



**October in Local History.**

- 2, 1838—John and R. H. Russel located in Holt county; second family to come to the county.
- 9, 1838—First birth in Holt county; Wm. R. Russel; he died July 7, 1876.
- 8, 1839—Mrs. Rachel Jackson opened the first inn in the county, on the old George McIntyre farm; she died in Council Bluffs in 1882, aged 90 years.
- 6, 1840—Thomas Ferguson opened the first inn in Benton township, at the south fork of Davis Creek; it was a stage station.
- 5, 1841—Gilbert Ray chosen as the first county treasurer by the county court.
- 5, 1841—The first petit jury was chosen.
- 3, 1842—The first county court house was completed. It was ordered built, December 9, 1841.
- 7, 1856—Sam Hahn began to operate his first steam saw mill; southwest of Oregon.
- 8, 1864—George Burnett killed unknown man at the inn on the ground now occupied by the hotel Woodland, in Oregon; he was acquitted.
- 1, 1866—Levi Zook and James Scott opened the first bank in the county, at Oregon.
- 8, 1860—The German Lutherans completed their church at Corning.
- 3, 1870—David McGregor was killed by Wm. Kimball on the White Cloud-Forest City road; K. escaped.
- 1, 1875—Grant postoffice was changed to that of New Point.
- 7, 1875—Forest City school building was completed.
- 1, 1876—Whig Valley postoffice was established, with E. F. Weller, as postmaster.
- 6, 1876—H. Logan was killed by the cars, north of Nodaway in Holt county.
- 3, 1882—The first fair held at Maitland.
- 5, 1882—Little child of Mrs. Eiler, was scalded to death, by pulling over a bucket of water.
- 3, 1887—First train passed over the Rulo bridge.
- 9, 1894—The Holt County Democrat was revived by Ed. S. Hayes and R. C. Benton.
- 4, 1895—Homer Reed given two years for robbing the Craig post-office.
- 6, 1895—Will Tyson's residence was robbed of jewelry, silverware, etc.
- 2, 1896—Hasness & Dray bought the Holt County Democrat from Ed. S. Hayes.
- 6, 1896—Hoblitzell & Nute store at Maitland, was robbed.
- 3, 1897—J. M. Hasness leased the Craig Democrat-Courier; it suspended December 14, 1900.
- 3, 1898—John Stegmaier, aged 8, dragged to death by a cow.
- 6, 1898—S. J. Baker, of Co. B., died at Craig, while on furlough.

9, 1898—Maitland Presbyterian church dedicated by Rev. T. S. Bailey.

1, 1901—Ceased boring for coal on the Davis place south of Forest City; depth, 2,450; began boring January 14, 1901.

1, 1901—First Rural Routes established out of Oregon, Mound City and Maitland.

3, 1901—A. W. Chuning chosen president of the bank of Bigelow.

6, 1902—Union township was divided into two voting precincts.

1, 1905—Vine Hovey retired as agent at Forest City depot, after serving 27 years.

4, 1905—June Turner, of Pueblo, Colo., crushed to death between cars at Forest City.

6, 1905—Bert Saal, suicided; drank Herpeicide.

**Still Slowly Improving.**

Dr. Kearney in charge of Miss Jesta Kunkel, who was shot in ambush, on Saturday, September 25th, reports his patient as getting along very nicely, and there are strong hopes for recovery.

As yet there are no new developments in this strange and mysterious case. Governor Hadley has offered a reward of \$200 and the county court on Tuesday, of this week, increased this sum \$300 making the total \$500, for the apprehension and conviction of party who perpetrated so damnable a deed.

This is but one of the several assassinations and attempted assassinations in our state of late. Secret killing from ambush is an act of cowardice, so foreign to the traditions of Missouri, that only prompt discovery and punishment of the perpetrators can save the good name of the state.

**Mary Zook in Accident.**

During the Hudson-Fulton celebration parade up the Hudson River, last Saturday, a section of the huge grandstand, which had been erected at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., for the spectators, collapsed, throwing hundreds of people to the ground. Miss Mary Zook, daughter of C. D. Zook and wife, of this place, a student at Vassar College, was sitting near the top of the section that gave way. She was stunned by the fall, but outside of bruises, escaped uninjured. The wrecked section was for the most part occupied by Vassar students. Fortunately no one was killed, but a number were more or less seriously hurt, several receiving broken or fractured bones.

**For Miss Dungan.**

Mrs. Franky Hinde entertained, on Tuesday afternoon of this week, for Miss Edith Dungan, who will wed Mr. George Kaucher, of Memphis, Tenn., the 20th of this month. Five tables of "500" were played, Mrs. C. J. Kooch winning the first prize; Miss Dungan was given the guest prize.

A dainty luncheon was served. —Ben Crouser is laying concrete for parties in Forbes.

**Leaves the Service.**

On Saturday last, October 2d, Charles Narans, Rural Free Delivery Carrier, of Route 5, out of Oregon, made his last trip, having tendered his resignation, and in accordance with the postal regulations, Postmaster Allen was instructed to release Mr. Narans, and for the being to place the route in charge of his substitute, Charles W. Bartram, who began his service Monday of this week.

Mr. Narans had come to the conclusion, as many others have done of late, and are doing almost daily, to quit the service on account of the inadequate compensation, for it has been demonstrated beyond question that the average carrier does not realize over 30 or 35 dollars per month after he has met the legitimate expenses of maintenance of his team, repairs, etc.; a compensation entirely too low, for the responsibility connected with the office, and the exposure incident to his trips.



CHARLES NARANS.

During his four years Mr. Narans has handled 250,000 pieces of mail of all classes, and has traveled 29,000 miles, and these have been travelled in season and out of season—hot or cold; dry or wet, in storm and sunshine alike.

To become a rural carrier, one must make an investment of about \$600—\$200 for his team; \$60 for his wagon, and a muddy weather cart \$20; harness \$38, blankets, robes, etc., \$15; shoeing and repair, \$30; and for feed \$240 to \$250. For his first year's service he received \$902, leaving him a net balance of \$99 for the maintenance of himself and family for the year. It is safe to estimate that any rural carrier cannot possibly maintain his equipment annually for less than \$300 for feed for his team, and \$30 for shoeing and repairs, leaving to the average carrier a net annual pay of \$372, or about \$31 per month for his service, a compensation ridiculously too low. And this does not include interest on his investment, which amounts to \$36; depreciation, barring bad accident or death of one or both animals, at least 20 per cent, \$40; on harness, robes, etc., at least 30 per cent, \$40, and thus, if added to his other legitimate expenses, he has the magnificent sum of \$256 left him for his annual services as a rural mail carrier.

The postal department pays the railroads about 8 cents a pound for handling the mails, and in many other branches, the expenditures are extravagantly high, and it seems to us that in as much as we have the rural mail service, our congressmen should get busy, and make an effort to give to these public servants something within the bounds of reason in the way of compensation for their services. The wastefulness and extravagance that exists in the postal department of our government, would that be tolerated 30 days in a well managed private business concern.

During these four years of service on the part of Mr. Narans, there has not been a single complaint filed against him; nor has he lost a single piece of mail, or failed to "deliver the goods," when placed in his charge. He has been especially courteous to his patrons, and taken especial pride in trying to make the service popular, and it is but the voice of all his patrons, when we say they regret exceedingly that he leaves the service.

Saturday evening, Mr. Narans was tendered a complimentary supper at the home of J. J. Lukens, to which all his associate carriers together with ex-carrier McNulty and D. P. Dobyns were invited. The supper was prepared by Mr. Lukens' interesting family of daughters, and was perfectly prepared and charmingly served by them, assisted by Miss Mary Hostetter. A smoker followed, and it proved a complete and enjoyable surprise to Mr. Narans, and a compliment he can be proud of—and those who were there, were glad that they had been invited.

**The Silent Reaper.**

HIBBARD.

Catharine May Williams was born at Connersville, Fayette county, Indiana, June 22, 1848. Died at Fillmore, Missouri, Oct. 2nd, 1909, aged 61 years, 3 months and 10 days.

She was married to George W. Hibbard, Dec. 3, 1865, who survives her, and to this union 12 children were born. Three died in infancy. Nine survive to mourn the loss of a mother, seven sons and two daughters. These are: John M., A. E., and Sherman, of this county; George K., of Fillmore; James H. and Martin O., of Buffalo, Wyoming; Sam M., of Sabetha, Kansas; Mrs. Ed. Buntz and Mrs. E. O. Forney, of this county. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren; three brothers, Henry, James and Charles; and a sister, Mrs. Nash, of San Francisco, California; and an aunt, Mrs. Leach, of Wichita, California.

In the year of 1865 she was converted and joined the Nodaway Baptist church. She remained steadfast in the Christian faith to the end. She was a loving wife, a kind mother and a loyal friend, ever ready to help those in need. For several years she has been a sufferer with a malady not well understood by her physicians. Everything possible was done for her relief and comfort. Death came to her release while on a visit to Fillmore.

Mrs. Hibbard came to this county with her parents, A. E. Williams and wife, from Harvard county, Indiana, in May, 1863. She was then a young miss of 15 summers, and grew to a splendid womanhood in Nodaway township, and here she spent the remaining 46 years of her life. Her mother died August 22, 1889, and her father died February 8, 1890; and beside these, and her brothers, Lew, George and Ellsworth, she was laid away to await the resurrection.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. James M. Walton, at the Woodville church, on Monday, 4th inst. A large audience was present to offer sympathy to the grief-stricken family. Many beautiful floral offerings covered the casket. The remains were laid to rest in the Brodbeck cemetery, near by. In her death the church loses a loyal supporter, the husband a loving wife, the children a tender mother, and the community a Christian worker and friend. Our loss is Heaven's gain. W.

MARKT.

The untimely death of Ed. Markt aroused the sympathy of the entire community. About one o'clock Wednesday, September 29th, he left home to plow in a field, one mile north of Woodville church. By some accident he was wounded by his team, and after lingering until about 8 o'clock, he passed away. Friends had summoned the doctor, but he was beyond human aid. Late in the evening his wife became alarmed at his long absence and sent a neighbor to look for him. The search resulted in finding him in a dying condition as mentioned above. The many friends and neighbors gathered and offered sympathy and help to the stricken family.

The deceased leaves a wife and four children: Ruth, Guy, Charlene and Ross. He also leaves an aged father and mother, three brothers and three sisters. His friends are numbered by hundreds.

The funeral services were held at the Presbyterian church at Oregon, and the remains laid to rest in Maple Grove cemetery. Thus his family loses a tender, loving husband and father; the community an honest, upright citizen; the church a loyal member, and the Odd Fellows, of which order he was a member, a dear brother and fellow worker. After the services of the church, conducted by his pastor, assisted by Dr. Bruns and Dr. Roberts, the Odd Fellows conducted their beautiful ceremonies for the dead. The casket was buried beneath a wealth of floral offerings.

The deceased was born March 16, 1872; married Miss Lottie Young, March 2, 1898; at rest September 29, 1909. The words spoken over Stephen of Old, might well form his epitaph: "He was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit." W.

—James Cordrey, southeast of here, is something of a hog raiser. On Tuesday he sold five head to Will Derr, that pulled the beam down to the 1920 notch; one of them weighed 640 pounds, and as he got \$7.50 per hundred, Will had to dig up \$48 for this one porker alone. Wednesday, Mr. Derr sent out his second car load of hogs this week.

—Af Quick is visiting his father, Judge George Quick, in Bazaar, Kas.

**Death of a Pioneer.**

William H. Sterrett and his mother were, up to Thursday of last week, September 30th, the remaining members of the original settlers of Holt county, when on that date death came and claimed Mr. Sterrett, leaving the mother, at the age of 92 years, as the only living survivor of the original settlers.

At the age of four years he came with his parents, John Sterrett and wife, and a sister, and located on section 8, township 59, of range 37, now known as the Geo. Meyer original farm. Of the original settlers of the county were Peter and Blank Stephenson, the latter a married man; John Russel married, and his brother R. H., then single; these came in March, 1838. Then came the parents of the deceased, coming in July, 1833, and during the summer John Sterrett and his family lived in their wagon, coming here by ox team. During that fall they put up their log cabin of split logs, stick chimney and dirt floor. And here William H. Sterrett grew up from a lad of four summers, to a young man, undergoing all the trials incident to pioneer life.

As he advanced in years he became inclined to the mercantile life, and was among the early day merchants of our town, and thus for 71 years he has ever resided in our town, or within a few miles of it.

In the 80's he built what was known as the Sterrett opera house, and moved his stock of goods from the old frame store room, on the corner now occupied by the VanBuskirk-Proud block, into the ground floor of the opera house building. While he did but little or no business of late years, his store room was a museum, in many ways—upon its shelf could be seen the old fashioned copper-toed shoes, and many articles, of merchandise peculiar to the "befo' the wah days."

In his ways he was eccentric, but keen in a business transaction and strictly an honest man, and thus attained a goodly share of this world's goods, which he leaves to a widowed daughter, Mrs. Cora Burgess, and a son, Dr. Wm. H. Sterrett, of Corning. He also leaves a sister, Mrs. Della McIntyre, of Hopkins, Mo.

Mr. Sterrett was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, August 28, 1834, and died at his home in this city, September 30, 1909, aged 75 years, one month and two days. He was the second of a family of nine children, the mother and sister, Mrs. McIntyre only surviving. On June 17th, 1866, he married Mary Dryden, who died a number of years ago, she bore him three children, two of whom, as above stated, survive.

The funeral was conducted from his home in this city, on Friday last, October 1st, by Rev. T. C. Taylor, of the M. E. church the interment being in the Maple Grove cemetery.

**Looks Like Business.**

An enthusiastic meeting of the representative land owners of overflowable lands in that section of the county near Bigelow, Craig and Corning, was held at Craig, Saturday last, October 2d, and after some discussion, which led to the conclusion of those present, that it was time something was being done to redeem and make this large body of land safe from overflow, a committee was named by Chairman Frank K. Allen, to look into the question of the disincorporation of the Big Tarkio Drainage District No. 2, and upon the signing of petition of a majority of land owners in the territory south of No. 2, their attorney, G. W. Murphy, was authorized to confess a motion to dissolve incorporation in the Kansas City Court of Appeals.

The committee on boundary of the proposed consolidated district, having been named at a previous meeting, reported some progress had been made, but time 'till Wednesday of this week, when it hoped to be able to make its report at the meeting to be held at that time at Bigelow.

The chair was authorized to name a committee, whose duty it should be to employ attorney to prepare the necessary papers, and legal action incident to incorporation. The chair named as such committee, Messrs. Sam Kahn, Thomas Pebley, Lot Brown, John A. Buck, W. J. Randall and John Stohider.

Should this consolidation be effected, and the drainage district be accomplished, it means the drainage of about 25,000 acres of as productive land as can be found anywhere on the earth's surface.

—Dan Guilliams, of Craig, was in the city, Tuesday, and he seemed to be busy.

—Dr. Proud reports the birth of a son to Jeff Hulse and wife, on Tuesday, October 5th, 1909.

**Only a Mistake.**

A week or two ago several hundred people gathered in a little Massachusetts town, and awaited the end of the world with prayer and singing. This was not the first time that people of the peculiar faith had put on their robes of white and shouted "hallelujahs." The founder of the sect, William Miller, undertook to run things for the Lord, away back in the 1830's and predicted that He would begin to judge the world in 1841. This West Duxbury incident of two weeks ago, is only another mistake. That's all.

The New England people are, as a rule, among the most intelligent and refined in the whole country. There are, however, some among them who get screws loose on religious matters once in a while. Without going back to colonial days when Salem was the home of witches, one can cite the great "ascension" of 1833, when several hundred got up into "hay racks" as the most available chariots in which to make the journey to the celestial city; the white robed demonstration of 1845 when Miller's converts became so greatly disappointed that the majority of them resolved to let the Lord run His own affairs; and the disastrous sky-flying adventures of 1877, when half a hundred roosting on a barn went through the roof, and then to the hospitals—that is those who weren't killed. Besides these there have been other "local disturbances," a minor character, as it were. And, all of these flights have been attempted in New England.

Some of less educated individuals may be wrong, but we have got it into our heads that the Good Book says that no man knows when Christ shall come to judge us. We may have been banking on our ignorance, but somehow we cannot understand how a people will be wrong so many times, and still keep arranging time tables. Perhaps, they hope to hit it right some time, and perhaps they will.

**Not a Religious Question.**

Such ministers of the St. Louis conference of the Methodist Episcopal church South as do not smoke are desirous of putting an official ban upon smoking by those of their brethren of the pulpit who do use the weed. The Temperance Committee bases its recommendation in this respect upon the belief that ministers should set a good example to their congregations. This goes without saying, but that smoking ministers are not setting a good example is not to be so easily taken for granted. It is impossible to make a religious question out of tobacco smoking and difficult to make a moral one. Smoking is expensive and ministers on small salaries might well economize and thus set a good example of intelligent thrift to their congregations. So also they might in the simplicity of their table, to the supply of which many persons spend more of their income than they should. They might also wear ready-made clothing instead of paying the added cost of the more stylishly made tailor garments, and in this way also set a good example of economy to those who might need it. If smoking is harmful to them personally, they might stop it and thus encourage like action by such of their congregations as find tobacco injurious. So, also, they might regulate their diet to prevent the indigestion from which some ministers suffer. This idea of setting a good example is an excellent one and its application has infinite possibilities, among which is the good example of not interfering with the habits of others which happen to differ from one's own. The particular denomination in question has lost some of its brightest pulpit stars of late because of its restrictions upon freedom of movement. Does it to compel a lot more to seek other churches in search of freedom?

**Their Centennial Convention.**

The centennial anniversary celebration of the founding of the Christian church, will be held at Pittsburg next week. It is expected that not less than 50,000 members of the church will attend the big convention which will mark the 100th year of the denomination. The largest communion service ever held will take place during the convention when 20,000 will participate in the sacrament. The celebration will be international in character. Elder B. H. Dawson, of the Christian church of this city, will represent the Oregon church. This denomination reached its 68th year as a church organization, in Holt county; having been organized in 1841, by Elder T. L. Cartwright, the Evangelist. In 1849, Elder Duke Young organized a class at the Israel Beeler home just north of Oregon.