunday with Mrs. Baird's mother, Mrs. Mills.

Lyle Myers spent the latter part of last week with his sister, Mrs. Roy Smith near Central City.

Mrs. John Cooper called at the Albright home Sunday afternoon.

The Oradau children who have been sick are reported as improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence York visited at the Frank Pierce home the fore part of the week.

Mrs. and Mrs. Geo. Schank visited with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schank.

Lou Parker was the victim last Saturday evening when a crowd of friends surprised him. Dancing and cards furnished entertainment. Oysters, sandwiches (sic), pickles, clerg, cake and coffee were served and every one reported a good time.

### WEST OF TOWN

Albert Hincks and wife were Grand Island visitors last Friday.

Melvin Townsend arrived home Tuesday noon after a few days visit with relatives at Elm Creek, Nebr.

Mrs. Elmer Abel visited her mother Mrs. Albright on Friday of last week.

Dr. Booth and family and Mrs. Melvin Townsend were the

### PIERCE CHAPEL

Mrs. Lille Miller .... (see [obits](#) page for remainder)

Bert Ferguson and wife visited the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Boettner Sunday afternoon.

There was no Epworth League Sunday evening on account of the bad weather.

W. H. Wilhite stopped at Frank Rose's over Sunday.

Wm. Burger and wife, Mrs. Charley Funk, George McConnell and Ralph Rose autoed to Central City Thursday afternoon.

Lester Leamons visited his cousin, Floyd Jones from Friday until Sunday.

Mesdames Will Sims and A. Townsend visited Mrs. G. A. McConnell, Thursday.

Mrs. Frank Rose and daughters Mable and Effie, Mrs. Henry Wilson, Rose White and Mrs. Lydia Reed visited last Thursday with Mrs. W. Rose.

Mr. and Mrs. Len McLean and son and Mrs. Frank McLean visited at the Burger home Sunday.

Charley Cregg and family took dinner Sunday with Mrs. Ida Snyder in Clarks.

Miss Lucy Shively returned home .... (remainder cut off when paper was copied)

***Next column to right -***

Floyd Jones is visiting at the home of his uncle, M. M.

guests of A. Townsend and family Sunday.

D. R. Beck visited at the J. W. Trullinger home, Sunday.

Cap West and family, Mrs. Rob Sherwood, Warren Armstrong and wife and Earl Abel and wife were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Armstrong Sunday.

Albert Hincks shelled corn on Wednesday of last week.

***Stapled page attached to the above -***

A.J. Morris was a Fullerton visitor from Saturday to Sunday. Putnam Porter returned to his home at Lincoln Wednesday after a three weeks visit here with relatives.

I will sell at public auction on December 19, 1914 at Polk, Neb., commencing at one o'clock, twenty head of good three year old mules. They will make some good all around mules at maturity. I will also have some native cattle for sale. - J. H. Gibson, owner.

John Kohl made a business trip to Omaha the first of the week.

Wm. Douglas attended the meeting of the supervisors at Fremont Wednesday.

The first snow of the winter in this locality fell Sunday and a light snow has fallen every day since.

Mrs. Lillie Evans Miller, ... (see obits page for remainder)  
Mrs. Christy is numbered with the sick.

Mrs. Tom Schmidt and two children and Mrs. Tom O'Neill of Spalding visited here from Friday until Wednesday as guests at the Pollard and O'Neill homes.

Leamons this week.

Little Virginia Fae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Lewis who has been quite sick is much better at this writing.

Paul Crawford and Miss Mable Currey visited at Jess Van Pelt's Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Cowgill arrived from Montana Monday and have moved on the farm vacated by Sam Crawford.

M. M. Leamons and son Lloyd, Floyd Jones and George McConnel were in Fullerton on business Monday.

Mesdeames Donaldson, Peregrine and Currey called on Mrs. B. H. Ferguson Thursday afternoon.

Miss Mable Currey and Mr. Paul Crawford were married Wednesday at the home of the bride's parents at 4 o'clock p.m., Rev. W. St. John Sanders performing the ceremony. Mabel is the second daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. W. H. Currey while Paul is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Crawford. We extend to them the heartiest congratulations.

Our advertisers are your friends and they want you to know it. They are trying to help you in buying the best material at the very lowest price. This is the way they advertise and they are all honest .... (remainder cut off the page copy)

## THE CLARKS ENTERPRISE

Clarks, Nebraska, Friday      April 9, 1920

### DELEGATES TO COUNTY CONV'TION (sic)

The following men will appear on the primary ballot (on April 20, 1920) as candidates for to (sic) the Republican County Convention. M. L. Ormsby, E. E. Harwell, Fred Philbrook, Art Trail, Bert Ferguson, Albert Morris, Dr. R. R. Douglas, James Wolfe, W. J. Henderson, William T. Grant, George McConnel, William Burger.

Vote for seven, all are good loyal republican. - Otis A. Bittinger, Committeeman Clarksville Township.

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Wanted: - - About 30 head of cattle to pasture \$8 for the season plenty of well water and salt. - F. G. Adams

Burdette Knowles time keeper for the U. P. construction work at Lexington came home Sunday returning Monday afternoon his sisters Lorene and Henrietta went with him and returned home Tuesday.

Mrs. T. R. Fitzgerald made a business (sic) trip to Grand Island, Monday.

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### ANNUAL ELECTION PASSED QUIETLY

The Village election on last Tuesday resulting in the re-election of three members of the old board for term of two

William Campbell believes in keeping employed and emphasizes his belief by accepting a job on the farm of Harvey Abel two miles west of town. It is a mighty good example for a young man to keep busily engaged in a needful occupation.

For Sale: - - Pure Bred Black Langshan eggs. \$1.50 per setting or \$6 per hundred. - Mrs. Joe Ourada, Phone 489.

Harold Morse has filed suit in District Court against Emil Becker and the Editor of the Central City Republican for writing and publishing an article claimed to be libelous and asks judgement for \$10,000 against each of the defendants.

Miss Lonneker will conduct a story hour in the Library Saturday morning, April 10, commences at half past ten. The children of the town and township are invited to attend.

American Legion has been organized at Clarks and the Charter issued which will be known as Shonsey Post No. 232.

"Locklear the great Sky Daredevil" in "The Air Robbery" at Donelson Theater, Central City April 9-10.

See Locklear go from one air plain (sic) to another in mid air at the Donelson Theater, Central City April 9-10.

Coming at the Donelson "Rivers End" April 16-17.

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years and term of one year will be filled by a new member.

Vote as follows: M. M. Kokjer 114, E. E. Davis 119, O. A. Bittinger 122, Henry Abel 98, George Skutt, 99, W. A. Higgins 99. One year term G. B. VanWagenen 85, George Goodell 109, School Board, Term of three years the vote was R. E. McLean 75, J. C. Inbody 140, A. E. Norgren 205. The latter name appearing twice upon the ballot as filed on two pititions (sic). A majority has spoken now lets pull together for the town is what we make it and this is where we live.

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### **Attention Firemen**

The annual meeting of the Clarks Fire Department is called for Friday April 16" (sic) 8 o'clock. Election of officers, etc. Remember the date.

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### **PROFIT AND CROP FAILURES**

Nebraska has many farmers who make money in spite of crop failures, according to farm book keeping sets gathered by the College of Agriculture. Some farmers have worked out a method of practical insurance against crop failure. Cattle and silos make money for them every year. Corn damaged by drouth or hail will still yield a lot of silage and enable a farmer to keep his cattle in good condition when otherwise he would have to dispose of them. Some farmers make a practice of filling their silo in a good year as an insurance against drouth or hail Corn properly siloed will keep years. The book keeping sets show that farmers who raise stock make more money, as a rule, than those who see their grain.

### **BRIDES CAN BAKE AND SEW**

Forty girls who can bake and sew will be graduated from the Nebraska College and School of Agriculture, this spring. All are proficient in home making and twenty two of them will receive degrees of bachelor of science in home economics.

They have been trained in the best methods of housekeeping, with special emphasis on satisfying the appetite of man and avoiding the ready-made clothing merchant. Many of them will make their own graduating gowns, and some have made most of their cloths since entering school.

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(for [Obituary of Elnora A. Smith Evans](#) - see obit page)

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Misses Laura, and Gladys Hartwell and Geneva Henderson returned to Lincoln the first of the week, where they will resume their school work after spending the Easter holidays with their parents.

Mrs. J. C. Inbody returned Monday evening from York where she had visited the past ten days with her sister Mrs. George Barker.

If you want to get the best groceries in town try Shull and Hoffer, you know they keep the best of everything. We also have the Central City Flour every sack guaranteed (sic). Try us. - Shull and Hoffer.

Call 37. Dr. R. C. Christie, day or night.

Dr. Christie has purchased equipment for any kind of minor operation. His army experience ... (remainder of article cut off in copying)

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• THE NONPAREIL •

April 28, 1898 (partial, none of the columns are complete)

**County news.**

ARCHER.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

April 26.

Miss Byrd Gurney is on the sick list.  
Miss Etta Larcom is visiting friends in Archer.  
Harry Wickham shot and killed a large wolf one day last week.  
The Ladies' Aid Society meets with Mrs. Bertha Gardner next Wednesday.  
Messrs. A. J. Bowle and Harvey McGinnis were up from Central City Monday.  
There will be a dime social at the home of Mrs. J. B. Templin next Friday evening.  
Mrs. Herman Hanke (nee Minnie Zamzow), of Saunders County, is visiting with her parents.  
R. F. Baker and Miss Fannie Polling, of Central City, visited at B. W. Baker's Friday and Saturday.  
F. T. Davis celebrated his birthday last Friday. A number of relations and friends spent the day at his home.  
A new floor is being laid in the creamery of Hanson & Templin, and a new churn, weighing 1700 lbs., has been purchased.  
The entertainment given at the hall Friday evening was a good one, some of the numbers being especially fine. The door receipts were \$6.15.

CHAPMAN

From Our Regular Correspondent.

April 26.

Oscar Smith is quite sick.  
J. N. Holland, of Omaha, Sundayed at Omaha.  
J. J. Gallogly was a Central City visitor Tuesday.  
W. C. Shelton was up from Central on business Friday.  
Stacey Hall is home from the medical college at Omaha.  
Chapman Lodge No. 109 I. O. O. F. attended the anniversary at Central City Tuesday.  
J. McColl, of Lexington, was in Chapman Saturday, looking after his land interests here.  
J. Gosgriff shipped another trainload of sheep to Chicago Saturday. J. Holister went with them.

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CLARKS?

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Masters Hervey and Ralph Robinson are in the picture business here, having a tent up near the school house with all the "fixin's" for taking photos great and small. One must admire the enterprising spirit shown by the lads and with them success.  
The ladies of Clarks will have new hats even if war does

Last Friday evening at five o'clock, at the German Evangelical church, Mr. Jacob Ita and Miss Minnie Wegner were united in marriage in the presence of a large number of relatives and friends. Bountiful supper was served at the home of the bride, and the numerous friends remained until far into the night, enjoying themselves as only Germans can. We are not acquainted with the groom, but the bride we know to be a fine young lady of estimable character and true worth. The large number of costly presents received by the newly married couple shows the high esteem in which they are held by their many friends.

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...

F. O. Bond has moved his family from Osceola to Silver Creek again. He failed to get a saloon in Osceola, so has his petition in here.

Mr. and Mrs. Heath came in on the train Tuesday morning from California, where they have been spending the winter. Their home is in Kankee, Ill. They are the parents of Mrs. A. P. Sutton, Mrs. Ed Towslee, Mrs. F. C. Caulton and Floyd Buchanan.

There came very nearly being a big fire in town Tuesday morning. At about 8:30 the man attending the Omaha Elevator Company's elevator found that the building was on fire, and was quite badly burned in extinguishing the fire. The fire had been set, but burned slowly. The party who made this attempt had better be looking out or he may be caught.

rage. Mrs. Simmons has already sold bushels of hats and bonnets and the Mesdames Clark and Robinson have had to move into larger rooms and now occupy the building one door east of the new furniture store.

Miss Amy Vieregg returned to Central City after a pleasant visit with Miss Cogil. Miss Amy is a very charming young lady, and while here made many new friends as well as making some very welcome calls on friends who had the pleasure of her acquaintance before.

**SCHUYLER C. BOROM, M. D.**  
*PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.*

Chapman, Nebraska

OFFICE: -- Upstairs in Bacon Building.  
RESIDENCE: -- First house north.

Calls answered promptly Day or Night.  
In City or Country.

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## News Clips

### The Silver Creek Sand

from the Silver Creek Sand, mid-October, 1922.

**Married**--Tuesday, October 10, at the Catholic church in Silver Creek. Joe Kawa, who lives about three miles west of Silver Creek, was united in marriage to Miss Kathrine Wandra, daughter of Mrs. Anna Wandra. They were married by the parish priest, Fr. John Kunkel, and a large number of friends and relatives were present. Wedding festivities at the Wandra home were on a large scale, an Omaha orchestra furnished music for the dance. Mr. and Mrs. Kawa will reside on the land the groom is farming, which is the Frank Whited farm.

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from the Silver Creek Sand, July 13, 1923

### JOE KAWA DIES FROM HEAT.

Joe Kawa, farmer residing eight miles north-west of Silver Creek, died Tuesday night at his home, death being caused by a sunstroke. He was stricken about ten o'clock Tuesday morning while plowing corn and passed away at ten o'clock that night. He was born in Poland thirty years ago, but was a naturalized citizen of the United States, and a veteran of the World War. October 10, 1922 he was united in marriage at Silver Creek to Miss Katherine Wandra, daughter of Mrs. Anna Wandra, who survives him. Joe was a mighty fine young fellow, well liked and respected by all who knew him, and will be missed by his many friends. Funeral services were held at the Krakow Church Thursday morning, and the remains laid at rest in the Krakow cemetery.

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Rec'd 26 May 2007 from Nancy Schlesiger <[2schlesis@cox.net](mailto:2schlesis@cox.net)>

Note: see Merrick County Marriage Record Bk H page 297 #3467

## News Clips

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**The Central City Record, Thursday, 9/23/1909 p. 1**

**HAMILTON COUNTY HORSETHIEF  
CAPTURED**

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Sheriff Iler Corrals Man Who Operated Near  
Hordville; Is Wanted Elsewhere  
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Sheriff Iler is in line for fifty dollars reward—or a part of it, at least—for catching the thief who stole four horses in Hamilton County Aug. 24 last. Three of the horses were stolen from Albert Nyberg and the other one from Mr. Copeland, near Hordville. Saturday Mr. Iler had a telephone message from Sheriff Babb, at Fullerton, telling him to look out for a certain described gentleman whom he was strongly suspicious of having unlawfully connected himself with the halters of the horses enumerate above. Mr. Iler accordingly watched the road from Fullerton with the result that he caught this man coming in town along in the evening. Monday he took him to Aurora, and turned him over to the sheriff there.

The man gave his name as C. H. Miller, but it appears he was working but a few weeks ago for J. C. Reeves, who was killed recently near Chapman by a U. P. train, under the name of Charley Holt. He appears to have several other aliases. Since making the arrest Mr. Iler has learned that Miller, or Holt, was responsible for the disappearance of a brown mare belonging

It seems that the horsethieves are not all captured yet, for just as we go to press we get word that one or more visited the home of A. U. Reed on Prairie Island last night, fortunately without accomplishing their purpose.

Mr. Reed is in the far West, and it is likely that the thief or thieves knew of this and thought to take advantage of it. Mrs. Reed got up in the night to attend to her baby, and heard a commotion out in the pasture. She aroused her oldest boy, Frank, and they hastened out to investigate. They found the gate, which Frank remembered distinctly having securely fastened, standing wide open and their five colts out of the pasture and standing in the road.

The colts are three and four years old, but unbroken, and Mrs. Reed thinks the thieves drove them out into the road for the purpose of running them off, but were unable to get them away from home. They were all found near the house.

It has been a good many years since this region was troubled by horsethieves, but it begins to look as if there was an organized gang located in these parts engage in the profitable horseflesh which some one else has had the trouble and expense of raising. In these days of telephones throughout the land there is small chance of thieves getting away permanently

to John F. Hutson, which was taken from Hober's pasture about Sept. 10, and also for the disappearance of another horse which was stolen up in Howard County. The Howard County horse Miller sold for \$100, but Mr. Hutson's horse he turned loose in a road in Howard County beyond Palmer, after riding it until its back was a mass of sores and vainly trying to sell it.

with their stolen goods, and fortunately small chance of their escaping justice when brought into court.

While Miller was recently working for the late Mr. Reeves, he does not appear to be the one who stole three horses from Mrs. Reeves' pasture two weeks ago. Mr. Iler, however, has hopes of locating the guilty man sooner or later. Miller is now liable for horsetealing in three counties —Hamilton, Merrick and Howard. If he should get convicted for all three, he will have a penitentiary sentence to serve which will keep him from any further horsetealing for quite a number of years to come.

**Extracts from Merrick County Newspapers  
appearing in NSGS Journals**

**NSGS - NE ANCESTREE Summer 1981**

**[Volume IV No. 1 page 3](#)**

Silver Creek Times -- Baptizing

**NSGS - NE ANCESTREE Fall 1983 Volume VI No. 2 pages 60-61**

## NEWSPAPER ITEMS

- 6 April 1900--Mamie HUDSON, 11th birthday party Sat. at home.  
Anna McNAMAN, 19 yrs., died Thursday at Lincoln. Dau. of Martin McNAMAN form. of Lincoln, now of South Omaha.
- 20 April 1900--A son to Elmer TOOKER & wife at Beulah, Polk Co.  
L.P. ANDERSON d. at farm of P.W. SWANSON of Oakland. Surv.: wife, dau. and son.  
Iva MUNGER had 8th birthday party last Sat.  
William STONE d. Sun. at Schuyler. Son-in-law James IRVING att'd.  
Buel WOODRUFF, res. of Tecumseh for 30 yrs. died there.
- 27 April 1900 --- Frank SOBESLOUSKY d. at Brainard.  
Jennie PALMER, well known Cass Co. teacher, d. in Wisc.  
Mrs. Caroline A. WOODRUFF, aged 82, d. at Tecumseh. Lived in NE since 1865.  
George KENDRICK, prop, Kendrick Hotel, d. at Odell.  
Lou FELTER, a railroad brakeman of Omaha, d. Tues. at Central City.  
Mrs. Ariana GILBERT rec'd. word yesterday that her brother's wife d. in Omaha. She & her bro.  
will take the remains to Mich. for burial.
- 4 May 1900--H.G. MCANNENEY (thought to be) male, aged approx, 25, of Winona, Minn. was found dead east of Grand Island.  
The body was completely severed from limbs. A letter on his person was addressed to Mrs. I. EROE of Osceola.  
Nathan NELSON was fatally injured at Hildreth.
- 11 May 1900--John A. MALM found dead at farm near Bertrand. Bro. of Charles MALM.  
Frank CHADY was fatally shot by Joseph SLAMA, who later took his own life at Howells.  
Ted SULLIVAN fatally wounded by Bill DAUGHERTY, Lincoln.  
The infant child of John BIGNELL d. of choking on a peanut at Alliance.
- 18 May 1900--Mrs. Lee HOLSTEIN of Overton fatally injured.  
Paul KOBALTER found dead at Pacific Junction.  
From Lincoln. E.A. RICHARDSON, Clarks postmaster, d. there.  
A baby girl was left on the doorstep of Henry PATTERSON & wife in St. Edward.  
A dau. b. to Mr. & Mrs. FEHRS near Genoa.  
A son b. Mon. to Ben McCORMICK & wife of Pleasant Valley.  
John BRETOWER drowned near Havelock.
- 15 June 1900--Mr. TREBAUGH & Bertha ZIPPER mar. at home of August ZIPPER, Polk, NE.
- 5 July 1900--Charles CLARK, aged 20, d. by being hit by lightning. Lived 12 mi. SE of Benkleman.

19 July 1900--A dau. b. to Harry BOUGHNER & wife at Havens. Thomas CANNON is grandfather.

23 July 1900--A dau. b. to C.N. POWERS & wife (July 17, 1897).

27 July 1900--Joseph MEETS d. June 24 at Columbus. Funeral at home of Chas. SPRAGUE, Silver Creek. Rev. HAMPTON officiated.

Luke PETERSON of Beatrice killed when struck by lightning.

Jack WILSON lost his life in a Wyoming snow storm last April. Body returned to his home in Crawford.

Joseph GIBSON d. at Cedar Rapids.

Theodore MENGES, former land agent at Kimball, d. in Chicago.

July 1900--A son b. to Arthur MOORE & wife at Pleasant Valley.

3 August 1900--John CAMP of Arcadia took own life.

Samuel M. TORRENCE of Silver Creek mar. Bessie ALLEN, dau. of Mr. & Mrs. Daniel ALLEN, at the Windsor Hotel in Fremont. Groom is druggist at Silver Creek.

Sophia WOOSTER, dau. of Charles WOOSTER, had 13th birthday party.

**page 61 - Silver Creek Times newspaper items continued:**

3 August 1900--James NYE, aged 11, drowned in Box Butte Creek near Alliance.

10 August 1900--Frank ROSSITER of Silver Creek mar. Jennie BROHMAN at St. Peters Catholic Church in Clarks.

Couple to reside in Silver Creek.

Charles MARTIN, formerly of Silver Creek, mar. Lorina HAAS in Fremont.

A dau. born to J.E. PETERSON & wife.

Myrtle HARRIS, 11th birthday at home of parents, Mr. & Mrs. Lawson HARRIS.

A son born to Mr. & Mrs. DAVIDSON.

17 August 1900--A son born to Abe DAVIES & wife.

31 August 1900--Vivian Marguerite LAUDER, dau. of W.J. LAUDER, d., aged 3 yrs., 2 wks., 3 day. Funeral at home of parents. Rev. HAMPTON conducted services. Wm. GAVES of Fremont, uncle, came to the funeral.

W.F. YEOMAN of Buelah, d. at Salt Lake City. Interment: Buelah Cemetery.

James DOOLEY killed at Portal.

21 September 1900--Joseph ROESLER, old resident of Schuyler, is dead.

The James L. FISHERS celebrated 40th wedding anniv. at Table Rock.

The infant dau. of Harry BOUGHNER & wife baptized at Episcopal Ch.

A son born to Walker WOOD & wife.



31 September 1900-Grandman LUNDY Mrs. Wm. (Martha) celebrated 90th birthday. Her dau. Mrs. D.J. TOWSLEE had party.

20 October 1900--William H. KURTH vs. Alice C. KURTH, divorce at Lincoln.

John NELSON, Omaha carpenter, killed himself.

Wesley BENNETT & wife a dau. born "this week".

Grandma REESE d. Silver Creek.

### **NSGS - NE ANCESTREE Winter 1984**

#### **Volume 7 no. 3 page 91**

Source: SILVER CREEK TIMES, Friday 18 October 1895 Merrick County

Mr. & Mrs. William YEOMAN recently made a trip to the west and have given us information in regard to some people who formerly were from Silver Creek and should be of interest to our readers:

"Little" San YEOMAN is at Alm, WY. Sam mar. the dau. of a Mormon bishop.

Frank GOODER, who was here in the 70's, is foreman in UP yards at Evanston.

Ed SMITH & wife live on 20 acres at Hooper near Ogden. "Deanie" is mar. and near them. Lucia in Idaho. Mrs. SMITH's health isn't good.

Hugh & Lew SWORTWOOD & families are at Salt Lake City. Both work for U.P.R.R.

At Ogden they saw Sid GRAVES & family, Mrs. O. GRAVES, Mrs. Lizzie HOWLAND & family, Rev. CATES & family.

At Wamsutter they saw Ott & Ed TURK.

In Utah they visited a settlement of early Mormans. Stayed with Bishop KEYES.

SILVER CREEK TIMES, 12 Nov. 1897

The 16 yr. old dau. of Mrs. Lucie BROCK widow, living on a farm 10 mi. south of Loup City fell from a wagon last Thurs. & died Friday from the injuries.

### **NSGS - NE ANCESTREE Fall 1989Vol. 12 no. 2 page 64**

School Dist. #10 (Merrick Co.) for month ending Oct. 23, 1896, Neither tardy nor absent, Edith HOLDEN, Not absent: Forest SANDERS, Fern SANDERS Eddy HUNSCOTE, Nellie HUNSCOTE & Edward EBERLY. Teacher, W. E. TURK.

Gardiner School Dist, #8. Number of pupils 8, Those not absent: Grace BENSON, John LICKLY, Charlie LICKLY, Durward DAVIS, Norvin DAVIS, Allen HILL. Those not tardy, Howard EDMISON John LICKLY, Charlie LICKLY, Allen HILL. Teacher, Nellie G. HILL.

NOTE: No source given, no submitter named.

## THE PALMER JOURNAL

### Early settlement of Loup Valley & the vicinity of Palmer, NE

1922

Note: We believe some portions of this history are missing from the reproduction. We were supplied with copies of articles made by volunteer Aileen Rawlings about 1992, who had contributed them to NSHS for the statewide newspaper extractions project of NSHS & NSGS. NSHS passed the copies along to us and Ted indexed them some years ago (Posted on Nebraska Newspapers website in 2001 - newspaper code #1502).

#### THE PALMER JOURNAL

**PERRY GAGE, Publisher**

**Thursday, March 23, 1922**

Issued Every Thursday Afternoon \$1.50 per year strictly in advance  
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the act of Congress.

#### Early History of This Neighborhood

The writer crossed the Missouri River on a ferry boat, the 27th day of Oct., 1871. Stayed all night at the Canfield Hotel in Omaha, left that city the next morning at 7 a.m. by passenger train, and landed at Lone Tree, (now Central City) at about 4 p.m. same day. Ticket cost \$9.90. Stayed all night at James Percivals 6 miles west of Central City. Slept on floor with Jacob Templin, and later made my home with him for the winter on his homestead / S.W.1/4, Sect. 10, T. 13, R. 7.

In later part of Nov. Frank Cooledge, (brother of Charles) drove to the Loup river for wood, James Percival, and I west along. on our way over Percival shot a deer, we loaded Cooledge with wood and he went home, coming after us in three days. We stayed in a tent in the brush north and east of the Malone residence. Deer were very plenty but wild on account of hunting, but every night we could hear

a hole in the ground about 10 feet deep, where the Indians evidently kept their winter provisions. The hole was about three feet across at the top, and about 10 feet at the bottom, like a funnel upside down. Mr. Hayes found a two year old buck in the hole and killed it. A knotty oak crotch stood in the hole which was used as a ladder by the Indians.

On my first trip to the river, one day in the afternoon, I met Ed Parker in his shirt sleeves, he was returning to camp which was up near the forks of the river. We met about where the old Houtin home stood, it was very cold but Ed. seemed to enjoy it hugely. He was a character along with Buffalo Bill, wore long hair, and at that time was county clerk of Merrick county. When the settlers got too thick, he moved to other quarters, more congenial to men of his kind, his nature was to be in the front ranks of civilization.

In the ealy seventies one Sunday in Nov., I was sitting at the south window looking southwest, the wind was blowing strong from the north, when I saw a deer coming toward the house, he stopped in the slough where the grass was big. My house then in the timber in the N.E. of McNeals pasture, the trees were only switches at that time. I got W. Campbell and Chas. Wherrett with their guns, they stood on the west side of the slough, while I went around and drove the deer between the two. Wherrett brought the deer down with the first shot.

When I was locating my timber claim, (where McNeal now lives) and my homestead about April 20th, 1874, just after the three

them in the brush. They went to the hills early in the morning, and returned at night.

On a later date Ira Jeffres drove his ox team to the same place on the river. James Applegate and I went along. We stayed three days.

The next day I shot a deer that a Pawnee Indian had crippled, (now laugh) and was following. When the Indian came up, he made me understand that the hide was his, so we skinned the deer, and I took one hind quarter and walked to camp. This occurred about two miles north of the river between the cottonwood and Rock creek.

The next day I met John Hayes of Lone Tree (father of Joe Hayes) at the foot of the hill north of the Limmerman home. He showed me an old Indian camp, west of the Limmerman home and

days blizzard, I crossed Elk creek going south at the corner stake of S.E. corner of the Q.F. Lambert farm, with a pair of mules and wagon. The hole country had been burnt over and the storm the worst I ever saw. On my round trip I counted 26 dead deer that had perished, and I took several pelts myself.

To illustrate how severe the storm was, Jason Parker, who lived on Prairie creek ten miles east of Palmer at that time, had gone to Lone Tree, and could not get back, he left 65 head of cattle in his corral with a very good shed facing south, when he returned he had some over 30 head of little cattle left, the other big cattle drove the little ones out, as the shed drifted full, until it smothered all the big cattle. Cattle were drifted in all the creeks and sloughs in the country, I found one of Davises in Elk creek on the Fitchpatick (sic) farm. In my next I will try and locate the old settlers.

A. M. Templin

## THE PALMER JOURNAL

PERRY GAGE, Publisher

Thursday, March 30, 1922

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### The Early Settlers

In writing the history, or rather locating the early settler of the Loup Valley, most of which occurred about 50 years ago; and which would be hard to remember, or describe were it not for the wisdom of our departed friend Judge Copeland, who had in his possession the "Enumeration of the inhabitants in Loup, or Precinct No. 8 on the 1st day of April, A.D. 1875." This I just received from Miss Joe Copeland, and which I will return when through with this record. I think this enumeration should be kept by Miss Joe, or some one whom she may select.

Then boundry (sic) line of this Precinct at the time, was the

built on his land about the same time. Whether Bob Wooden, and others had settled before that time, I think John Davis would know. (Mr. Davis says Wooden, J.C. Knapp and Allison Cole came the year before.)

N.E. 1/4 section 32 John Davis located, where Mrs. O'Hern lives the N.W. 1/4 Mrs Hanna Davis, mother of John, located. Later Norris Davis homesteaded the west half. The S. W. 1/4 Ben Alspaugh located where Chas. Grammer now lives. Alspaugh sold to Mrs. Lambert, mother of Mrs. Adam Heck. Alspaugh, after burying his step daughter, the first one buried there, deeded the cemetery to the public. The S.E. 1/4 J.C. Knapp filed as timber claim, and later sold to John W. Templin, now of Worland, Wyo.

S. half of S.E. 1/4 section 30, Porter Baird located, sold to Ed McDonald, now owned by Adam Donchaski. W.J. Copeland the eighty north. The N.E. 1/4 Robert McCann located, and when he proved up he deeded Mr. Copeland 40 acres along the south for \$200, that he had borrowed, to help move him and his family west. The N. W. 1/4 fractional quarter was located by Eugene Brown, now of Washington.

N.E. 1/4 section 20 Isaac Place located; and is now the only person in the Precinct that lives where he homesteaded, unless

Pawnee Reservation on the north, (or Nance county) on the east, the section line west of the Wm. Wagoner farm, and on that line north in the hills, thence was a jog, which extended east of the Woolcott farm. On the south, the section line south of the Chas. Cooledge farm. On west the Howard county line. I have no map, but judging from the names of the residents at that time, I think this correct. Perhaps the south line might have been a mile further north.

As to the first settler in this Precinct I am not sure. I know that John Davis, and his mother both built sod houses on the north half of the Palmer section, in the fall or summer of 1873. I think Albert Zamzow, (enumerated at Sampson,)

Albert Zamzow. The S.E. 1/4 Milton Taylor located, grandfather of Mrs. H.A. Wells. The S.W. 1/4 Frank Baird located, and the N.W. 1/4 Wm Churchill, the last two later moved to Washington. John Dailly now owns the Baird and Taylor half section.

The S.E. 1/4 section 18, a fraction, was located by Helon Foster, who later moved to Colorado. The S.W. 1/4 John Thomas, father of Newton Thomas, located. The N.W. 1/4 Wesley Ludington. Later these two places were known as the Malone ranch. Ludington then located north of the river on the strip now known as the Limmerman farm. Ludington, for years before he moved across the river, operated a ferry near his house. It use to be great fun for him to fall in the river to frighten his patrons when they least expected it. I think his wife was a Methodist, but Lud, evidently was a Baptist.

(Early settlers continued next week.)

A. M. Templin

## THE PALMER JOURNAL

**PERRY GAGE, Publisher**

**Thursday, April 6, 1922**

Issued Every Thursday Afternoon \$1.50 per year strictly in advance  
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### The Early Settlers

H.C. Wells located the N.W. 1/4 section 28. John Cole preempted the S.W. 1/4 and later sold the south half to Barney Galager. The north 80 Cole homesteaded, where Orlando Campbell now lives. He now lives near Taylor, Neb. Wm. Foster homesteaded the S.E. 1/4 where Bruno Janson now lives. Anton Zimprich located the N.E. 1/4 now owned by H. Jensen.

Mat Donaldson homesteaded the N.E. 1/4 section 34. Chas. Wherrett timber claimed the N.W. 1/4, later sold to Mr. Linder, Fred Linder's father, and now occupied by Axel Anderson. Lewis Foster

I am not sure whether Mr. Long was the first settler on the E. half of N.E. 1/4, section 24, or not. I think A.D. Reece located the W. half of N.E. 1/4. W. R. Jolls homesteaded the west half of N.E. 1/4. He was grandfather to Mark Colborn. J.M. Dressler bought out Haskell another Methodist preacher, preempted the S.W. 1/4 and held it until Alison Cole, his brother-in-law came and homesteaded it, and still owned by his widow. M. M. Burk homesteaded the S.E. 1/4. Do not know who he sold to.

J. C. Knapp homesteaded the N.W. 1/4, section 30, in township east. Robert Vanlear homesteaded the S.W. 1/4 and Cal Goodrich, father of Mrs. Hiram Colborn, homesteaded the N.E. 1/4. Bob Wooden located on section 22, but do not know the quarter and when this enumeration was taken he had gone father west. Wooden, as long as he lived there, run a big herd of cattle. He summered them for 50 cts. per head. H.D. Landrum one year run the herd.

The names of those who came after the year 1875 are as follows: John W. Templin, Ed Mcdonald, John Daily, Barney Galager, David Fulton, David Camblin, Warren Burtman, Mr. Summers, Geo. Bulingame, Mr. Long, Alison Cole, Milt Corth.

homesteaded the west half of S.W. 1/4 and sold it to Lyman Clark. It is now owned by E. M. Davis. Foster moved to Washington. David Fulton homesteaded the E. half of S.W. 1/4 and west half of S.E. 1/4. David Camblin, I think homesteaded the east half of S.E. 1/4. This I think, was the last piece of government land located in the valley, but there was an 80 acre tract located on the strip since that time in Merrick county. Milt Couch first located the Fulton land and sold it to Fulton.

J.S. Donaldson timber claimed the N.E. 1/4, section 26. He was a Methodist preacher. He homesteaded the N. W. 1/4 and proved up on it. A Mr. Crane first located S.W. 1/4, sold to Hobbs which, I suppose, is now owned by Silas Hobbs. James Donaldson homesteaded the S.E. 1/4 and lived on it long enough to prove up, and there has never been any one on it to live since. Albert Mears first located N.E. 1/4 and sold to Warren Burtman.

Warren Burtman, I think, located the N.W. 1/4. The south half of that section, was and is the Geo. Burlingame timber claim and homestead. Burlingame must of came later, as his name is not on this enumeration taken in 1875, neither was Burtman here at that time. I think one H.D. Lundrum located either part of Burlingame or Burtman's land first. John Davis would know. Burlingame was in the valley in 1873, but not enumerated in 1875.

After finishing with the early settlers, I am going to tell about some of the interesting events of the early days. I am going to ask Journal readers who know of funny or interesting events of that time to write about them and send them to me at 120 So. 35 St., Omaha.

=====

Omaha, Neb., April 3, 1922

Perry Gage, Palmer, Nbe (sic)

Dear sir, in conversation with Mr. Burlingame I find I have done him an injustice, in mmy (sic) statements regarding the first settlers in the valley, and made some other mistakes. I will ask Mr. Burlingame to correct me after my report is published in this week's Journal, and take up all of my space for next week.

I did not move in the Elk Creek valley until the spring of 1873. I see I, or the printer's devil made a mistake in the date of the April storm which was in 1873. As Burlingame's name does not appear on the enumeration of 1875, and he lived about 4 miles down the valley he certainly (sic) knew who was the settlers.

One thing I do know that the first Post Office was named Burlingame, and we are not only willing, but insist that as far as possible the record shall be corrected. While I will expect Burlingame to take up the corrections next week, I will at any time correct any mistake I may make if my attention is called to it, and would be glad to hear from anyone.

A. M. Templin

**Palmer Journal - 6 Apr 1922**

Friend Perry:

As I have been lying here in bed this afternoon, I have been thinking about early times here and have whiled away the time writing a few things that come to my memory.

It was in May 1874 that we crossed the Big muddy with our parents on a steam ferry at Plattsmouth. We crossed the Platte at Columbus and stayed over night with Wm. Adams, a brother of my mother. The next day we crossed the sand hills and came to section

Father traded a team, wagon and harness to Owen Shively for a claim over on Loup valley. He also took a .....  
..... running. That was our first experience as cow boy. We would drive the stock off toward the Loup in the morning and round them up and corral them at night. One evening we were riding down a long sand bar and we saw several animals running around. At first we thought they were colts from another herd down the river. It proved to be a herd of 35 or 40 elk. They turned their noses up in the

14, township 12, range 7, in the Loup valley where three more of my mother's brothers had claims, John D., G.S. and Robert Adams.

Father rented some land over on Prairie creek, one mile west of the Mead school house. We planted corn and sowed some millet. The grass hoppers came that summer and ate all the corn, so all we raised was a few loads of millett. I have seen the hoppers so thick that they shut off the light, just like a dense cloud.

air, dropped their antlers down on their shoulders and ran through willows that grew so thick we could not ride through them on a horse.

We were herding cattle for Bob Woodin in the spring of 1875. His homestead was the N.E. quarter of section 20, now owned by Dinsdale Bros. It was while we were herding for him that Bob and Andy Reece gave chase to the elk that A.M. Temblin said was killed just north of Grammer's barn.

John Meyer.

## THE PALMER JOURNAL

**PERRY GAGE, Publisher**

**Thursday, April 20, 1922**

Issued Every Thursday Afternoon \$1.50 per year strictly in advance  
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### The Early Settlers

Editor Palmer Journal:

I received word Saturday from Burlingame that he could not get his statement ready before next Saturday, and would not be ready for this week's issue. So I will fill up the space if necessary. James Sample homesteaded the north E. 5/8 section 2, town 14, range 8, and to the best of my memory he sold the north half to a Mr. Crabtree, who later sold it to Jap Pemberton, now owned by Mr. Taylor I think. Geo. Charon's father homesteaded the N.W. 1/4, Harry LaFeever homesteaded the S.W. 1/4 and Mr. Fechner the S.E. 1/4. I am not sure whether LaFeever first located that quarter, would be glad to be corrected by any one.

Ramoth Sears homesteaded the N. half of N.E. 1/4. A.M. Templin homesteaded the S.E. 1/4 of S.E. 1/4. Jerome Smedley, who lived west of Central City on an 80 acre homestead, located an additional 80 which he did not have to live on, the N.W. 1/4 of the N.E. 1/4 and the N.W. 1/4 of the S.E. 1/4. Mr. Smedley traded it in settlement with the Empire Harvester Co., and I bought the 80 acres

at the office door before 9 a.m., and before the office was open. When the officials appeared, they said, they had decided not to take any more money, until the proper blanks came from Washington.

I said that is pretty tough, that I had driven 25 miles that morning, and it was not only a hardship on me, but on my mules. They evidently took pity on the mules, for they said if I would write out a copy of the blank and fill it out as I went, that I might that way finish my filing so I would not have to come back. I offered to pay one of them, but nothing doing. So I wrote out my own application which was the first timber claim taken at Grand Island, and drove home in the afternoon. This was also the first timber claim proved up on at Central City. I think John Campbell and A. S. Nicholas was my witnesses, who counted the trees.

I found out later that the fees for locating timber claims was only 14 dollars, instead of \$26, so in about a year I wrote to the land office at Washington, asking for a refund. In about a month I received word that for some reason, or other, there was an over charge on the first timber claim located, but that there was no law whereby they could refund on such claims. That was a consoling (sic) answer, from a big government, to a poor cuss like I was.

Wm. Campbell homesteaded the S.W. 1/4 and the first time I met him, he was breaking prairie north of where his house now stands. His son Silas was planting sod corn with a hand ax, he was not big enough to handle a spade, and Mr. Campbell informs me, that he still had the old hand ax out in his barn. Uncle Will, and Silas had moved into their new home and as near as I can remember, it was 6 feet wide, 12 feet long, about 5 feet high at the bed, and perhaps 44 feet at the other end, such was the beginning of one of

for I think \$200, not sure of the amount. The S. half of S.E. 1/4 was first held by Tony Tousley, who sold his right to Fred Moyer.

Fred got the California fever, (sic) and sold the land to me for the price of 100 bushels of corn, at that time worth \$43, grasshopper times, which I will refer to later. I was very much amused at a remark that he made to me the day he vacated the little frame house. He said, "If I would wait until hot weather the bed bugs would carry the house where ever I wanted it." The old crib on the McNeal farm (if not torn down,) has some of the flooring on it used as cribbing.

The N.W. 1/4 I located as a timber claim, (pardon me if I make a more extensive note of this,) I had heard that several timber claims had been taken, or the land canceled as taken on payment of \$26, until blank applications was received at the land office at Grand Island. One Monday morning in May, I drove my mules hitched to a lumber wagon, to the Island; I was

the properous farmers, who is proud of what he went through, and what he accomplished.

I might add that at this time I was batching in a shack 8 by 10 made out of fruit tree boxes, it stood near the S.W. corner of the big timber in the McNeal pasture. That fall I moved it further east, and covered it with sod, and built a soddy about 14, by 16 next to it. It took a good deal of gall to bring a young wife from Ohio, into a shack like that, and every time it rained, we had to dry the bedding in the sun. But it was a great life, there was no selfishness among the neighbors in those days, and we are all proud of the part we had in founding one of the best communities in Nebraska. The reason for this might be in the fact that the children of these settlers have so intimately mixed up in marriage, that one dare not talk about others, without tramping on some ones toes. This is a happy condition.

A. M. Templin

The location of the settlers in the Burlingame neighborhood will be given by George Burlingame in next week's paper.

## THE PALMER JOURNAL

PERRY GAGE, Publisher

Thursday, April 27, 1922

Issued Every Thursday Afternoon \$1.50 per year strictly in advance  
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### The Early Settlers JUNE 1873

Robert Woodin family N.E. 20-15-7.  
Marvin Hutchins, single N.E. 20-15-7.  
James M. Donaldson and family N.W. 26-15-8.  
Mat Donaldson, single S.W. 26-15-8.  
Ed McGonagle, single S.E. 24-15-8.

A man by the name of Warren or Warner first timbered the S.E. 32-15-8, who relinquished to J.C. Knapp, who in turn relinquished to J.W. Templin.

A man by the name of Jiles first held S.W. 30-15-8 and latter (sic) J.W. VanLeer homesteaded it.

Wes Luddington, John Thomas and Helen Foster located on 18-15-8. I don't know when or just how it was divided.

In the fall of 1874 Hostetter relinquished N.W. 24-15-9 to W. R. Jolls, and Warren Burkman came into possession of the Means 1/4, the N.E. 22-15-8, some time later.

Gus Summers first took N.W. 22-15-8.

Andy Brannan took N.E. 28-15-8. Both of these last two claims must have been taken about 1875, and Henry Wallace must have located just east of the Goodrich place about the same time.

Loup precinct was organized in the fall of 1872 and unless someone located just over the south line, which I don't think they did, J.W. Donaldson's was the first family to locate in Loup precinct.

My family was the second.

A.B. Cole, single, minor S.W. 24-15-8.

JULY 1872

J.C. Knapp family N.W. 30-15-7.

G.M. Burlingame family S.E. 22-15-8.

AUGUST 1872

C.M. Goodrich family N. E. 30-15-8.

LATER IN 1872

Wm Churchill family N. W. 20-15-8.

Charley Best squatted on S.E. 20-15-8. Charley was single and I am quite sure he never built a house, and I think he later realinquished (sic) to Mr. Taylor.

The Adams boys, John, William, George and Robert. They each had a family and I think each took a quarter of 14-15-7.

Old Mr. Chapman and daughter Jennie Chapman, I think each took a quarter of the E. 1/2 of 34-15-8. Jennie married Mat Donaldson. Mat relinquished to Crane and went to live with Jennie.

This completes the list of 72ers, unless Milt Couch and Isaac Place came that year, but I think they both came in 73.

Couch took a quarter of 34-15-8.

JANUARY 1873 AND LATER

H. C. Wells located on N.W. 28-15-8.

M. M. Burk N.E. 25-15-8.

Hostetter N.W. 24-15-8.

J.M. Dressler, brother-in-law of A.B. Cole took S.W. 24-15-8 to hold for Cole until he became of age.

J.S. Donaldson and Flora Donaldson N. 1/2 26-15-8.

R.A. Means N.E. 22-15-8.

Wm. Copeland N. 1/2 S.E. 1/4 30-15-8.

Porter Beard S. 1/2 S.E. 1/4 30-15-8.

Eugene (sic) Brown W. 1/2 30-15-8, fractional.

Frank Beard N.W. 20-15-8.

J.C. Knapp's was third, although J.C. was ahead of me. Goodrich's came next, then Churchill, Woodin, the Adams families and Mr. and Mrs. Chapman.

This I think is a complete list of the families who were located in Loup precinct in 1872. I know it is true as regards township 15.

In the spring of 1873 a postoffice was established through my efforts and located at my house. I was appointed P.M. A special star route was established to accomodate this office, running from Central City to Albion, Boone Co., via Luddingeon's Ferry, after the ferry was put in, in the fall of 1874, I went to Rock Springs, Wyoming to work to make a living for my family.

I resigned from the office of P.M. and H.C. Wells was appointed to succeed me, and the office was moved to his house, where it remained until the Palmer office was established. I returned to Rock Springs in 1876.

I have not gone south of the line of Palmer in this sketch because I know there are others who can give you clearer information as to the location of settler over that line.

Of course you know about the Sawyer ranch and about Seedam, Jim Sawyer and Joe Davis locating on 29, and the changes there, and about Lev. Taylor on 21 and Warner succeeding old Mr. Taylor on the S.E. of 20-15-8, and the other changes if you plan on going very far with your story.

I think old Mr. Linder succeeded Mr. Foster on 28. Con Malone got in on 18 and John Daily on 20.

In the spring of 73 Andy Reece located on the S.W. 1/4 of 20-15-7 and later bought Jolls interest in the E. 1/2 of 24-15-8, homesteaded and lived there until he moved to Palmer. I later bought the west 1/2 of that 1/4 and still own it.

As I have said Burk was the first settler on the N.E. 1/4 of 24-15-9, but I now recall that a man named Lunk, not Long, as the paper has it, has got possession of one 80 on it. Landrum never (sic) had any interest in 22-15-9. I knew the man, but think he did not have any claim in this part of the precinct. He lived at one time in the old Frank Beard house.

Mrs. Simmons was a widow, mother of Frank, a minor. Rena, who married Charley Mead, and Carrie, who married Dick Steel.

You must remember how the fleas preempted everything in those early days and the grasshoppers claimed what was left.

Of course you know all the later changes if you plan on going



<p>John Davis N.E. 32-15-8. Wm. Davis and Norris Davis N.W. 32-15-8. I don't know how this was divided.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LATER IN 1873</p> <p>Ben Alspaugh S.W. 32-15-8. I am mixed on the S.W. of 28-15-8. I think John Cole and John Wherrett were interested in it, first one and then the other. Cole finally held the N. 1/2 and Gallagher the S. 1/2. Later I think John Wherrett timbered N.W. 34-15-8.</p>	<p>far with your story.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yours in sympathy, G.M. Burlingame.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE PALMER JOURNAL</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PERRY GAGE, Publisher</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday, May 4, 1922</b></p> <p>Issued Every Thursday Afternoon \$1.50 per year strictly in advance Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Palmer, under the act of Congress.</p>	<p>S.E. 1/4. He and Burley sold to Adam Heck, now owned by Frank Newlon, and James Bahensky.</p> <p>Chas. Wherrett homesteaded the north half of N.E. 1/4 and east half of N.W. 1/4 section 8-14-8, now owned by his two children, Grace and George. A. S. Nichols homesteaded the west half of N.W. 1/4, now owned by Fitzpatrick. John Campbell homesteaded the south half of N.E. 1/4 and west half of S.E. 1/4. Thomas Blinkinsop homesteaded the east half of S.E. 1/4. Wesley Rasor, timber claimed the S.W. 1/4, now owned by Henry Grammer.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Early Settlers</b></p> <p>Editor Palmer Journal</p> <p>Mr. Burlingame's corrections stand approved, unless some one else puts in an objection. Now that Charles G. Tidd is enjoying himself loafing around Palmer, I will ask him to correct me in relating a little political stunt wherein he was wholly responsible for the part I had in it.</p> <p>In early days when Mr. Tidd and his father were in business, and occupied the corner store in the old Opera House; I happened in one day when there were several others in the store, that were discussing the tariff. C.G.said to me, "you are pretty well posted, what have you to say on the subject?" When I got fairly started, John Davis remarked in about these words, "A.M. I like a damned fool, but you suit me most too well." I said that is good argument. But I have never fully decided in my own mind, whether the joke was on Tidd or me, we will let the reader decide that.</p>	<p>Clarence Powell contested this claim, I think in 1876 or 7, the trial was held in Grand Island. I think Wm. Campbell, John Campbell, A.S. Nicolas, Thomas Blinkinsop, and myself were Rasor's witnesses. We drove to the Island in a lumber wagon. When we got where we could see the timber on the Platte river Mr. Nicholas related this incident in his early life which occured in 1863. It appears his health was failing him, and his Dr. advised him to go to Colorado, and when he and his comrades was close to Grand Island, Mr. Nicholas stopped at a ranch house on the river, and bought a pumpkin pie for 25 cts. He haid (sic), "that was the completest pumpkin pie he ever ate, for there was not a blooming thing in it but pumpkin.</p> <p>It would appear that Nr. Nicholas at the age of 24, when he made that trip, was far from being in good health, or he would not have made this trip overland in a wagon in 1863, his health in early life, he lived to be 83 years old, an age that not a very large percentage of those born reach. He evidently understood his own</p>

Eliza Herring, grandmother to Perry Herring, homesteaded the N.E. 1/4 section 6-14-8, now owned by Bert Strong, and Leander Campbell. John Burley homesteaded the S.W. 1/4 and I think timber claimed the N.W. 1/4 where Ralph Hetrick now lives. Ab King homesteaded the

condition, or capacity of endurance, and squarred his life accordingly. In this he showed wisdom. What is the use any way, of any one shorting their lives by being slaves to the foolishness of getting the dollar when they cannot carry one sou with them when they depart this world.

A.M. Templin.

## THE PALMER JOURNAL

**PERRY GAGE, Publisher**

**Thursday, May 11, 1922**

Issued Every Thursday Afternoon \$1.50 per year strictly in advance Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Palmer, under the act of Congress.

### The Early Settlers

In writing up the history of Loup township, which was practically all settled from 45 to 50 years ago; I expect to make some mistakes, as some of the first settlers - or locaters, only stayed a short time and their claims was taken up by others. If any one thinks that they can remember back 45 years and get everything exact I would gladly surrender this leadpencil, and bid them God speed. I start out to only give the first settlles on the government lands, the Rail Road lands, I may handle later.

Edom Dixon homesteaded the N.E. 1/4 section 10-14-8 now owned by Mr. Swadley. Mr. Baird, son-in-law of Mrs. Moses Toot, homesteaded the north half of N.W. 1/4. Mr. Carlson homesteaded the south half of N.W. 1/4 and the north half of S.W. 1/4. John Plank homesteaded the north half of S.E. 1/4 An old maid school teacher, Aunt of Joe Cogil, timberclaimed the south half of S.E. 1/4 and south half of S.W. 1/4, now owned by one of the Wagoners.

Mr. Rudolf, father of Chas. Rudolf of Central City, homesteaded the N.E. 1/4 of section 12-14-8. Ora Fish, or his mother, homesteaded the N. W. 1/4. Chas. Rudolf, (mentioned above) timberclaimed the S.W. 1/4 and Wm. Otto homesteaded the

I am not sure who located the east half of N.E. 1/4 section 14-14-8, where Mr. Ita now lives. Moses Toot homesteaded and timberclaimed the west half of N.E. 1/4 and the N.W. 1/4 now owned by Mr. Zook. I am at a total loss about the S.W. 1/4. Mr Whited located the S.E. 1/4 where Chas Muco lived so long.

John Colborn homestaeded (sic) the north half of N.E. 1/4 and Abraham Colborn, father of the Colborn boys, homesteaded the south half of N.E. 1/4. Geo. Colborn homesteaded the east half of N.W. 1/4 and Mr. Root the west fractional half of N.W. 1/4: the last two tracts are now owned by Harry Webber. I cannot say who located the fractional S.W. 1/4. A.S. Nicholas timberclaimed the S.E. 1/4, where his son now lives.

About the time that James Kyle located near Palmer, there was a colored batchelor called nigger Jim, who made his home across the river in Nance county. These two Jims were not one whit alike, but they both kept a string of gray hounds. It was a very hard matter to know the owner of the hounds, unless the owner was in sight. At that time John Davis owned the implement house, which since burned down, where the one he now owns stands. Abraham Colborn waded through the pack of hounds, opened the door into the office and remarked, "here is the hounds where is the nigger." It was nont (sic) been recorded as yet, just what answer Kyle gave to the inquiry.

Mr. Burlingame suggested a very pubnacious (sic) little friend of every body, when he remarked, for me not to forget the flea, that little cuss that was mixed up in everybodies' under clothes, in the early days. If we got any rest, we had to take it between chewing times so we were at their mercy. Geo. Herring claimed he run down, and caught a full grown jack rabbit in the valley near the Judge Copeland farm, it was simply alive with fleas, the jack was so poor

S.E. 1/4.

that it could not jump much farther than the flea. Many of the old settlers could testify what restless bed fellows a few fleas will make.

A.M. Templin.

## THE PALMER JOURNAL

**PERRY GAGE, Publisher**

**Thursday, May 18, 1922**

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the act of Congress.

### The Early Settlers

Edieor (sic) Palmer Journal:

Since I began writing this continued story of Loup township, at least 12 deaths have occurred (sic), in and around Palmer, and only one, A.S. Nicholas, was enumerated in 1875. Out of the 216 enumerated at that time, counting grown people and babies, there was 25 soldiers who served in the civil war. Out of this number there remains, J.L. Davis, Isaac Place, Wm. Campbell, and we must add, Geo. Burlingame, who in 1875 went to Rock Springs to earn a living. The old faithfuls (sic) are dropping out of the ranks, and only 4 remain to stand guard.

You will notice that out of those who first settled Loup township, one out of every 8 and a fraction served their country in war. They were made out of the right kind of material to endure the hardships that was necessary to build up a new country in those days.

Remember that these men fought to preserve this nation, and finally, to free the colored slaves in the south, and then came west, fought the elements, and endured privations, that future generations might enjoy peace and plenty. My friends will you leave as fine a record for future generations when you pass to the great beyond.

Hiram Colborn timber claimed the N.W. 1/4 of section 20-14-8,

This covers the Government lands in Loup township subject to locating, except the sections in the neck running down where the Woolcotts lived, and of which I have only described the one section where J.C. Knapp located. Later will give some of the settlers who bought land of the Union Pacific Rail Road company, who owned at that time every other section for 20 miles back, parallel with their track.

Some ten years ago I was sitting with Judge Copeland in his office when our conversation drifted back to the grasshopper time. In relating our experience, he told me about getting a letter from some old friend. I think from Sparata, Ill., that he had sent the Judge, and his family a box of clothing and provisions. He and some of his neighbors drove in a lumber wagon to what was then Lone Tree, now Central City, a cold wintry day to get his box. While in one of the stores, he was about to buy a pair of felt boots on time, to keep from freezing on way home; when he thought he had better get his box from the depot, and see what was in it before buying any thing. To his surprise about the first thing he saw was a pair of felt boots, and when telling it he broke down and wept.

I aver that not one of the old settlers living during that time but that could related similar experiences. The folks back in the east were indeed very mindful of the wants of their friends in the west; and it is hard to tell what would of become of some of them without the help of those friends. There was a county relief committee for the winter of 1874-5 at Lone Tree. I think Dite Reynolds, James Verigg and James Radcliff was that committee, they received and distributed all public goods contributed by the advice of one man whom the appointed in each precinct. The writer had charge of Loup precinct and it was my duty to go to Lone Tree every Saturday, to report the needs, and bring back what our people had to have. I drove my mules hitched to a lumber wagon, and as grain was scarce for feed, the mules was pretty tame, so I kept my blood

and Mrs. Ohara the west half of southwest 1/4 where Mr. Peters now lives. The rest of the section, I cannot remember. John Whalen lived on the N. E. 1/4 and Zal Peck on the S. E., but do not think they located the land first.

Mr. Parsons homesteaded the N.E. 1/4 section 22-14-8, Jacob Ita timberclaimed the N.W. 1/4. Mr. Anquist homesteaded the S.E. 1/4 and am sure one of the Truitt boys located the S.E. 1/4 where Friedrickson now lives.

Gale Anderson homesteaded the N.E. 1/4 section 22-14-8, Jacob Ita timber claimed the N.W. 1/4. Zal Cheever the N.W. 1/4, later owned by Fred Lefflebine, and since by Hesselgesser. I think that Alber Zamzow located the S.W. 1/4 at least he and wife and three children are enumerated in 1875, and I do not know where else they could have lived at that time. August Wagoner timber claimed the S.E. 1/4.

circulation persuading old Tobe & Topsy, to try and make the trip between suns.

There were so many pleasant things that occurred among the early settlers, that it was about the best part of our lives after all. To ride in an ox wagon about 4 miles down to the school house No. 36, to attend a literary society, which was kept running all winter, by the old soldiers, and their wives, was an entertainment that would put some of the modern acts, in the Orpheum circuit in Omaha to shame. As a reminder to the few that is left, the debaters was Lafe Taylor, Eugene Brown, J. Luddington, Judge Copeland, Wm. Churchill and Mr. Thomas. The performers consisted of the above with the help of Mrs. Copeland, Mrs. Luddington, Mrs. John Davis and Mrs. Porter Baird and Mrs. Frank Baird. Great time and pleasant memories.

A.M. Templin.

## THE PALMER JOURNAL

**PERRY GAGE, Publisher**

**Thursday, May 25, 1922**

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### The Early Settlers

Editor Palmer Journal:

On account of events that occurred (sic) the first of this week I shall digress, or I might say divert my course, but am afraid my friend Thomas Fiddler would not understand just what I ment (sic). I made arrangements for two ladies, and two gentlemen, to go with me last Monday in auto to the Grand Island conference. On account of death in one family, and sickness in the other, the two ladies did not make the trip. And before we got half way to the Island I was glad they did not go.

About 4 miles west of Fremont on the paved road a very

blooming thing began to twist and curve, and soon landed in a deep ditch, breaking the left front wheel.

Edgar Howard and the other men soon got them out of the wrecked car into mine; neither one was hurt seriously, but might have been, for the ladie's head went through the wind shield but only left a slight mark on her head. They and baggage, was loaded into my car and I took them to Central City, and left them in the care of Fred Radcliff. The tracks of the Ford car indicated that something (sic) had gone wrong with the steering gear.

We made the trip from Omaha, to Grand Island, 155 miles in just 6 hours, and wasted about one half hour on the road, or 28 miles per hour. This is going right along, and baring some break in the car, it is not dangerous, but we all run risks when we ride in an auto. No one should drive a car that gets the least bit nervous, or loads up on white mule. Here is one person that would not own a car if we had if we had open saloons; and if you will watch the reports of auto wrecks, the most of them are caused bgy the kick of the mule.

I have lived here in the city for two and one half years, but never saw two autos come together, or any one hurt, yet there is not a day passes but what there are one or more wrecks, and about every day some one hurt. I am sure from what I see every day, that

serious auto wreck occurred (sic) about ten minutes before we got there. A man about thirty years old, driving a small runabout Ford truck, ran into, head on, a big sedan. The driver of the truck was thrown through the wind shield in such a manner that his head was cut just above his eyes, and took about an inch of his hair with it. His brains were laying on one side of the car, and his body on the other side (perhaps moved there) with his face up, and the brain cavity were open to all who wished to see.

We did not tarry five minutes, but I said some one must have been drinking. On Wednesday when at filling station in Fremont, I remarked that I saw the man and wreck. One man said he had known him for several years, and that he was known to be a drinker, when he could get it. The big car was badly damaged, in front, both wheels being smashed, and from what I saw, the wreck must of been worse than the one (sic) Ed Peck got into two years ago. I understyaood that the three that was in the big car was not seriously hurt. (sic)

On Tuesday about 5 p.m. we left Grand Island for Columbus, with Edgar Howard on my right watching the speedometer (sic), for I had promised him to not drive faster than a thirty mile gate. I thought perhaps he was afraid to die. About 4 miles west of Central City, I noticed a

Ford roadster headed west hitting a pretty lively gate and when it came within 10 rods of us, the

the most of those who get hurt, it is their own fault, for they take chances in heading off a car, that no sensible person would do.

Mr. Editor, I might of told you what happened at the Grand Island conference last Tuesday, but Merrick county was pretty well represented. If you will call up Bryan Powers, or John Boelts, I know they would be glad to inform Loup township along that line. Tell Tom Fiddler that next week I will revert to the early history of the best part of Nebraska for alfalfa.

Pardon me, but that man that likes my letters, but not my politics, or religion, must have his wires crossed. About the worst cussing I ever got, was because I had no religion; and my politics? Well I have not had any of that kind of stuff for lo these many years. I want to thank this man for his frankness, and his compliment. Listen, all those people from Palmer who have crossed the river in the last few weeks, will have to meet their Lord the same as the man who lost his brains near Fremont. I am sure all will agree with me thus far. Then why should any one worry about what any one else believes, when we all have such a big job ahead, trying to a live a respectable life on earth. Those who think my religion is bad, ought never use a looking glass, for they might discover something, if they will ony dig down deep enough into the thing they are looking at.

A.M. Templin.

## THE PALMER JOURNAL

PERRY GAGE, Publisher

Thursday, June 1, 1922

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### The Early Settlers

Editor Palmer Journal:

The first car of freight was a carload of popcorn to Albert Dickinson of Chicago by myself. It was loaded down near Wm. Campbell's north line.

Mr. Wickem bought sec. 19-15-8 and built the house now owned by T. R. Lambert. James Sawyer bought the west 1/2 of sec. 29-15-8 and built the house now occupied (but enlarged and made modern) by John Knapp. George Sawyer bought the east 1/2 and the S. E. 1/4 of 31-15-8.

His brother James fenced and run cattle on this land, and bargained with me for a Perkins windmill which I put up. He got into financial trouble by mortgaging some property illegally, and was on his way to Grand Island, leaving the country for good, but was man enough to drive to where I was at work and told me that his brother

Mackenson, as I have said was a character, and we were all expecting something to occur when he was around. Chas. Nichol dealt in bologna and cow hides, with enough other things mixed in to make a butcher's shop. He had leased the lot next to him, which I think was where Linder's harness shop now stands. Nichol had it ploughed and had worked hard in ridging it up to plant sweet potatoes, and was worried about where he could get plants

Mackensen at that time was breaking prairie south of where Si Hobbs now lives, and while Nichol was cutting some veal steak for Mack (off the hind quarter of an old cow) he told Nichol (sic) he had found a place where he could get his plants, and if he wished he would bring him a hundred when he came back in the evening, which was just the thing for Nichol. Mack found some pie plant leaves, and fixed up a bunch of wild morning glories, and delivered them. Nichol planted them, watered them and stuck shingles up to shade them and about the time they looked as if they would grow, Mack let the cat out. Mack evidently was paying Nichol for some of the tough meat he had bought.

The last time Nichol was seen in Palmer was 1896. The Burlington Railroad was anxious to, defeat Bryan and Nichol was shipped down from Montana to vote for McKinley. Nichol came on the morning freight and waited until the last freight in the evening went out and then voted. I can now see in my mind, his coat tails floating in the air as he hit the Pike to catch that train. I presume Nichol then felt he had got even with Mack at last, but the joke was that Mack was voting against Bryan too.

Joe Hays, I think sold the first lumber in Palmer. He afterwards sold the yard to Wes Templin.

Mr. Weeks, in the name of his wife, opened the first general store where the John Davis implement house now stands.

Wm. Newmeyer had the first drug store on the lot now occupied by the filling station. Mr. White had the first newspaper, the Palmer Sun in the same building now occupied by the hotel. Chas. Lemaster the first barber shop just west of the hotel. Eli Perry and Judge Copeland the first implement house. Chas. Moore the first hotel down by the livery stable.

George would pay me, which he did.

Mr. Sudyam bought and partly improved the N. E. 1/4 of sec. 29, now owned by David Foster. and Joe Davis the farm he now owns. Lafe Taylor, father of Mrs. Henry Wells, bought the S. W. 1/4 of sec. 21-15-8. He had the first blacksmith shop in the valley, and what he could not make out of iron and steel, there was no use for anyone else to try.

George Colborn had the first shop up in Gage Valley, where Harry Weber now lives, and I think he had the first shop in Palmer, on a lot south of where the lumber yard stands.

I think Martin Scott, bought and improved the N. E. 1/4 of sec. 27-15-8 and. Frank Dankert the S. W. 1/4.

I think it was on election day in 1900 the writer got mixed up with a bunch of Germans and I told them this story, which actually occurred near Grand Island. The German rung good and hard, then put the receiver to his ear and said "Hello Hello is dish de middle? Tach me to de brewery". And from that day to this, Frank Dankert never meets me but he says "Is dish de middle?"

Geo. Douglas, father of the two Douglas girls in Palmer, bought the S. E. 1/4 sec. 23-15-8, who was the first settler on that section. George Craven bought the west 1/2 of sec. 25-15-8 and improved it. I think a Mr. Snyder bought the N. E. 1/4. Mr. Craven and a Mr. Granger, a renter, bought a Shorthorn bull in partnership. The story runs something like this. The bull was tied in Mr. Craven's barn Granger went after him and Craven would not let him go. After they had 'fussed quite a while, Craven remarked that "possession is nine points in law" and evidently thought the matter was settled.

Granger waited patiently until one day Craven was occupied in a law suit before Judge Copeland, with his neighbor, Mr. Snyder. Then he went over, untied the bull and led him home. The next time they met Craven was very sore and talkative and told what he was going to do, when Granger remarked "possession is nine points in law".

Those little tilts very amusing to other people and they showed that Loup Township was not settled by lobsters.

Do you know that the way the human family is organized, they are just as apt to quarrel over a bull, as over politicks or religion, and one is just as sensible as the other.

A. M. Templin

**THE PALMER JOURNAL**

**PERRY GAGE, Publisher**

**Thursday, June 8, 1922**

Issued Every Thursday Afternoon \$1.50 per year strictly in advance  
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the act of Congress.

**The Early Settlers**

Editor Palmer Journal:

I have a pretty good excuse for not continuing the history this week. This is Monday morning, Jun 5th, and just got home at 5 o'clock a.m. The people at Palmer understand that a dirty political deal was pulled off at Lincoln to kill the progressive movement, by a republican and democrat, that posed as very enthusiastic progressives.

There are many democrats who know and say that they cannot elect Hitchcock. It is generally understood that as they cannot elect the senator, they will be satisfied with the state ticket; and they would much sooner see Howell elected senator than Biglow, the progressive candidate. There are good reasons to believe that this is the deal.

They evidently thought that if Wray was put up for senator on the progressive ticket, that Biglow would withdraw, or not file. But they did not understand the kind of material that Biglow was composed of, for he is clean, and a fighter for principal. Norton was subbed for Wray, thinking that the progressives would fall over each other to vote for him for senator.

Wray and Norton must have 272 signers to their petition, of those who signed up for the progressive party, before they can become candidates on the progressive ticket. From the protest put up over the state, it is believed that on account of the dirty deal, these two pollywogs cannot get the 272 signers.

We have in the last three days, succeeded in filling up a full middle of the road progressive ticket, and we believe we can get the 272 signers to place them on the ticket. The editor of the Journal will be able to give the full ticket, before going to press. Not having seen the rest of the committee since Friday, I cannot give it.

A. M. Templin

**THE PALMER JOURNAL**  
**Publication date not known**

By the way, there is a characteristic among all New Mexicans that all people should copy. They never knock on their home town -

813 No. Kansas St.  
El Paso, Texas  
June 2, 1922.

Mr. Perry Gage,  
Palmer, Nebraska:

Dear Sir: -- No doubt you will be surprised to get a letter from an ancient citizen of Palmer, but I just couldn't resist the opportunity of sending you a copy of a paper of Hope, New Mexico. When we first left Nebraska we went to Silver City, New Mexico, but in February we moved to El Paso (about one hundred miles from Silver City.)

Mr. Killian has been with the El Paso Herald and I have gone with him some when I felt like it.

We were at Hope, New Mexico, a short time ago and I was so amused to read all the wonderful things they had to say of Hope. If the population of Hope is 800 then the population of Palmer is 8,000. Oh, such exaggeration you never saw in all your life. Words can not describe the tackiness of the place, but the paper pictures it as a Paradise.

always boost. Their town has the finest climate, the finest people, the finest crops, and the greatest opportunities of any town there is. Consequently some parts of the New Mexican deserts are forging ahead and really are making people take notice of them.

Taking it all in all New Mexico is a wonderful state. It has a variation of scenery that should suit the most exacting. There are the deserts with their cactus, mesquite, and yucca plants and sand, sand, sand; the prairies with their herds of cattle and cowboys, and ranches, the rolling foothills, and the mountains, with their evergreens and ferns and minerals.

Many of the valleys are irrigated either by mountain streams, rivers, or artesian wells.

Pages could be written of this wonderful country, but I would tire you.

My purpose in writing is this: Tell the Palmer people to boost for their community because they have opportunities that people of New Mexico never will have. New Mexico has difficulties to overcome that Palmer's people never dreamed of. These little towns are forging ahead, then so much more so should a community like Palmer forge ahead.

Wishing you success, I am

Respectfully,  
Mrs. J. R. Killian.

**THE PALMER JOURNAL**

**PERRY GAGE, Publisher**

**Thursday, June 22, 1922**

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**The Early Settlers**

Editor Palmer Journal:

In the spring of 1897, in St. Paul, Minn., while trying to find a

Cox the south half of N. E. 1/4 and Wm. Nichol the west half of S. W. 1/4 and built a sod house on it where the trees are now standing, now owned by Grace Curtis, and Gen. Wherrett.

I think it was in 1876, the last year the grass hoppers bothered us, that the writer came along the road where the trees now stand, and Mr. Nichol came out and proposed that he would move out of the house and sign over the papers on the 80 acres; if I would give him the \$35, that he had paid on the land, and the saddle that I was riding, worth about \$6. He was dead sick to get out of the country. Mr. Chas. Wherrett finally dealt him out of the place, and for years he was policeman for the U. P. R. R. Co. at station in Grand Island.

Speaking about grass hoppers, it was in August, 1876, one Sunday afternoon the writer and family drove up to Chas.



ship I located Billy Fisher, who came down to Palmer with C. J. Hysham and myself. I discovered during the 50 hours that it took to make the run, what I considered a good farm hand, but I could not get him to say that he would work for me until he had stayed around and done the chores for a week. One morning he said he would work for me 8 months for \$200, and the deal was made right there, and he worked for me over three years.

It was haying time, and Clarence Newlon was helping me. One Sunday Billy saw the young Christian preacher, walking home with Sabina Campbell. The next day while we were eating dinner in the hay field, the way Billy went after Clarence was not slow. He began by saying that Clarence would stand no show with that preacher, the preachers were all good talkers, and how much he pitied him; and finally wanted to know what he could do to help him out of his troubles. That was once that Clarence could not muster language fast enough to head off the Dutchman.

Billy was as good as gold, there never was a word of trouble between us. I finally located his folks for him near Springfield, Ill., where he went. We heard from him two or three times, but nothing direct for over twenty years. I have understand that he went to Montana, and was shot down in cold blood by some one that was drunk at the time. I never saw a better hand on the farm, and he made friends where ever he went. I have laughed at some of his German remarks until my sides ached, but he never got sore about it.

Frank Knapp located the north half of section 36, 15, 8, and Wm. Clause the S. W. 1/4. I cannot just name the Germans on the S. E. 1/4. Ezra Johnson, son-in-law of Ramoth Sears, first built on S. E. 1/4 section 34-15-8 where Q. F. Lambert now lives. Levi Cox built on the east half of S.W. 1/4 where E. M. Davis now lives, then Barney Gallagher on the N.W. 1/4 and Truman Gee on east half of N. W. 1/4.

Wm. Nicholas bought the N. E. 1/4 of section 31-15-7 of George Sawyer and the N. W. 1/4 I think of Mr. Real. My brothers in Ohio bought the S. E. 1/4 of Geo. Sawyer. Birt Lambert bought the north half of N. E. 1/4 and north half of N.W. section 5-14-8 from the U. P. Railroad Co. H. M.

Wherrett's. On way up we noticed that the hoppers were flying up in the air about 20 feet and then drop, there was no wind to carry them away. Mr. Wherrett. and I went north of the house on a straw stack, to watch results, at that time we could see black streaks forming in the north west, like distant smoke.

For two hours we watched the streaks or clouds growing blacker, until on the N. E. and N. W. it was as black as any cloud you ever saw, but not as large as a thunder cloud.

It was a sight never to be forgotten, when the fore part of the cloud passed over us. The wind had raised in the N. W. and carried the hoppers with it. There was a humming sound which was created by their wings and we could hear them long after night still moving south. Some people said that the hoppers was sent by God to punish us for our wickedness,- but I always thought they came because they were hungry, which was a much easier problem to prove. There was only three things they would not eat, prairie grass, sorghum and tobacco, so there was one bad habit we could not charge up to them, and in this respect they were much wiser than some smart fellows gave them credit for.

A great deal of our religion is superstition, a case to the point. Uncle Billy Foster and wife was very strict about family worship. One morning in the early seventies, John Wherrett came along and wanted Uncle Billy to go with him to Central City, (or Lone Tree,) and the Fosters dispensed with the worship that morning. Some few days later in the fall, there was a big prairie fire coming from the south. Mrs. Foster got some coals of fire on a shovel and started south to help start back fires. As she passed through the yard, the wind blew a coal off her shovel and set fire in the grass, that soon reached the sod stable where they had a cow, and big yoke of cattle tied up, and when they discovered the fire it was too late to save the three animals.

This good woman that she was, always said that God bad sent the punishment upon them, because Uncle Billy had neglected family worship. A more reasonable conclusion would be that she set the fire herself, by being foolish enough to carry coals on a shovel through the yard when the wind was blowing. It is not only reasonable, but were the facts.. God must be a pretty hard task master, according to some religious ideas.

**Palmer Journal, 8 Jul 1922**

### **THAT EARLY HISTORY**

The early history of the settlement of Loup Valley and the immediate vicinity of Palmer which A. M. Templin recently finished writing, has been read by practically all Journal subscribers.

Practically all of our readers admit, that it was well written and many of them are keeping the entire seires (sic), as they say this will make interesting reading in later years, Mr. Templin is to be congratulated upon the manner in which these articles were written.

Now there is a strong demand that the early settlement of Gage Valley be written by someone who took an active part in that settlement, and C. B. McCormick has been suggested as the man for the job. Curt was in the Valley at an early date and could easily locate those who were there when he came. He has a wonderful memory and a good command of language and if he decides to write the story, we promise our readers it will be interesting. He has the matter under consideration.

NEGenWeb Project  
Merrick County  
Palmer Journal - Obits

### **THE PALMER JOURNAL**

NOTE: All of these moved to obit page of Merrick County and all entered in gen files. Aug 2009

**1915 - January**

#### **Answers Last Roll Call**

**Robert C. McCann** was born at Sparta, Illinois, May 18, 1845, and died at his home in Palmer, Nebraska, January 14, 1915, aged 70 years, 7 months and 26 days.

He enlisted in Co. E. 30th Illinois infantry Veteran Volunteers, February 8th, 1864, from which service he was honorably discharged July 17, 1865.

He was married to Mary C. Chambers August 24. 1865, to which union ten children were born, seven of whom are living, and with the exception of one daughter, Mrs. A. J. Samis, of Calgary, Canada, and one son, William, of Tyndall. South Dakota, were present with their mother in this time of sorrow.

He was among the early pioneers of this community, arriving in Nebraska with his family in September 1872, and has since been a resident of Howard and Merrick counties.

At the age of 16 he confessed his faith in Christ, and for the last 56 years of his life he walked in the straight and narrow way.

The funeral was conducted from the Christian Church Sunday afternoon, the Reverend Nicholas C. Horn, of Morrowville, Kansas officiating. The ritualistic service of the G. A. R. was used at the grave the small remnant of the "Old Guard" that is left being present to assist in performing the last sad rites of one who had always been a true comrade.

He was a devoted husband, and a kind and indulgent father, but best of all he was a man. And it is as a man that those who knew him best must love to contemplate him.

The sympathy of the entire community is extended to the sorrowing family in their bereavement.



**1916 - January**

### **In Memoriam**

**Julia Grace Foster** was born at Palmer, Neb., March 14th, 1896 and died at Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 24, 1916, aged 19 years, 10 months and 8 days.

She died at the sanatorium at College View, whither she had been taken after a lingering illness, which had baffled medical treatment.

The funeral service was conducted by Rev. Arthur of Grand Island at St. Mark's Episcopal church. The large concourse of friends that crowded the church, and the beautiful floral offerings from Sunday school, church, lodge and friends, attested the esteem in which she was held in the community.

To the sorrowing father and sister the entire community extend their sympathy.



**1916 - March**

### **Obituary**

Chelsey Herbert Coolidge was born in Delaware county Iowa, May 29th, 1854. He died at Laird, Colorado March 18, 1916, being 61 years, 10 months and 29 days old.

He came west in the early day and has been a pioneer in different parts, of this state, formerly living in this community. He was married to Miss Rebecca Parsons in 1881.

He leaves to mourn his loss, a wife, four sons, Herbert in Iowa, Ray in Holt county this state, Elmer at Laird, Colorado, and Harry and his only daughter who resides at home at Laird, Colorado. An older daughter, Mrs. Inez Humphrey, passed away last week at Mountain View, Missouri, making a double grief to this bereaved family.

He was so honest, hard working, God fearing man, who left a host of friends wherever he resided. The body was brought to this town last Monday, and the funeral was held from the M. E. church here Tuesday afternoon, the Rev. W. O. Romick officiating. Interment was made in Rose Hill Cemetery.



**1916 - April 2**

**Obituary**

**David Baird** was born at Sparta, Randolph Co., Illinois, August 19, 1856. He died Sunday morning Feb. 27, 1916 at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, being 69 years, 6 months and 18 days old at the time of his death.

He came with his parents to Nebraska in 1881, locating in Loup Township. A few years later they moved to Central City.

In 1887 he married Genevieve Burkman, daughter of Warren and Elma Burkman of Palmer. They made their home in Merrick county the greater part of the time until two years ago when they moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa where they have since resided.

He is survived by his wife, his father, A. P. Baird of Lincoln, two brothers, John and Sidney of Grand Island, one sister Mrs. Ham Burkman of Omaha, three nephews, and three nieces. Two aunts, Mrs. John Wilson of Clarks and Mrs. Nancy Foster of Central City, one uncle, Mr. Grandville McDonald of Sparta Ill. Many cousins and friends to mourn his loss. The funeral was held from Methodist church, Wednesday on March 1, and interment made in Rose Hill cemetery.

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**1916 - April**

**Mrs. Joseph Horgan**

Mrs. Joseph Horgan was born December 26, 1828, in Ireland, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. A. M. Templin, of Palmer, April 26, 1916, aged 87 years and four months.

Her husband, Joseph Horgan died several years ago. The remains were taken to Rapid City, South Dakota, where interment will be made in the family burying ground.

Her son, Chas. Horgan of Kansas city arrived here Wednesday night.

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**1916 - June 1**

**S. H. Simonson ... A Victim of Pneumonia**

Just as we go to press we learn of the death of S. H. Simonson, which occurred at his home in Prairie Creek Township, last night, the cause being pneumonia.

Mr. Simonson was well known over the county, having been county supervisor for eight years.

The funeral will be held from the house, Saturday June 3, at 2 o'clock. Interment will be made at the Worms cemetery.

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**1916 - June**

### **Obituary**

Calvin Absalom Badgley was born at Greenbush, Iowa, April 29, 1855.

While a young man he came into fellowship with the Baptist church.

After the death of his first wife he was united in marriage to Rachel Sherwood. To this union were born four children, two sons and two daughters, Edward and Boyd Badgley of Thedford, Neb., Mrs. VanPelt of Palmer, Neb. and Mrs. Bessie Wilson of Richland Center, Wisconsin.

After a lingering illness of nearly two years he passed from this life, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Bessie Wilson, at Richland Center, Wisconsin. June 8, 1916 being 61 years, 1 month, and 9 days old.

The remains were brought to Palmer and funeral services were conducted by N. F. Horn, pastor of the Christian church, on Monday June, 12. The remains were laid to rest in the Rose Hill cemetery.

Besides the four children he leaves three sisters, Mrs. Turner Dooley of Palmer, Mrs. Ella Sloan of Des Moines, Iowa, and Mrs. Lib Griffin also of Iowa; three brothers, Saul of Oconto, Neb., Isaac of, Des Moines, Iowa, and Edward of Belleville, Ill., besides a number of other relatives and many friends to mourn his departure.

Mr. Badgley was well and favorably known around this community,, having worked a. number of years for Henry Grammer and Win. McNeal who report him a good and trustworthy man.

**Card of Thanks** To the friends who assisted us at the funeral of our beloved father and brother, and to those contributing the beautiful floral offerings, we tender our heartfelt thanks,

E. A. Badgley  
B. F. Badgley  
Mrs. Zera Van Pelt  
Mrs. Bessie Wilson  
S. D. Badgley  
Mrs. Mary E. Sloan  
Mrs. Kate Dooley