

Card delivered after 96 years

A Christmas postcard, apparently sent from Alma, Neb., to an Oberlin address in 1914, finally arrived in Oberlin last week.

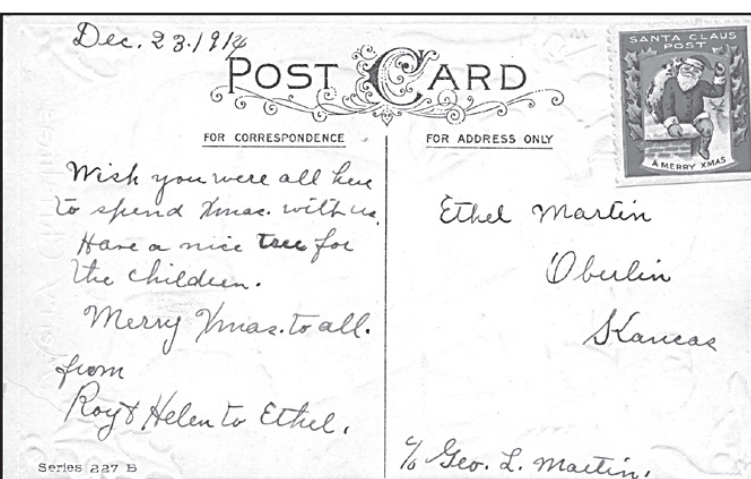
Postal clerk Rob McFee said that he got a call from a post office in Illinois, saying that a card, addressed to Ethel Martin of Oberlin and dated December 1914, had arrived there. They asked him if he knew the recipient and though he didn't, he said that he did know a sister-in-law, Bernice Martin, who lives in Oberlin.

"It is a mystery where the card has been all of these years," said

Martin. "The card was sent by (Ethel Martin's) cousins, Roy and Helen Borges, of Alma. Her parents were George and Lillie (Borges) Martin, and they farmed south of Oberlin."

Their farm is now owned by their grandson, Lee Martin, son of Bernice Martin and the late Kenneth Martin, she said.

Martin said that she knew the Borges family lived at Alma. The card is in perfect condition, the stamp never canceled. It has a Santa stamp, with a Christmas theme, but no postage amount.



This postcard (above), written on Dec. 23, 1914, to a rural Oberlin girl, was addressed to the late Ethel Martin by her cousins, Roy and Helen Borges of Alma, Neb. She was a sister-in-law of Bernice Martin of Oberlin. The front of the card (right), found in a post office in Illinois and sent to the Oberlin post office last week, shows Santa holding a doll.

matters of record

The following people were booked into the Sherman County Bastille:

Nov. 29 — 3:14 p.m., Jeremiah Joseph Maley, 20, Goodland. Failure to comply, bond supplied.

Nov. 30 — 11:29 a.m., James K. Paladino, 58, Goodland. Driving while suspended, bond supplied.

10:22 p.m., Keith S. Kuder, 23, Colby. Failure to appear, court pending.

Dec. 1 — 3:05 p.m., Marty R. Cress, 32, Goodland. Abuse of child under 18, court pending.

Dec. 2 — 12:44 a.m., Justin Beckner, 27, Goodland. Criminal damage to property and accident with

damage, court pending.

4:30 p.m., Rafael Monroy de Los Santos, 25, Palmdale Calif. Operate motor vehicle without license, false id, operate vehicle without insurance, court pending.

4:30 p.m., Richardo Rivera-Montes, 23, Palmdale, Calif. Fictitious drivers license, court pending.

Dec. 4 — 3:43 p.m., Ronald R. Thompson, 46, Goodland. Failure to appear, bond supplied.

Dec. 7 — 4:22 a.m., Byron Keith Manning, 20, Trinidad, Colo. Driving under influence, court pending.

11:14 p.m., Quadalupe Jimenez Gonzalez, 24, Indianapolis, Ind.,

Driving while suspended, felony, 2 driving under influence, improper driving on laned roadway, transporting an open container, court pending.

Dec. 8 — 4:34 a.m., Mark E. Pianalto, 22, Goodland. Accident with damage, reckless driving. Own recognizance bond.

4:11 p.m., Eric Levi Pitcher, 22, Goodland. Obstructing legal process, bond supplied.

Marriages

The following marriage licenses have been issued by the Sherman County District Court: Stephon Tremayne Reese and

Pleasant Marie Oesch, both of Goodland.

Ryan Andrew Scheopner and Sarah Lynne Williams, both of Goodland.

Goodland Police

The following incidents have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

Dec. 2 — 12:11 a.m., 320 W. 11th, arrested Justin Beckner, criminal damage to property, accident involving damage to Aquila gas meter. Case referred to city attorney.

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Kansas' earliest CSI story

Fingerprint ends nationwide '20s manhunt



True crime from the roaring 20s, **The Fleagle Gang, Betrayed by a fingerprint**, begins with a brazen daylight bank robbery of the First National Bank in Lamar, Colo. on May 23, 1928. Four men died, and the robbers escaped — until forensic science caught up with them through a fingerprint.

The bank robbery and national manhunt story was big news more than 75 years ago. We recently found that an old time radio program "Gangbusters" aired a program on Jake and Ralph Fleagle in 1937. There are many old stories about the robbery and the gang, but none cover the events like this book. Book reviewers say this is a great read for true crime history buffs.

The book includes over 100 photos and documents taken from court files plus maps of places where the gang robbed banks and scenes where the murders of the doctor and cashier took place.



Jake Fleagle's arrest photo taken at Stockton, Calif., in the spring of 1929 that lead to the break in the First National Bank of Lamar robbery and murder case. The photo and fingerprints were sent to the FBI in Washington where the connection was made.

Signed copies are available from the author at The Goodland Star-News, 1205 Main

Search inside the book on Google.com and Amazon.com

Author Tom (N.T.) Betz, editor of The Goodland Star-News, has spent more than 45 years in journalism and living on the Great Plains.

"The Fleagle Gang" details the robbery/murder case which hinged on a single fingerprint found on a murdered Dighton, Kan., doctor's car. The fledgling FBI plays a crucial role in turning the fingerprint into solid forensic evidence used to find, arrest and convict members of the Fleagle Gang. The FBI credits the Fleagle case as the first time a single fingerprint was used to identify and convict criminals. The Fleagle Gang robbed banks in Larned, Kinsley, Marysville, Ottawa and McPherson Kan., Lamar, Colo., Eugene, Ore., and countless others of over \$1 million in the 10 years they operated.

"The Fleagle Gang" is available at the Big Timbers Museum in Lamar, Colo., the Holly Library, Holly, Colo.; the Fick Fossil and History Museum in Oakley, Kan., the Finney County Museum and Hastings in Garden City, Kan., the High Plains Museum in Goodland, Kan., the El Quartejo Museum in Scott City, and the Colorado Prison Museum in Canon City, Colo. It is available on-line from the publisher Authorhouse.com, Linda Knott's web bookstore knottjustbooks@spreadtheword.com; Amazon.com; Barnes and Noble; The Tattered Cover and other major book stores.

Check out "The Fleagle Gang" web site at: nwkansas.com/home/fleaglegang.



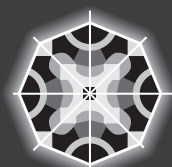
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