



# Madison County Genealogical Society



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## Weddings and Anniversaries

Compiled by Richard Strenge

The following are extractions from various papers in Madison County. The bold print names are for the people who are having a wedding or anniversary.

Fred Mozer, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Anna Mozer, and sister, Miss Helen, were at York Sunday as guests at the wedding of **Robert Mozer**, youngest son of F. M. Mozer of Minco, Oklahoma, and Miss **Sylvia Bohlgrin** of Waco, Nebraska. The couple were attended by Miss Helen Mozer and Edgar Bohlgrin. The newly-weds will live at York, where Mr. Mozer is employed by the state highway department.  
Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, May 13, 1937 on page 1.

**William Mozer** and Miss **Lorine Murphy** were married Tuesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Murphy. The couple were attended by Miss Edna Aldag and Paul Mozer, cousin and brother of the groom.  
Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, April 10, 1930 on page 1.

At a wedding to be solemnized Friday in San Francisco, Miss **Adele Nichols**, daughter of Mrs. Anna Craig, will become the bride of **Earl Conner, Jr.**, a resident of San Francisco. Mr. Conner formerly lived here. The couple will make their home in San Francisco, where Mr. Conner is associated with the C. N. and W. Walters company, in the home furnishings business.  
Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, December 30, 1937 on page 1.

**Allen R. "Shine" Osborn** and Miss **Ellen Cox** were married in Grayson county, Virginia forty years ago. A surprise celebration was remembered by about 100 relatives and friends at their home.  
Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, January 16, 1930 on page 1.

**Fielden "Buster" Osborn**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Osborn, was married last week to Miss **Lucille Halsey** of Fries, Virginia. Mr. Osborn went to Virginia on a visit a short time ago but it was not his expressed intention to return with a bride. It was a surprise even to his parents, it is said.  
Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, August 22, 1929 on page 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Osborn announce the approaching marriage of their niece, Miss **Hazel Osborn** of Phoenix, Arizona, to Mr. **Robert L. Scudder**, also of that city. The wedding is to be held Sunday morning, May 16, and it is presumed the couple will

continue their residence in Phoenix, where Miss Osborn has been teaching a number of years. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, May 6, 1937 on page 1.

**Lee Osborn** and Miss **Grace Thomas** were quietly married at Yankton, South Dakota, one day last week.

Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, August 22, 1929 on page 1.

Miss **Emma Pearce**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Pearce of Columbus and former residents of Madison became the bride of **Hanson McElfresh**, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. McElfresh in a ceremony Saturday afternoon in Columbus.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, Oct. 21, 1937 on page 4.

### **Iowa Valley Sisters Marry Two Brothers Wednesday, February 18**

The double wedding took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent J. Pospisil at 2:30 p.m. Their daughters Mabel and Minnie were united in marriage to Frank and Adolph Podliska, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Joe J. Podliska of Meadow Grove in a double wedding ceremony. **Mabel Pospisil** and **Frank Podliska** were attended by Ella Podliska and Rudolph Podliska, sister and brother of the groom. **Minnie Pospisil** and **Adolph Podliska** were attended by Agnes Pospisil and Irwin Pospisil, cousin and brother of the bride. Eileen Pospisil, sister of the brides and Viola Podliska, sister of the bridegrooms, were ring bearers. Following the wedding ceremony a three course dinner was served to more than one hundred relatives of the couples. In the evening a wedding dance was held at the Iowa Valley Lodge hall and refreshments were served. There were about 350 in attendance. Both young couples will make their homes on farms near Emerick. Source: The Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, February 19, 1931 on page 1.

**John C. Shonka** of Madison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shonka of Schuyler, and Miss **Pearl L. Staudenmaier** of Norfolk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Staudenmaier was solemnized Wednesday morning in the Sacred Heart church in Norfolk at 7:00 a.m. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, June 17, 1937 on page 4.

**John B. Stolle** and Miss **Martha Zohner** were married at the Battle Creek Heights Lutheran Church last Saturday evening. Attendants were Miss Ellas Zohner, a sister of the bride, and Will Stolle, a brother of the groom. The parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. John Zohner, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stolle.

Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, March 6, 1930 on page 1.

**Andrew J. Thatch** and **Clara Harrington** were married in Norfolk yesterday. They will make their home in Omaha.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, April 16, 1931 on page 1.

### **Thatch-Harrington**

Norfolk Daily News: One of the prettiest home weddings of the season was solemnized Thursday morning when Miss **Clara Harrington** of Norfolk became the bride of **Andrew Thatch** of Omaha. The bridal party took their places to the strains of the "Lohengrin" wedding march played by Mrs. Hazel Ashbaugh, sister of the bride. Miss Gertrude Kendall attendant the bride. The bridegroom was attended by his brother, Ralph Thatch of Madison. The bride was born in Norfolk and is a graduate of

Norfolk high school and of the State Teachers' college at Wayne. She is a former high school instructor. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Thatch of Madison. He attended school in Madison, and the past two years has been employed in Omaha. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, April 23, 1931 on page 4.

**Margaret Evelyn Throckmorton**, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd N. Throckmorton of this city was united in marriage to **Walter E. Norton**, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Norton of Buffalo, Oklahoma, Tuesday, June 15, at 3:00 p.m. at the Methodist parsonage in Stanton. They were attended by Miss Alice Mae Van Blaricom and Kenneth Throckmorton.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, June 17, 1937 on page 4.

**Pearl Wehrle**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Wehrle will become the bride of **Sylvester Frei**, son of Mrs. John Louisberg in a ceremony to be performed at St. Leonard's parsonage at 1 o'clock Friday afternoon. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, December 30, 1937 on page 1.

**Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Werner** celebrated their 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at a surprise party with 150 people last Saturday evening. It was held at their home in Meadow Grove. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, February 21, 1929 on page 1.

**Florence Edith Willson**, only daughter of Dr. and Mrs. E. O. Wilson of this city was united in marriage to **Leonard O. Larson**, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Larson of Newman Grove, Wednesday, June 16, at 2:30 p.m. at the home of the bride's parents. Miss Marie O. Larson, sister of the bridegroom, and Bryan O. Wilson, brother of the bride were their attendants.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, June 17, 1937 on page 1.

Married in Battle Creek thirty-five years ago, **Mr. and Mrs. John Zohner** were reminded of the event on evening last week when their children and other relatives gathered at their home. They are the parents of eight children and have in recent years become grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Zohner have not yet reached the age of retirement. Mr. Zohner is a native of Austria and his wife was born in Germany, but both of them came to Nebraska with relatives when they were children and all but their early years have been spent in the Battle Creek community.

Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, February 18, 1937 on page 1.

### Marriage Licenses

The following marriage licenses were issued in the office of E. L. Reeker, county judge, during the past week: **Lowell A. Bethune**, 21, Pierce, and **Josephine T. Willeka**, 21, Randolph. **Andrew Jensen**, 28, Tilden, and **Dorothy W. Wauer**, 22, Tilden. Source: The Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, January 29, 1931 on page 1.

The following marriage licenses were issued by County Judge E. L. Reeker during the past week: **Gilbert E. Braasch**, 22, Norfolk to **Neva E. Russel**, 19, Norfolk. **Andrew J. Thatch**, 21, Omaha to **Clara Harrington**, 21, Norfolk.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, April 16, 1931 on page 1.

Marriage licenses issued by County Judge Reeker during the past week are as follows: **Emmons Zavodsky**, 29, Newman Grove to **Opal Kunz**, 17, Tilden. **Henry F. Peterson**, 28, Lexington to **Doris L. Tompkins**, 21, Clay Center.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, October 8, 1931 on page 1.

Marriage licenses lissued during the past week in the office of County Judge Ernest L. Reeker include: **Otto H. Hurley**, Norfolk, and **Barbara Wiedenfeld**, Norfolk. **Emiel E. Belzer**, Pryor, Oklahoma, and **Irene P. Maureer**, Madison. **Arnold E. Porath**, Crookston, and **Eleanor E. Detgen**, Norfolk. **Leo G. Stevens**, Norfolk, and **Deloris V. Johnson**, Norfolk. **Ernest George Stuthman**, Wisner, to **Pearl Eilene Evans**, Norfolk.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, June 24, 1937 on page 6.

### **Marriage Licenses Show Smart Drop**

Marriage licenses issued up to December 30 fell far short of the total of last year, according to County Judge E. L. Reeker. Last year the office issued 210 licenses, as compared to 176 for this year, a drop of 34 under last year, which made an all-time high. Licenses issued by Judge Reeker in 1935 totalled 174, while those in 1934 were 193. A total of 150 licenses were issued in 1933.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, December 30, 1937 on page 1.

The secret marriage of Miss **Emma Imhoff** and **Leonard Lintner** which took place just a year ago today, September 9, 1936, was announced this week by the couple. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Imhoff. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lintner. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, September 9, 1937 on page 4.

Miss **Magdalen Jacobi**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Jacobi, and **Arthur McDermott**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard McDermott, were married at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning, February 17, at St. Leonard's Catholic church. Miss Mary Jacobi, sister of the bride and Lawrence McDermott, brother of the groom were the attendants. Mr. and Mrs. McDermott will make their home on a farm near Humphrey, Nebraska. Source: The Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, February 19, 1931 on page 1.

Miss **Alma Kuchar**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vaclav Kuchar, and **Emil Pospisil**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Pospisil were married Wednesday, June 2, at 3:00 o'clock at the Presbyterian Church in Clarkson. The couple were attended by Miss Vivian Ambroz, niece of the bride and Clarence Pospisil, brother of the groom. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, June 3, 1937 on page 4.

Miss **Ida Loeske**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Loeske of Creston and **Elmer Buettner**, son of Mrs. Frank Buettner, were united in marriage at Columbus, Nebraska this afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. The couple were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ray, brother-in-law and sister of the groom. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, August 13, 1931 on page 4.

**Alvin Massman** recently returned from a trip to Missouri, surprising his friends by bringing with him a bride, Miss **Retha Oglevie** of Kingsville, Missouri, whom he married at Kansas City on April 30. Mr. Massman is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Massman. He was born near Battle Creek and graduated from Battle Creek high school a few years ago. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, May 13, 1937 on page 1.

The marriage of **Gwyn McCarrol**, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. McCarrol of Meadow Grove, and Miss **Mildred Eyl**, daughter of Mrs. Minnie Eyl of Battle Creek, was announced the latter part of last week, the couple having plighted their vows at LeMars, Iowa, without making known their intentions.

Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday May 8, 1930 on page 1.

**Mr. and Mrs. William McIntosh**, prominent citizens of Meadow Grove, celebrated their fifty-eighth wedding anniversary last week. Mr. and Mrs. McIntosh were married August 12, 1873 at Kankakee, Illinois. In 1883 they moved to Meadow Grove vicinity where they have since resided.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, August 20, 1931 on page 1.

**Ira Chittenden** and **Josephine "Josie" Schartzer** were married March 15, 1887 at the Methodist parsonage in Madison, Nebraska. She was born in Virginia and came to Madison county with her parents homesteading about 10 miles southwest of Madison. He was born near Galesburg, Illinois. She and her parents moved to town when there [were] not more than 30 buildings here. Frank Barnes, founder of the town, gave her father one lot if he bought another. Her father helped build the first Methodist church here, but died before the building was dedicated. They have two children, Mrs. Alta Trine and T. W. Chittenden. There are three grandchildren, Stewart W., Keith D. and Gene I. Trine.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, March 11, 1937 on page 4.

**Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Collins** celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary January 16. Mr. Collins is 91 years old and Mrs. Collins is 90. Mr. Collins and Miss Lennie Hackler, both born in Grayson county, Virginia, were married January 16, 1872, near Independence, Virginia, where they spent the first thirty years of their marriage. In 1902 they moved to Colorado, where they lived several years. They came to Madison county, Nebraska, thirty-five years ago. They are the parents of nine children, five of whom survive: Mrs. Lester Hawkins, Mrs. Connie Austin, Mrs. Cleat Austin, Mrs. L. Flanigan, and Elijah Collins. There are fourteen grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, January 22, 1942 on page 1.

Miss **Lorraine Conger**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Conger of Madison and **Bernard A. Venhaus**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Venhaus of Creighton, were married Monday. They left after the ceremony for Scottsbluff where they plan to make their home. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, September 16, 1937 on page 1.

News of the marriage of Miss **Mary Davis**, daughter of Fred H. Davis, to **Ray Garvin**, Los Angeles, California, a banker reached relatives here this week. The marriage took place Saturday at Ventura, California. The bride is a member of one of Madison county's pioneer families. Following her graduation from Madison high school she was employed in the post office here under her father. Until 18 months ago when she left for California to be near her grandmother, Mrs. Mary L. Thatch, she served as deputy register of deeds for three years. At the time of her marriage she was an instructor in the Mackay Business College at Los Angeles. The groom, a former Nebraskan, moved to California with his parent several years ago. He is connected with

the Security First National Bank of Los Angeles at its Larchmont boulevard branch.  
Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, August 20, 1931 on page 1.

**Mr. and Mrs. Jacob D. Gabelman** celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Arthur Broberg of Newman Grove on Friday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Gabelman was born at Frankfort, Illinois, June 10, 1857. Mrs. Gabelman was born in Bavaria, Germany, May 11, 1858. They both came to Madison county in 1871. In the month of June, 1877, Elizabeth Knapp, at the age of 19, became the bride of Mr. Gabelman. They are the parents of six sons and three daughters. A son, Charles, died at Tilden in the spring of 1935. Those living are: Jake, Fred, Frank, William, Mrs. Fred Yenter, Mrs. Earl Yenter, Alfred, and Mrs. Arthur Broberg. Four generations were present at the gathering, among them 27 grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren. Nine of the grandchildren and six great grandchildren were unable to be present.  
Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, July 8, 1937 on page 5.

**Mr. and Mrs. Golden B. Groff** celebrated their 68<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> when they enjoyed a dinner prepared for the occasion at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Thomas E. Dover of Madison. Mr. Groff, who is a Civil War veteran, is 89 years of age. Mrs. Groff is 86 years of age. Both Mr. and Mrs. Groff were born in the state of Maryland and were married there. In 1870 they moved to Nebraska and have lived here most of the time since. Six of their children are still alive, and include Milton, Arthur, Frederick, Mrs. John Kneeland, Mrs. Sylvia Dover and Mrs. Thomas E. Dover. There are also 28 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren.  
Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, August 28, 1930 on page 1.

**Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Haskins** observed their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary Wednesday. They were married at Sysamore, Illinois, May 5, 1887. They came to Madison county in the spring of 1890 and settled on a farm in Fairview [township]. In 1908 they moved to Madison where they have made their home except for a short time they lived in Enola. Mr. Haskins opened the first moving picture theatre in Madison. For the past several years he has been in the radio business. They have four children, Mrs. Nora Bates, Mrs. Pearly Taylor, Harvey and Horace Haskins, and six grandchildren. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, May 6, 1937 on page 10.

**Edward B. Heuston** and **Ida Overman** were married last Saturday afternoon at the home of Mrs. C. B. Heuston, mother of the groom.  
Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, June 27, 1929 on page 1.

### **County Couple Is Married 69 Years**

Newman Grove---**Rev. and Mrs. George A. Humrich** will celebrate their sixty-ninth wedding anniversary Feb. 16. Rev. Humrich, 90, came with his parents to homestead in Nebraska shortly after they had gone to Kansas in 1859. He hauled the first load of rock for the first Nebraska capitol building. Mrs. Humrich is 85. Their romance began in 1865 on the day memorial services were held for Abraham Lincoln in the Humrich cabin a half-mile west of the site of the present state capital. It was in the Humrich cabin the first sermon was preached in Lincoln. The couple carried on missionary work in Nebraska and neighboring states in pioneer days. Most of Rev.

Humrich's service has been with the United Brethren church. He is regarded as the oldest living missionary in this territory. Rev. and Mrs. Humrich had 11 children.-----  
World-Herald. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, February 18, 1937 on page 5.

**Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Alberts** and **Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Craig** were honor guests at a six o'clock dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Owens last Wednesday evening. The dinner was in honor of their twenty-fifth wedding anniversaries. Mr. and Mrs. Alberts were married June 6, 1906 and Mr. and Mrs. Craig were married on June 21, 1906. Later in the evening members of the Ladies Country Club and their families came in and pleasantly surprised the two couples. About 70 guests in all were present. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, June 18, 1931 on page 8.

**Joyce Emily Barnes**, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Barnes, became the bride of **Edward Joseph Fisher**, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Fisher. They were married at the Church of the Precious Blood, in Los Angeles, California on Tuesday. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, July 4, 1929 via Norfolk News, date not given.

It is announced that **Harold Bishop**, youngest son of Mrs. Myrtle Bishop, and Miss **Lorraine Wynand**, youngest daughter of Mrs. Emma Wynand, both of Battle Creek, were quietly married at the Methodist parsonage in Yankton, South Dakota, last Saturday. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, June 3, 1937 on page 1.

**Mr. and Mrs. John Borchers** celebrated their silver wedding anniversary recently at their home near Battle Creek. They were married December 28, 1904 in Battle Creek. They are the parents of five boys and one girl. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, January 9, 1930 on page 1.

Returning from an extended visit in Iowa, Miss **Geraldine Butler**, Battle Creek, makes known her secret marriage to **Charles Goodell** of Norfolk on January 6, 1937, at Yankton, South Dakota. She is the daughter of Mrs. Otelia Butler. She graduated from Battle Creek high school with the class of 1934. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Goodell and graduated from Norfolk high school in 1935. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, May 27, 1937 on page 1.

Miss **Ethel Marie Carlock** and **Clarence Settje** were married at Papillion on August 4<sup>th</sup>. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arch B. Carlock and is a graduate of Liberty high school. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Settje and is a graduate of Creston high school. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, August 19, 1937 on page 1.

**Carena Chittenden** and **Carl Calmer** were married at the Methodist Church on Wednesday morning September 15, at 10 o'clock. The bride is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Chittenden. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Calmer of Oakland, Iowa. The couple left shortly after the ceremony for Oakland, Iowa where they will make their home. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, September 16, 1937 on page 1.

## Married

Parke—Kauffman---Monday, April 30, 1883, 7:30 a.m., at the residence of the brides uncle, W. H. Widaman, Norfolk, Neb.,---Charles W. Parke to Miss Dora Kauffman, all of Norfolk, Nebraska---the Rev. Mr. Spencer officiating.

The young couple, after having been made one took the train for Chicago and Springfield, Ill., where the honeymoon will be spent in a round of enjoyment among the groom's family and friends. They return in about thirty days and take up rooms in the second story of Asmus' brick block.

Source: Norfolk Journal, Friday May 4, 1883, page 3.

## **Wedding Anniversary**

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Mr. and Mrs. John Hunt Celebrate their 58th Wedding Anniversary.

The couple were married Nov. 20, 1862 at Gallion, Ohio. Excerpts from Meadow Grove News, Friday December 3, 1920 on page 1.

### **Norfolk Pair Observes 56th Anniversary Mr. and Mrs. I. Nightingale Located Here in 1895**

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Nightingale, 307 Indiana avenue, who were married Jan. 6, 1886, at Collins Center, Minn., as a blizzard started to roar, yesterday celebrated their fifty-sixth wedding anniversary in a quiet manner, the main event being a dinner party in their honor at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Gordon Butterfield, and family, Norfolk.

The wedding took place on a Wednesday evening and because of the blizzard the minister had to stay at home until the following Saturday. Several other wedding guests became snowbound at the home.

The Nightingales started their married life on a farm near Hector, Minn. Later they farmed near Boone Lake, Minn. Mr. Nightingale believes no man ever worked harder than he did on those Minnesota farms.

#### **Came Here in 1895**

They came to Norfolk in the fall of 1895, and have resided here since that time, with the exception of a year spent at North Platte.

Their first home was near Third street and Madison avenue, where a garage building now is located. They recall Norfolk had a serious flood the spring after they arrived here, and the water came up to within an inch or two of the floor in their home.

After locating in Norfolk, Mr. Nightingale became a traveling salesman for a harvester company. He later went into the real estate and insurance business, and is still engaged in the real estate business.

Mr. and Mrs. Nightingale are the parents of five daughters and four sons, one of whom, Earl, a World War veteran, is dead. The others are: Mrs. Olive Clark, Chadron; Mrs. James Wamsley, northwest of Norfolk; Fay, Springfield, Mo.; Ralph, Dorsey; Mrs. Hugh Raymond, near Neligh; Mrs. Ole Lilledahl, Chicago; Mrs. Gordon Butterfield, Norfolk, and Harold, Denver.

They have twenty-one grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

#### **Born in Wisconsin**

Mr. and Mrs. Nightingale first knew each other as youngsters in Wisconsin. He was born June 2, 1859, at Fond du Lac, and she, the former Lillian Bush, on March 27, 1868. At the time of their marriage, he was 26 and his bride 17. They attended a country school together, and

later their families moved to Minnesota and lived about thirty miles apart. Their romance began when he started visiting at the Bush home.

Although his health is not the best, Mr. Nightingale is able to be about and carry on his business affairs. Mrs. Nightingale, who has never known what it is to be "real sick," is in excellent health. The secret of good health is "never worry," she said, pointing to her hair in which there are only a few grey hairs. Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Wednesday, January 7, 1942, page

### **Came Here with First Colony**

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Raasch, who have just celebrated their 57<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, were, as children, members of the first group of Wisconsin settlers who came to this community in 1866. Editors Note: A picture of the couple was shown in the paper.

### **Marriage Ties Hold Together For 57 Years**

#### **Mr. and Mrs. Henry Raasch Were Children in First Wisconsin Colony**

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**Have Same Birthday**

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**Norfolk Pioneer Recalls Journey Made by 28 Families in 63 Covered Wagons, Most of Which Were Drawn by Oxen.**

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Seventy-four years ago this month twenty-eight Wisconsin families left their homes to cross the prairies and establish a colony where Norfolk today stands. Among the children in the covered wagon caravan were Henry Raasch, then 6 years old and Louise Wachter, 4 years old.

Seventeen years later on May 6, 1883, Henry Raasch and Louise Wachter were married at Norfolk. This same couple Tuesday celebrated their fifty-seventh wedding anniversary at their home at 800 Georgia Avenue, to which they retired eight years ago after spending forty-nine years on their farm near the old canning factory.

Mr. and Mrs. Raasch, both of whom are in good health, are the parents of ten sons and daughters, six of whom are living. They are: Frank, Adolph, Emil, Ferdinand, Mrs. Arthur Uecker and Miss Louise Raasch. In observance of the wedding anniversary, the sons and daughters honored their parents Sunday at a family dinner.

#### **Have Same Birthday**

Mr. and Mrs. Raasch hold the distinction of having the same birthday, Nov. 3. Both were born in Wisconsin, and Mr. Raasch is now 80 years old, and Mrs. Raasch 78. One of his hobbies is gardening, and he has a fine garden started this spring.

Although he was only 6 years old when the Wisconsin colony arrived in Norfolk, he vividly recalls the forty-day journey across the prairies. "There were twenty-eight families in the colony, which traveled in sixty-three covered wagons," he said. "All those wagons, except four, were pulled by oxen.

"We left Wisconsin on May 30, and arrived in Norfolk, then a wilderness, on July 4, and we didn't travel on Sundays. There was more Christianity then than now." He recalls grass at Norfolk was two to seven feet in height. "We were delayed at Humbug creek near Pilger because we had to spend two or three days building a bridge to cross it. And we used wooden nails. It took us a whole day to cross the Missouri river at Omaha on a ferry boat, and the river was running full."

#### **Recalls Mosquitoes**

When the Wisconsin settlers arrived at Norfolk, Mr. Raasch says the mosquitoes were worse than the Indians. "Those insects were after our blood, and the Indians did us no harm," he commented.

Mr. Raasch's parents were Mr. and Mrs. Martin Raasch, and Mrs. Raasch's were Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wachter. The two families settled on farms near each other. Mr. Raasch recalls Norfolk's first post office was in his father's home. "It was three or four feet long, and had paper, ink and 11 cents in stamps," he recalled.

Of those who came to Norfolk to make history in the summer of 1866, Mr. Raasch says only twenty-five or twenty-six are still living. Looking back on the pioneer days, Mr. Raasch said: "We had better meals than now because of home-made bread, home-smoked bacon and all those good things," he said. Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Tuesday May 7, 1940, page 7.

## **Have Four Great Grandmothers**

Children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mittelsteadt, 207 North Seventh street, hold the distinction of having four great grandmothers, whose ages total 321 years. Left to right the great grandmothers are: Mrs. Lena Boje, 75, Pierce; Mrs. Berta Mittelsteadt, 93, 1005 Pasewalk avenue; Mrs. Mary Ann Kent, 79, route No. 2, Norfolk; Mrs. Joe Benish, Sr., 74, 1200 North Ninth Street. The three Mittelsteadt girls are: Mary Ann, 4; Elaine, 9; Lois Jean, 6. With the exception of Mrs. Mittelsteadt, each great grandmother heads a four-generation group. Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Monday May 13, 1940, page 3.

Editors Note: A picture of the Great Grandmothers and children was shown in the paper.

## **Double Wedding at St. Leonard's Church Tuesday**

The wedding ceremony was solemnized by Father Brass, which made Mathilda H. Adelman and John C. Dickey and Mary M. Lintner and Albert J. Adelman, man and wife. Both couples left by train for a honey-moon trip to Denver, Colorado. Mr. and Mrs. Dickey expect to make their home after June 15<sup>th</sup> at Snyder, Nebraska, while Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Adelman will be home in this city to their many friends after June 15<sup>th</sup>. Excerpts from: Madison Star-Mail, Friday, June 4, 1920, page 2.

## **Married**

John W. McCallum, 74 years of age, and Jessie L. Vaughn, 58, both of Meadow Grove, had been keeping company for about a year. Friends in their home town smiled at each other. They expected a match to result.

And they were not disappointed, for Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, the couple came to Omaha, obtained a license from "Cupid" Stubbendorf and were married by Judge Foster. Immediately after the knot was tied the bridegroom fulfilled a pre-nuptial agreement by presenting the bride with \$10,000. Mr. McCallum is a retired farmer---Omaha Bee.

The News extends heartiest congratulations to the happy couple.  
Source: Meadow Grove News, Friday, June 11, 1920, page 1.

## **Talbert-Belknap**

Mr. Will Talbert and Miss Gertrude Belknap were married at 7:30 last evening at the Cottage Home hotel in South Norfolk by Rev. J. F. Poucher, pastor of the Methodist Church. The parties to the contract are well known in South Norfolk as well as in the city proper and their many friends will wish them much happiness in their new relation. The bride is the daughter of W. B.

Belknap, proprietor of the Cottage Home hotel. Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Wednesday January 25, 1905 on page 4.

## **Marriages**

### **Finds Wife for Stanton Farmer**

Stanton, Neb., March 4 --- Uncle Sam's mails and an Omaha preacher, Rev. Charles W. Savidge, have succeeded in securing for Harry E. Tuton, a farmer near here, a wife, who has promised to make his home happy and at the same time be a mother to his seven motherless children.

Some six months ago the first Mrs. Tuton died. There was the seven children, 320 acre farm, ten horses, fifty cattle and a big drove of hogs to be looked after. A couple of months later Mr. Tuton, driven to almost the verge of insanity, went to Omaha and told his troubles to Rev. Mr. Savidge, who advised him to marry again. Not having any person in view, Mr. Tuton did not know how to go about making an alliance. After talking matters over, the arrangements were left to the preacher, who inserted advertisements in the Omaha papers, not mentioning the name, or location of the widower. A few days later letters commenced to pour in upon Rev. Mr. Savidge. He scanned their contents and out of almost 800 he selected one from Miss Mary Fenwick, of Decatur, Ill. He liked the tone of it and sent the missive to Mr. Tuton, who opened a correspondence with Miss Fenwick.

After the first letter others went thick and fast and a couple of weeks ago Mr. Tuton went to Illinois, met Miss Fenwick and both were satisfied. They were married and at once started for their home here, stopping over in Omaha to thank Rev. Mr. Savidge for what he did in their behalf.

Source: The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal, Friday, March 11, 1910, page 2.

### **Dan Cupid On Job In Madison County During Past Year**

#### **Records in Office of County Judge Show Total of 152 Licenses Issued**

#### **Eight More Than In 1925**

### **Man Who Built First Road Bed For Union Pacific Among Victims of Cupid**

More marriages were performed in Madison county in 1926 than during the previous year, so records in the office of county judge Ernest Reeker show.

During the year just ending, a total of 152 licenses were issued, eight more than during 1925. Of the 152 licenses, since January 1926, Judge Reeker performed 42 ceremonies.

The oldest couple married during 1926, the records show was Albert Alliss, 75 of Belwood Nebraska and Sarah Curtis 74 of the same place.

Aside this distinction this couple without question experienced most difficulty in having the nuptial knot securely tied. To start with the automobile in which they were riding to Madison overturned near Columbus and it was necessary to charter another automobile to continue the journey here. After securing a license they set about to find a minister and unsuccessful in this returned to the county judges office where they were married by Judge Reeker.

Mr. Alliss is said to have built the first road bed for the Union Pacific when the railroad passed through the state in 1867.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, January 27, 1927, page 1.

## Marriages

Judge M. B. Foster issued marriage license of the following couple the past three weeks: Henry Gronan and Mary Stibake, February 6, married by Judge Foster; Mons Williamson and Iogen Lovas, February 8; Daniel Thompson and Emelia Johnson, February 8; Frederick Reeker and Rosa Lucht, February 9; Andrew Schwank and Sophia Stolle, February 13; Ketel Christiansen and Anna Christiansen, February 13; Richard Beltz and Minnie Helm, February 17; William Clark and Ida May Collins, February 18; Thomas Ambroz and Mary Kuchar, February 20.  
Source: The Madison Star, Friday, February 26, 1897, page 5.

### **Golden Wedding Celebration of Mr. and Mrs. George Beed**

March 18, 1933

The following article taken from the Elkhorn Journal, Battle Creek's first newspaper, was printed in 1883, and read at the golden wedding celebration.

Rose Phillips and George Beed were married at the home of the bride's parents in Highland Precinct, Madison County, Nebraska, March 18, 1883. F. H. L. Willis, Esquire, officiated at the wedding of George Beed and Rose Phillips. The above event has been looked for by the people of this locality for some time. No cards but lots of cake. Miss Rose has had a host of admirers ever since her residences here but George has by persistent wooing, won the prize and left the rest of suitors in the background.

Highland's constable, no doubt thinking that somebody might harm the happy pair, summoned about a dozen able assistants to his aid, went and guarded their premises the same evening, took such weapons as old shotguns, cowbells, etc., which I believe kept at ball all who would be liable to harm them. This, of course, is rather unusual occurrence on a Sabbath evening but the majesty of the law must be upheld at all hazards.

Signed, "The Esq"

The couple were married at high noon at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Phillips. After the wedding, the couple went to make their home in a dugout. They lived in the dugout a year, then succeeded to a homestead west of Battle Creek. Four years later they sold this homestead and moved to their timber claim three and one-half miles northeast of Meadow Grove.

In the blizzard of 1888, Mr. Beed became lost in the storm. Mrs. Beed went in search of him and found him wandering near the house with both eyes and his mouth frozen shut and his mittens frozen to his hands.

They lived on their timber claim until 1911 when they came to Meadow Grove to make their residence. They had both come to Madison County in covered wagons, Mr. Beed in 1872, and Mrs. Beed in 1881.

The George Beed's had three children, Emma, Earl and Lester Beed.

At the golden wedding celebration there was one guest present who was also at the wedding, Mrs. Malissa Ober. Source: They Called It Meadow Grove, compiled by Gary Kuchar and Mrs. Lenora Kuchar, page 153.

**Mr. and Mrs. George Beed** had three children: Emma, born August 27, 1885, Lester, and Earl. Emma married Eugene Lewis on January 6, 1904. Eugene was the son of Perry Lewis. Earl Beed married Emma Mewes on April 26, 1911. Earl and Emma Beed two children were: Mabel, who married Virgil Sanne and Harold who married Alice Kuchar. Lester Beed

married Pearl Russell on January 15, 1909. Source: They Called It Meadow Grove, compiled by Gary Kuchar and Mrs. Lenora Kuchar, page 193.

**Mrs. George Beed** of Meadow Grove died July 23, 1945 at the age of 80. Source: Excerpt from The Norfolk Daily News, July 24, 1945, page 2.

## Marriages

The information that follows on Marriages were found in The Norfolk Journal. The date it was located in the paper and the page number will follow the item(s). Compiled by Richard Strenge.

A Calendar for 1892 shows Thursday falling on October 6, 13, 20, 27; November 3, 10, 17, 24; December 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. For the year 1893 it was on January 5, 12, 19, 26.

**Rev. J. H. Johnson**, of Bancroft, and **Miss Cassie Cain**, of Meadow Grove, were married at that place on Tuesday by Rev. J. W. Jennings.

**P. F. Bell** and **Miss Mary Hyde** were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony by Rev. J. J. Par[rest of name smeared] at [smeared] C. J. Chapman on Wednesday, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>. The contracting parties are well known in the city. Mr. Bell having been long a resident, for some time connected with the Daily News and now being one of the firm of Sessions & Bell. Mrs. Bell has, for some years, been a successful teacher in the city schools. They have established a home on lower Third Street.

**Francis M. Herron** and **Miss Narcissa T. Blach** were married on Sunday by Rev. Mr. Parker at his residence. The parties live in the country about 7 miles south west of Norfolk. Source: The Norfolk Journal, October 13, 1892, page 5.

**A. H. Hiesau** has returned from Iowa bringing a wife with him. They will set up house keeping in their new house on Fifth street. Source: The Norfolk Journal, October 20, 1892, page 5.

**Ernest Fisher** and **Miss Martha Nietz** were married on Sunday by Rev. J. P. Muller.

**A. H. Kiesau** returned from Iowa last week bringing his recently married wife with him. **Miss Glennie Williams**, daughter of George Williams, and Dennis Shehan, of Rongis, Wyoming, were married on Wednesday by Rev. Father Walsh at St. Mary's church. After a wedding trip to St. Paul and Minneapolis the happy couple will visit here, go south for the winter and then settle down in Wyoming where Mr. Shehan has large stock interests. Mrs. Shehan's many friends here congratulate her and wish her a life of happiness. Source: The Norfolk Journal, October 27, 1892, page 5.

**Geo. S. Whitham** was married on Thanksgiving Day to **Miss Elizabeth Rankin**, of Monmouth, ILL. The worthy young couple will go to housekeeping soon. Thus George consoles himself at his defeat for the county attorneyship.

There were a couple of weddings in the city on Tuesday, one being of the well known jeweler, **C. F. W. Marquardt**, who was married at his home to **Mrs. Florence Chambers**, Rev. J. W. Jennings officiating. The other was that of **Aug. Lenz** and **Bertha Wichman** at the bride's residence, Rev. Mr. Ziegler officiating. Mr. Lenz lives on a farm east of town. The bride is a daughter of Ferdinand Pasewalk. Source: The Norfolk Journal, December 1, 1892, page 5.

**L. C. Hepperly** and **Miss Anna Westervelt** were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. G. Westervelt, on Wednesday, Rev. M. D. Chilson officiating. The friends of this fine and very worthy young couple wish them a long and happy wedded life. The list of presents was large and sensibly selected most of them being things of practical, every day value. The family has been considerably reduced in these recent years, but they have this consolation that the scope of family interests broaden and in the particular instance that their children will be their near neighbors.

This (Thursday) morning at the residence of the bride's parents on Madison Avenue, Rev. J. J. Parker joined in marriage **Miss Minnie Gregory** and **Dr. E. A. Gillette**. Only the family witnessed the ceremony, Horace Gregory, of Wayne, and Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Fichter, of Emerick, being present. The bride is the daughter of U. Gregory, has lived in the city for a number of years and for several years past has faithfully and efficiently served in the capacity of teacher in the primary department of the public schools. Dr. Gillette has been established in the dental profession in Norfolk for the past two years. The happy couple departed at noon for Omaha and other points for a short wedding tour.

Source: The Norfolk Journal, December 29, 1892, page 5.

The marriage of **Bert Brown** to **Miss Christy** of Minneapolis was announced to take place today. Source: The Norfolk Journal, January 5, 1893, page 5.

**Chas. Hamilton** and **Miss Laura Kraft**, of Battle Creek, were married at Madison on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Miss Mary Powell**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Powell, and **C. E. Hazen** were married at the home of the bride's parents on Thursday evening last. Rev. Mr. Parker officiated. The young couple have The Journal's best wishes. Source: The Norfolk Journal, January 12, 1893, page 5.

**John Maguer** and **Miss Mary Hughes** were married at Battle Creek, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> by the Reverend Father Walsh.

**Sherman Coissart** and **Miss Bertie Lovelace** were married at Battle Creek, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> by Rev. J. S. Coissart.

**W. J. Weisinstein** head cook and **Miss Emma Hans** pastry cook at the Pacific Hotel were reported married at Columbus on Monday.

Source: The Norfolk Journal, January 19, 1893, page 5.

## Norfolk's List of Eligibles

The market for Norfolk bachelors is a trifle slow, and *The Press* has been requested to publish a list stating the particular qualifications and virtues of the various individuals. A few have become benedicts the past year; a few are reported as bespoken, but there are yet several whose names would fit in beautifully with orange blossom stories. *The Press* may later publish a directory of names and qualifications of the Norfolk eligibles, but at this time deems it wise to publish only the names suggested by one who ought to know whereof he speaks: **A. W. Hawkins**, thought to be promised; **W. J. Stafford**, worth while but elusive; **P. E. Carberry**, said to be bespoken; **R. N. Zimmerman**, heart whole and fancy free, but thought to be a trifle finicky; **L. E. Waddick**, single but has hopes; **C. B. Salter**, manly but modest; **Fritz Asmus**, wealthy, popular and in demand; **Bob Ballantyne**, just too sweet, but rather uncertain; **Pete Barrett**, wily and difficult to capture; **E. G. and Lorin F. Bruggeman**, both

popular but too busy to marry; **G. L. Carlson**, a rare specimen and clear out of reach; **Timothy Carribine**, chosen; **Walter Foster**, a dyed-in-the-wool woman hater; **Charles Gerecke**, handsome but thought to be promised; **Wm. J. Kennedy**, wary of matrimonial entanglements; **Herman A. Hauptli**, handsome, but in rather bad standing with feminine Norfolk because of his tenderness toward visitors; **Paul L. Zuelow**, a good catch, but slow to bite; **E. O. Surber**, good looking and popular but hard to please; **H. A. Schelly**, a "dear," but bespoken. Widowers, too, are numerous in Norfolk, and everyone knows widowers make the very best of husbands. These will come in for a write up in an early issue. The staff artist of *The Press* will endeavor to get likenesses of these Norfolk eligibles and publish them together with a "Who's Who" as seen by anxious Norfolk mothers. Source: The Norfolk Press, Friday, March 29, 1912, page 1.

### **Marriage Licenses**

Marriage licenses were issued the past week by county judge M. S. McDuffee to the following: Roy Holton, Tilden, 29 [to] Anna Herden, Tilden, 31; Paul Abraham, Indian, Santee, 23 [to] Cora Cavender, Indian, Santee, 24; Thomas Foss, Tilden, 29 [to] Artie Sutherland, Tilden, 20; Wm. Luebcke, Battle Creek, 35 [to] Sophia Mantey, Battle Creek, 32; Jacob Schmidt, Newman Grove, 28 [to] Lena Knutson, Newman Grove, 20; A. E. Steiner, Kansas City, Mo., 30 [to] Mrs. D. Price, Hutchinson, Kan. 23. Source: The Madison Star-Mail, April 20, 1917 on page 1.