MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLEJJER

P. O. Box 1031	Norfe	olk, Nebraska 68702-1031
VOLUME 16 - NUMBER 62	January, 1995	2nd QUARTER
OFFICERS: President - Dee Secretary - JaNe Newsletter Edito DUES: Due September 1 of e \$6.00 for individual	Baptist Church - 404 Benja Sewell V. Preside elle Linnaus Treasurer ors - Joyce Borgelt and Je	amin Ave., Norfolk, NE. ent - Lottie Klein - Donald & Dorothy Monsor eanne Allison
FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:		
It is the time of the year have happened to us. First Jeanne Allison for writing a very good job.	t off, we want to thank J	oyce Borgelt and
Thanks to God for healing 3	Joyce Barlow since her he	art attack and surgery.
Thanks to the other officer Linnaus and Marge Fuhrmann society.		
Thanks to Harold and Betty Library.	Lyon for housing and wor	king with our Society
Thanks to Bob Plisek, Joyce Pinnt, for the excellent pr of our discussion programs.	rograms in 1994. Also th	
Thanks to the hosts of our lunch was always good.	meetings. Seems everyon	e has a sweet tooth and
Thanks to all the members w needs help with a genealogi		ful ideas when someong
Upcoming meetings will be: Golden Corrall 6:30 PM; Feb family settleing in Missour America, the story of movin Mee Dee Sewell, President	oruary 15, <u>Spinners</u> - a V ri; March 15, <u>The Great Wa</u>	CR program about a

HINTS ON READING THE CENSUS

The early census from 1790 thru 1840 are as important as the later ones. The head of the household is always included in the numerical statistics. The 1850 census was the first one to name all members of the household.

Use Indexes if you are not sure where your ancestor resided during the year the census was taken. Indexes may be incomplete or incorrect.

Use the forms designed for that census year, as the form provides space for recording what was asked that particular census. Forms are available at LDS Family History Centers, from a genealogical supply company or from PPGS.

Headings at the top of the page give page number, area of county, and enumeration date. Don't forget to also copy the data to the right of the occupation column.

Transcribe word for word, as spelled, all information from the census record, including abbreviations. Do not hurry or skim through census reading.

Remember there may be errors and/or omissions, so do not rely entirely on census information.

Study the enumerator's handwriting. If you have trouble with a letter or word, compare it with others on the page. Ask for a second opinion from someone.

Check for all possible spellings. Because of the high rate of illiteracy, the enumerator often spelled a name phonetically. The letters "s" and "p" are often misread. The spelling of a name today may differ from previous spellings.

Copy all names in the household. Remember the names listed may not be immediate family. They could be parents, inlaws, visitors, hired help, etc. Don't assume the relationship to head of household as stated to be entirely correct. Don't assume the wife is the mother of any or all of the children listed. Don't assume the ages given provide the birth year.

Read the names of nearby households and make a note to refer to later. Related families frequently lived near one another. Copy all entries for your surname in the county.

Check the special schedules for agricultural, industrial, slave, mortality, as well as social statistics. Veteran schedules listed the name and age of Revolutionary War pensioners living in the household. The 1890 census listed Civil War veterans and widows. Don't forget to check State census records.

A Soundex Coding system was first used with the 1880 census indexes. The Soundex Code is determined by using the first letter of the surname followed by three numbers.

The letters B, P, F, V are assigned the number 1 C, C, K, G, J, Q, X and Z are number 2 D and T are number 3 L is number 4 M and N are number 5 R is number 6

The vowels (A, E, I, O, U) plus Y, W, and H are NOT coded.

The code is always a letter and three numbers. This is accomplished by adding zero to the end of short codes. The same number is not used twice consecutively. Example: in the Hallberg, the second L is not coded. The code is H416. If the first letter is C, then the first number cannot be a 2. This holds true for all first letters. The only exception to the twice-ina-row rule is the 0 added to the end of some codes. If you should encounter a name sucy as Wayo, its code is W000.

t is often necessary to skip over several letters before finding a letter that can be coded. Schwartz is S632, with R being he first letter coded. Hayes, Heacox, Hahs, Haas all have the same code number - H200.

refixes, such as van, von, de, D', O', etc. are sometimes not included in the coding. Be sure to check both spellings. Silent ters are coded, as they are not silent in all pronunciations.

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ia - P.P.G.S., May, 1993 CGS - Vol 16-62 By Virginia McGraw Paddock in Ancestors West, Santa Barbara, CA

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EMIGRATION LISTS

Records often overlooked are the emigration lists trom COPENHAGEN DENMARK and HAMBURG GER-MANY .These records list persons leaving these ports for other destinations, very often the US. These records Irom COPENHAGEN are accessed in the "Locality Catlalog"" under DEN-M A R K - K O B E N H A V E N -KOBENHAVN- under "Emigration & Immigration"

This record (Regester over udvandrere) covers the years 1869-1911 A description of the record states: "Alphabetical lists of emigrants who emigrated from a port in Denmark (direct) and from ports of other countries ENGLAND and GERMANY (indirect) " A researcher should look at this record for GERMANS in particular.

There are 17 rolls of microfilm for the New York passenger lists for 1870. One roll of direct and one roll of indirect for COPENHAGEN emigrants in 1870. If you know the year of entry to the U.S. but not the exact date, this should save you some research time.

The Locality Catalog" microfilm also lists other items under "Emigration & Immigration" such as Passport Applications which should be examined.

(Courtesy excerpt from speaker Curt Withcher Allen Co. Public Library, Ft. Wayne, IN.)

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History Of Madison Written 100 Years Ago

The following history of Madison county is reprinted from the Weekly Review of July 7, 1876. Coming, as it did, just 10 years after the first settlement was made, it is thought to be accurate with a few exceptions.

Judge McCallum, who wrote the history, was J. K. P. Mc-Callum. He was elected as county judge in 1875. Forrest McCallum of Madison said that he knew nothing of Judge McCallum and that he was from a separate family than his.

The following history is printed exactly as it appeared in the 100-year-ago paper. Possible corrections and observations of the current editor of the Star-Mail are in parenthesis.

HISTORY OF MADISON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Prepared by Judge McCallum

Madison county, in the north eastern part of geographical Nebraska, lies in 42 deg 5 sec (min.) of north laditude, and 97 deg. 55 sec. (min.) of longitude west from Greenwich. It is bounded on the north by Pierce, on the east by Stanton, on the south by Platte, and on the west by Boone and Antelope counties. It is exactly square, and has an area of five hundred and seventy-six square miles.

The surface consists of rolling prairies, undulated table lands, and beautiful level bottoms. It is watered in the north by the Elkhorn River, the North Fork, and their numerous tributaries; and in the south by two Taylor Creeks, (?) Union, and Shell Creeks. The streams are skirted with beautiful groves of timber, and abound in a great variety of fish.

The first settlement made in Madison county was on the 2d of June, 1866, by a small party from Illinois, consisting of L. D. Barnes, Wm. H. Bradshaw, D. L. Allen, Mathias Carr, and Wm. A. Barnes. They settled near the mouth of the North Fork of the Elkhorn, on the ground now occupied by the town of Norfolk. The county was not then surveyed, and exact localities of land could not be made. The new settlers were never molested by Indians, and amused themselves by hunting, fishing, etc., and therein took great delight, which also contributed largely to the MCGS - Vol 16-62

support of themselves and their families. In the following July fifty-one wagons of Germans from Wisconsin arrived, and settled in the vicinity of Norfolk. (It seems likely that the scouts of the Germany party had selected the Norfolk site and departed sometime before the group listed above had come into that area.)

In October of the same year Nicholas Paul made the Government survey of the county.

Erastus Jones was the pioneer merchant of the county, in the vicinity of Norfolk. He was followed by Barney Barnes and a Dane by the name of Nelson, who kept a kind of an Indian trading post as early as the fall of 1866.

As early as the 3d of May, 1867, a settlement was established on Union Creek, near the present town of Mudison, by H. M. Barnes, P. J. Barnes, W. J. Barnes, and F. W. Barnes. Then herds of antelope vere numerous in every cirection, and the county was one vast expanse of unclaimed territory, with now and then an unfouched grove of timber to lure the early settler.

About the middle of May Henry Platts, Esq., located the claim which he still occupies further up Union Creek. About the first of June following Mr. Charles Huylar and family arrived, and also located on Union Creek. In Mr. Huylar's family were two unmarried maidens. Their coming rejoiced the hearts of the lonely young men of the Barnes family, and it may be mentioned as commendable to all concerned that not even the hardships of frontier life could stay that little but mighty passion, and two matrimonial alliances have resulted from the effect of early impressions.

H. J. Severance next settled, and others came in numbers, and the population increased rapidly.

Union Creek and Shell Creek were without bridges, and the settlers from the Elkhorn and Union Creek united and built a bridge across the latter stream near where the present bridge now stands, and at that time, and in honor of that event, named the stream bridged Union Creek.

In the summer of 1867 S. H. Thatch and A. J. Thatch arrived in the county, and with many others settled on the Elkhorn, near Norfolk.

The first bona fine (fide) settler on Shell Creek was John Bloomfield, known more familiarly as "Johnnie Schmocker;" but it seems Capt. O. O. Austin built a house on Shell Creek as early as June, 1866, but did not occupy it. Johnnie "Schmocker" settled in 1868, and was soon followed by Lewis Warren, George Whitcher and William Menjece.

In 1869 or 1870 the Sioux Indians made a raid on the small settlement of Shell Creek, and killed some stock belonging (to) Lewis Warren and others, and shot a woman by the name of Nelson; but she recovered, and still lives on Shell Creek.

On the 21st of January, 1868, in obedience to an order from Governor Butler, the people of Madison county held the first election and organized the county. It was named Madison from the suggestion of the Germans at Norfolk, who came Madison county. from Wisconsin. (This point may be in error. Some contend that the county was named by the surveyors for presidents and prominent men.) Said election was held at Millville, and in a small frame house, with which . numerous pre-emptors are said to be well acquainted, (It was customary in those days for some homesteaders to use a portable house when proving up on their claim. After the claim had been approved, the house was moved to the next homestead. Government homestead regulations required that a house be established but, apparently, there was no requirement that the house be kept there for any extended period of time.) as it is said to have served as a suitable habitation for at least a dozen or two of that class of early settlers.

The exact location of Millville — less important now than in those days — was on Taylor Creek, some distance above where Wm. J. Barnes now lives. The village seems never to have attained much importance abroad, nor even at home.

Frank McCormick and Fred Lucas were clerks of the first election, and Wm. J. Barnes, August Lentz, and Fred. Heckendorff were judges. There were thirty-two votes polled, and the following county officers were elected: Henry M. Barnes, August Raasch and Herman Braasch, county commissioners; Sam'l H. Thatch, county clerk; Frederick Wegner, probate judge; Fred. Heckendorf, county treasurer; Fielding Bradshaw, sheriff; August Lentz, county surveyor; Fred. Boche, assessor; John Allison and Wm. Bickley, justices of the peace; Thomas Bickley and Fred. Haase, constables. There was no opposition to any of the offices except that of assessor, and Frank Wickman had eight votes to twenty-four for Boche. All the other candidates had thirty-two

votes each. At the general election in October, 1868, there were fortyseven votes polled. (Women were not allowed to vote at that time.) A. J. Poppleton, of Omaha, had forty-four votes for member of congress, and his opponent, John Taffe, had three votes. Thomas L. Griffey had forty-four votes for district attorney, and his opponent, E. F. Gray, had three votes.

P. J. Barnes was elected County Commissioner instead of H. M. Barnes, who had refused to serve; and C. W. Braash, sheriff; J. Q. Harvey, coronor; Alvin Marsh, surveyor, and A. J. Thatch, assesor. The total vauation of taxable property in all the county in the summer of 1868 was \$28,000, which at a levy of 6 mills — the amount levied by the commissioners — produced the enormous sum of \$168,000.

The Board of Commissioners at their summer session - 1869 - divided the county into two precincts - the north half called Norfolk precinct, the south half called Union Creek precinct.

Norfolk was so named at the suggestion of S. H. Thatch, because it was the nearest approach to the North Fork that could be found. It had the first post office, and was laid out as a town in December, 1869.

At the regular election in the fall of 1869 Joseph Mathewson

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History of Madison (continued)

was elected probate judge, S. H. Thatch county clerk, F. A.

skendorf county treasurer, J. Harvey coronor, H. S. Botsford county commissioner, Henry A. Barnes county superintendent of public instruction, Thos. W. Ward surveyor, and John O'Banion sheriff.

At the organization of the county in 1868, the county seat was located about a mile west of the town of Norfolk, but as in those days a mile or two made little difference to anyone in regard to such matters, the town was never built on the spot designated as the county seat. (Apparently Norfolk was never the county seat.)

In 1869 L. D. Barnes, John Teidgen, John Leucke, Augsut Eyl and J. W. Rish made a settlement on Battle Creek, a short distance above where the town is situated, and all of said settlers remain there yet.

The Hales came in 1870 and settled on Upper Battle Creek. The legend as to the name of Battle Creek is that during the late war a company of whites had a fight on that stream with some Pawnee Indians, and from the event it took its name. '- the mean time Battle Creek

cinct had been formed of the northwest quarter of the county, and at the fall election in 1870 John Ahrens was elected county commissioner and A. J. Thatch county treasurer. At this election was the first opposition of any note shown in the election of county officers.

At the special election in May, 1871, on the adoption of the new constitution, that had lately been submitted to the people, the vote in Madison county stood: For the constitution, 34 votes; against 119.

In the summer of 1871 news of the first felony ever committed in the county was heralded through the settlements. A settler named Fuller had been murdered on Shell Creek in a field. Suspicion was directed to two cattle traders who had been seen the day of the murder in that vicinity, and they were arrested on a warrant issued by Esquire Bickley, of Union Creek, and the examination was held in the old school house, then standing on the same ground now occupied by Mr. Huylar's barn, in Madison. The

e was conducted on behalf of state by W. H. Harris, Esq., now of Madison, and the defense by Shannon & Platts, of

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Columbus. The principal witnesses for the state were a Mr. McCormick and a Mr. Jackson, but neither of them testified to any facts implicating the Texans, and they were discharged by the magistrate. That Fuller was murdered there is no doubt: but the one who did the foul deed never has been found out; though strong suspicion seems to point to parties who were then residents of the county

At the fall election in 1871 there were two tickets in the field, and the following gentlemen were elected to the different county offices:

S. H. Thatch, Probate Judge; J. Barnes, County Commissioner; Jos. Mathewson, County Clerk; A. J. Thatch, County Treasurer; P. H. Krum, sheriff; L. F. Taylor, Superintendent of Public Instruction; S. E. Phillips, coroner; F. W.

Dawes, County Surveyor, 1: At this election the removal of the county seat was voted upon, ^f but did not result in a change.

In the October election, 1872, J. B. Flenniken was plected sheriff, Thos. Ross coroner, and Batsford county S H. commissioner.

Madison was laid out as a town in January, 1870, and the school house was built that year. M. C. Flag sold the first goods at Madison. The Presbyterian Church at Madison was built in 1872, and the mill erected in 1873. But previous to this the Germans at Norfolk had erected a church, and a mill had also been constructed by the Norfolk Mill Company.

The increase of the population of the county had been very rapid since its first settlement and homesteaders from older states had flocked in by scores. and the best portions of the county were occupied as early as 1872.

The county in 1873 had grown to live precincts by the addition of Shell Creek and Schoolcraft.

At the fall election the following county officers were elected F. J. Hale, County Clerk; David Young, Probate Judge; H. C. Davis, Sheriff; W. A. Moldenhauer, County Commissioner; D. R. Daniel, Coroner; Jr. R. Condon, Surveyor.

In the summer of 1874, J. D. Hoover, Jr., settled at the town of Battle Creek, which he had surveyed the year previously, and opened a store. The new town at once became a competitor for the county seat of the county, and special

elections were called at once to relocate the county seat; but all failed. At the general election, however, in 1875, the county seat was located at Madison by a returned majority of six votes over Battle Creek. This gave rise to the litigation which is not yet settled.

During the early fall of 1875 the Constitutional convention submitted a new constitution which was adopted by the people, and from the first of November of that year became the supreme law of the state. At the general election in 1875 the following county officers were elected: S. H. Thatch, county clerk: A. J. Thatch, treasurer: J. K. P. McCallum, county judge; John D. Hale, sheriff; G. W. Honeysett, commissioner: E. M. Squire, superintendent of public instruction; W. S. Osborn, coroner; Lawrence Weltz surveyor. Madison county has been represented in the legislature by Dr. A. Bear in the Senate, and by Hon. W. M. Robertson in the late Constitutional Convention. The politics of the county has never been bitter or partizan. The republicans claim a small majority, but the democrats think it is equally small if not less.

Madison county at this writ-, ing, July 3d, 1876, has population of nearly 4,000 people and a very fine prospect for an abundant harvest this year. It has two good water mills in operation, three lively and energetic towns, one of the best machine shops in the state, well-filled stores as can be found west of the Missourl River, one Independent newspaper, the "Weekly Review," ably edited by T. M. Blakely, five churches, and schools by the score. With a prospect of a railroad in the near future, Madison is the choice county in the Elkhorn Valley for settlers from abroad, and we invite, immigrants and capital from every state to come and find homes among us.

THE STAR MAIL, Madison, NE Source: July 8, 1976.

UPCOMING EVENTS

18th Annual Nebraska State Genealogical Society Conference

> May 5-6 1995 York, Nebraska Jan 1995 - 2nd Quarter



"Be Americans. Let there be no sectionalism, no North, South. East or West: You are all dependent one on another and should be one in union. In one word, be a nation: be Americans, and be true to yourselves."

Gegree Weshington



Martens was all decked out for the Bicentennial celebration in a 100-year old Mennonite gown and scarf from Lancaster County in Pennsylvania, She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Martens.

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"Glimpses of our Past" a Pictorial History of Dodge Co., NE by William E. Christensen was recently purchased by Madison Co. Genealogical Society in memory of Ardith and Gary Logan. "Glimpses of our Past" is a 'picture story' of early day Dodge County.

Included in the book is picture stories of Western trails across Dodge County; Dodge County Rivers and Creeks; some early Dodge County Mills; Civil War Mementos; early railroads in Dodge County; founding of early towns - Scribner, North Bend, Dodge, Uehling, Snyder, Hooper, Ames, Nickerson, Winslow and Swaburg. Many pictures of early day activities and places such as Logan Creek Hall, early agricultural, Opera House and Recreation, Barns, Schools and Churches, Logan Cemetery, early day fire department, Fremont Normal School and Business College, Midland Lutheran College, early homes, early day businesses in Fremont and much more.

Our local Society members should visit our society library at 604 South 14th Street, Norfolk. Please call 371-2589 to let the Lyons know you are coming.

PASSPORTS - OVERLOOKED SOURCE

If your ancestor returned to the old country to visit, he needed a passport. , The passport application gives birth information and personal description. For passports through 1905, write to the Diplomatic Records Branch, National Archives, Room 5-E, Washington, D.C. 20520. For passports after 1906 write to Passport Office, Department of State, 1425 K St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520. Give the applicant's name, residence, and the place and approximate date of application. There is a charge for this. --from N.W. Missouri Genealogical Society, via "The Illuminator," Vol. 9, No. 1

* Norfolk, Nebraska 68702-1031







Elkhorn Valley Historical Soc P. O. Box 1114 Norfolk, NE 68702-1114