



Madison County Genealogical Society



Madison County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702-1031
mcgs@telebeep.com

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/ www.nesgs.org/~mcgs

Thanksgiving Events

Thanksgiving in Norfolk

Quiet Home Observance a Feature of the Holiday
Town Wore Sunday Aspect

Business Houses Generally Closed During the Afternoon, and Many of Them all Day---Services held in Several of the Churches of the City.

Thanksgiving was very generally, though very quietly observed in Norfolk yesterday. There was no public observance outside of the services in the churches, and in an amusement way, the ball of the firemen at the Marquardt hall, but, after all, it was perhaps one of the most completely enjoyed holidays ever observed by the people of Norfolk. The family gatherings, the rest from the toils of a week or a year, were the appreciable features, and nearly everyone participated in the observance to this extent. The downtown business streets had an almost Sunday-like aspect during the entire afternoon, and a number of the business houses remained closed during the entire day, while the proprietors and the clerks observed the holiday after their own inclinations. In spite of the high price of the Thanksgiving turkey, many of them were disposed of by the local dealers, and there were few in the city but who sat down to a dinner of more than ordinary excellence. It was an unusual holiday in the matter of weather. The people of Norfolk have experienced warm Thanksgivings, and dry Thanksgivings, and cold Thanksgivings and wet Thanksgivings, but seldom have they known of white Thanksgivings, and this is what they had yesterday. A layer of snow covered the ground, and many were inclined to confuse the holiday with the Christmas season. The air was chilly and the snow did not melt to any considerable extent during the entire day. The wind was from the south, but frost-laden and somewhat disagreeable. Sleigh riding and fun with sleds and skates were possible to those who were not too particular about the surfaces and general conditions.

School Exercises

Observance of the holiday by the schools was Wednesday afternoon, when nearly every room had something on for the entertainment of the pupils and patrons of the schools. Literary exercises, music, spelling down contests, or the serving of treats of pop corn or other seasonable delicacies formed entertainment in many of the rooms, but the real significance of the holiday was the announcement at the close of the day's work that there would be no more school until Monday and the pupils and teachers would be left to enjoy the vacation as they desired.

Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Friday, November 27, 1903, page 5.

It Will Be Day Of Rest

Thanksgiving will be spent quietly in Norfolk

Business to be suspended

There will be Union Church Services at the Congregational Church at 11 O'Clock in the morning---
Two Theatrical Performances

The post office will observe Sunday hours on Thanksgiving day and the rural carriers, as well as city carriers of mail, will get a holiday. Banks will be closed and business houses generally will suspend. No evening paper on Thanksgiving, nor morning paper on Friday, will be issued from *The News* office because of the custom of this office to take a day off on the last Thursday in November. Norfolk will rest and work as little as possible. Many will spend the day out of town, others will entertain visitors for the day. Dinners will be given at many homes for the families, and it will be a day, generally, of quiet.

There will be no football game in Norfolk, as had originally been planned. Neligh and Wayne will play at Neligh. The university of Cincinnati will play the Nebraska university at Lincoln and wind up the season.

"Miss America" will be seen in a theatrical way in the Norfolk Auditorium, afternoon and evening. The afternoon performance will be a children's matinee, with a twenty-five cent admission for the children and night prices for the grown folk. Prices at night are from twenty-five to seventy-five. The production is a musical comedy.

Union church services will be held at the Congregational church at 11 o'clock in the morning at which Rev. Mr. Benjamin, pastor of the Baptist church of this city, will deliver a sermon.

Thanksgiving services will be held in Trinity church at 10:30 a.m. Offerings will go to the Clarkson hospital, Omaha.

Most of the stores will be closed in the afternoon.

Likely Rain or Snow Thursday

Weather indications are for Thanksgiving Day with Cloudy Sky

The weather man predicts probably rain or snow for Thanksgiving day, with rising temperature.

A wind blowing into the north Wednesday morning indicated the approach of an area of low pressure, which may, according to the telegraphic report, contain rain or snow when it strikes Norfolk and northern Nebraska. With the low area will come warmer air.

Miss America

William Allen White's Emporia (Kan) Gazette, said of Miss America, the opera that appears in Norfolk Thanksgiving night:

There are just two kinds of shows that can be sure of a full house here. "Miss America" by the Irma Opera company, just suited the crowd that doesn't attend all the one-two-three plays. It lacked the fault that is complained of so often—it wasn't "deep," there is just enough thread in the story to keep the crowd wondering how it would "turn out." Interspersed in the play were singing and dancing and jokes that were refreshing owing to their newness. The comely chorus girls appeared in some of the song hits of the opera and were usually confined into costumes of the walking lengths, though on two occasions they got into costumes that might be termed "light trotting harness." The costumes of the chorus girls must have been changed six or seven times. Miss DeBold played the leading part, Miss Voris played the second. They were received with enthusiasm, at every appearance, The men singers were good and the comedians were funny. Miss Manning soubrette, also received ardent praise. The piano music was furnished by Frederick Moss, who used to be at the head of the musical

department of the normal. On this account there were a large number of normal people in the audience, In addition to these there was a line party made up of the Saturday Afternoon club, which studies Shakespeare---and nearly all other people one sees at the opera house during the winter.

The Lost Prince

Little Play given by School Children Made Decided Hit

The little play given by the children of the first and second grades of the Grant school last night, entitled "The Lost Prince," drew a large crowd, the church being nearly filled. It was very well given, each child taking his part well. Much credit is given the teachers, Miss Harriet Mather and Miss May Olney as it meant a great deal of work on their part as well as the children. The fairy drill given by then little girls was a prominent feature of the entertainment.

Following was the cast:

King Adolphus.....James Stitt

Queen Verita.....Katie Luebbe

Princess Christabelle.....Francis Card

Prince Dimples Tarautella (the wicked fairy) Gladys Meredith

Violetta (good fairy)....Katherine Guthrie

Thanksgiving Spirit..... Glen Blakeman

Mirza (the magician).....Lloyd Rouse

Nurse.....Marie Stear

Maid.....Edith White

Lord High Chamberlain.....Claire Blakeman

Guards..... Fred Dolsen, Harold Anderson, Albert Witzigman, Elmer Beeler

Ladies in Waiting.....Reba Hight, Mildred Sar, Ida Walter, Helen Hunter

Pages.....Walter Weber, Caryl Sly

Fairies.....Myrtice Doughty, Doris Tappert, Vera Lewis, Ruth White, Ruby White, Ada Haase, Mabel Fuesler, Loreen Gow, Jane Durland, Ruth Rader.

Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Wednesday, November 28, 1906, page 3.

What They Plan to Do Thanksgiving Day

Norfolk Daily News, Saturday, November 22, 1913 extracted by Nancy Zaruba

In the home of C. S. Bridge will be a gathering of Out of town guests who will stay for the wedding of Miss Mellie Bridge, on Saturday. Places will be laid for Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bridge and their daughters, Nona and Laura, Mr. and Mrs. George Bridge and little son of Evanston, Ill. Miss Mariel Jones of Lincoln, and Mrs. C. J. Bullock of Los Angeles.

At the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert F. Durland, one mile east of town, turkey will be served to Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Durland, Miss Laura Durland, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Wood, Miss Clara Wood, and Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Bernard and family. Miss Edna Durland will come from Omaha, where she is teaching to join the family party.

Mr. and Mrs. George Dudley will celebrate Thanksgiving and also the birthday of their son, Darrell. Dinner will be served at 6 o'clock and six boys will be the guests. Places will be laid for Edwin Baum,

Clarence McNamee, James Seymour, Leo Klentz, Fred and Will Witters. A large birthday cake will be on the menu.

Misses May and Ruth Ballah will come up from Lincoln Wednesday, where they are attending the university, and will accompany their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Ballah, and Mrs. Stubbs to Tilden, where they will enjoy Thanksgiving dinner in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Stubbs.

In the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Odiorne the guests will number twelve. Covers will be laid for Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Erskine and son, Lowell, Mrs. Mary Davenport, Miss Martha Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Erskine of Sholes, Neb., and Mrs. Nell Featherstone of Sioux City.

Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Asmus will celebrate their first Thanksgiving in their new home by giving a family party. Mr. and Mrs. I. J. Johnson and two sons and Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Koenigstein and family will be the guests.

Mr. and Mrs. John Oesterling will have a large family party. Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Oesterling of Omaha, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Oesterling of Sioux City, W. F. Oesterling of Los Angeles and Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Oesterling will be the guests.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Groesbeck are expecting Mrs. Groesbeck's sisters, Mrs. E. J. Leinendecker and Mrs. Theodore Degenhardt of Chicago to help them celebrate the first Thanksgiving Day in the new home.

Mr. and Mrs. James Fleming will entertain Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Fleming, Mr. and Mrs. George Fleming and children of Grand Island, Neb. and Mrs. C. J. Fleming's sister, Mrs. Frank Taylor of St. Paul, Neb.

Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Booth, Jr. and family, Dr. and Mrs. C. S. Parker and children and Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Mathewson and daughter, Charlotte, will form a party of 15 dining with Mrs. M. G. Mathewson.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Gillette will have as their guests Mrs. Gillette's mother and sister, Mrs. E. H. Ely and Mrs. E. P. Farr of Sioux City. Leroy Gillette will also come over from Sioux City to enjoy the dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Hutchison will entertain Dr. and Mrs. Brush, Mrs. A. L. Killian and son, Herbert, and J. M. Walter of Lincoln, a nephew of Mrs. Hutchison, who will arrive Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Needham will have as their guests Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Needham and Mr. and Mrs. H. Simon of Winside, Mrs. Mary Needham and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Fish.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Gibbs who live on a large farm near Warnerville are to have a real old fashioned Thanksgiving dinner. All their relatives about 40 in number are invited.

Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Brueggeman will have a family gathering. Places will be laid for Mrs. C. J. Haviland of Chicago, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Brueggeman and Mr. and Mrs. Lorin Brueggeman.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Butterfield, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Butterfield and family and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Weills of Osmond are to be the guests of Dr. and Mrs. P. H. Salter on Thanksgiving Day.

In the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Koenigstein the guests will be Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Braden, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Culver and son Stanley of Chicago, and John Koenigstein.

Mrs. Will Kreitman and four children arrived Friday evening from Newport, Neb. to visit until after Thanksgiving in the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Clements.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Pasewalk will have at their table a family party, Mrs. Mary Nenow, Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Nenow, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Hauptli, Mr. and Mrs. Will Graves.

Miss Elvira and Miss Etta Durland will take dinner in the home of Burt Mapes. Donald Mapes will be at home from the University to enjoy dinner with the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lowry will entertain a family party. Places will be laid for Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Wetzal, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wetzal and Mrs. Henry Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. DeHart will have at their table on Thanksgiving Day Mr. and Mrs. Vogel, G. T. Gibson, and Miss Pheba Whalen of Strahan, Iowa.

In the H. A. Drebert home turkey will be served to Mr. and Mrs. George Bell, Mr. and Mrs. J. Drebert, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Custer of Brunswick, Neb.

Mr. and Mrs. David Kuhn will leave Wednesday for Warsaw, Indiana where they will enjoy Thanksgiving Dinner and a month's visit with friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. South will have guests from St. Edward, Neb. A. D. Hinman and daughters Maude and Edna will come up Wednesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Burnham will have at their table, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Reynolds and son, William, and Mr. and Mrs. E. G. White of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Maher and daughter will come up from Lincoln early in the week to celebrate in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sol G. Mayer.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Scott are to give a family dinner. Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Baldwin and Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Munroe and family will be their guests.

Mr. and Mrs. William Mahnke will entertain Mr. and Mrs. John Zahner of Sioux City, Mrs. F. F. Miller and children, and Miss Greta Boeck.

In the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brown the guests will be Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Adkins, of Howard, South Dakota and Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Uhlig.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Roberts will have the pleasure of entertaining Mr. Roberts parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse I. Roberts of St. Joseph, Missouri.

Miss Ethel Hibben will come from Long Pine where she is teaching to spend the day with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Hibben.

Earl Krantz will come from Ames, Iowa where he is attending school to eat turkey with his parents Mr. and Mrs. John Krantz.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Rees will entertain Dr. and Mrs. H. J. Cole, Mrs. M. A. McMillan, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wilkinson of Lincoln.

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Salter and son, Clarence will motor to Pierce where they will enjoy the day with Dr. and Mrs. F. G. Salter.

Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Davis and two sons will motor to the Country Club and enjoy the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Sewall.

Mr. and Mrs. George N. Beels will entertain an uncle R. F. Beels of Galva, Illinois and a cousin Robert Hodgman from Lincoln.

Mr. and Mrs. John Phinney will entertain Mrs. J. C. Bishop and two sons and Mrs. D. G. Rizer of Lincoln and Miss Beatty.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Jones will have with them on Thanksgiving Day Mrs. Jone's mother, Mrs. A. J. Fleming of Nova Scotia.

Guy Parish is expected home next Wednesday to eat Thanksgiving dinner with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Parish.

Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Bullock will entertain Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Crosier and family and Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Bullock.

Mrs. W. L. Feeley will go to St. Joseph, Missouri to spend Thanksgiving and make a little visit with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Crotty and family will enjoy the dinner and day in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Crotty.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Dietrick and Miss Eloise and Marion Dietrick will spend Thanksgiving Day in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Burke and son will go to Central City to spend the day and eat turkey with relatives.

Will Hauptli will come down from Monowi on Wednesday to enjoy Thanksgiving at the Hauptli home.

Mrs. F. E. Cochran will go to Ramoni, Iowa on Wednesday to enjoy Thanksgiving with her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Keene of Fremont will spend Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. J. S. McClary.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Lackey will go to Pilger where they will be guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Chace.

Mrs. Roy Read of New Orleans will be the only guest in the home of Mrs. F. E. Davenport.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Baum will entertain Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Wichert and Miss Lizzie Larson.

Dr. Carl Verges and family are to take their Thanksgiving dinner with Mrs. F. Schelly.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ballantyne will entertain Mrs. John Ballantyne, Jr. and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bell will go to Council Bluffs to spend the day with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Viele will entertain Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Stitt and family.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Degner will entertain Mr. and Mrs. Julius Degner of Wisner.

Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Lundquist will be entertained by Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Bartlett.

Miss Marguerite Klentz is to be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Kaufman.

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Pasewalk will entertain Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Nicola.

Miss McCoy will dine in the J. B. Maylard home.

Yesterday was one of those perfect days in a weather way that are of frequent occurrence in Nebraska between the closing of summer season and the opening of autumn. The sun shone brightly and the breeze was cool and invigorating, making it a pleasure to be out of doors and many of the residents of Norfolk and vicinity enjoyed it to the best advantage. In the afternoon the temperature warmed considerably but not enough to cause any great amount of discomfort to the people.

Source: The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal, Friday September 9, 1904, page 7.