

Man found saddle cut to pieces by the opera house

By Evelyn Ward
Sherman County Historical Society
March 19, 1904: Cut Saddle to Pieces With Knife — Saturday night while a saddled horse belonging to one of the Fender boys was standing tied back of the opera house, some malicious person. cut the leather on the saddle in shreds. It was a most disreputable act and should the culprit be found out he ought to be rewarded with the rigorous punishment provided in such cases.
March 20, 1904: As the schools will not close until the latter part of June, it will be necessary for us to have our Teacher's Institute in August. You will receive an announcement later.
The course of study is now in my

today in history
office and will be furnished free at any time to those who expect to attend the institute. J.R. Reed, County Superintendent.
March 21, 1904: "Punkin Husker" Show — The Opera House Couldn't Hold the Crowd and the Receipts Were \$220 — The "Punkin Husker" show at the opera house drew perhaps the largest audience of any similar performance in the history of Goodland.
The play had been well advertised — as any play well attended must be — and this, together with the company's band, gave the public an idea of the importance of the event.
The troupe arrived Saturday, and in both the forenoon and afternoon, the band played on the streets. The music and the jay hawker costumes were drawing cards, especially in the small boy.
Tickets sold so fast that early in the week the regular seats were all taken; loose chairs were provided, and standing room was even sold. The dramatic company consisted of 16 people, and most of the members of the band and orchestra were employed in some of the acts.
The play seemed to take, and most people were pleased, leaving out the most critical. The cast of the play was one of country life, love,

plot and counter plot, with a villain, hero and heroine.
The funny man was a country swain, and the soubrette a young miss from the city slums. The heroine and principal lady and the soubrette played their parts well, the latter especially. The receipts of the play amounted to \$220.
March 22, 1904: J.B. Moore and Ed Strand Carried Their Case to Justice Court — The case in the justice court in which the accounts of the two men ranging from 1898 to 1904 were disputed by each other was settled by the verdict of the jury.
The verdict was to the effect that there was no difference between them, and the costs were assessed to the plaintiff, J.B. Moore. Wilson

brothers were the attorneys for the plaintiff, and E.F. Murphy counsel for the defense.
Mr. Moore's contention before the court was that Ed Strand owed him a balance of \$19, and Mr. Strand offset that with his alleged account of \$30. The case occupied two days.
Several witnesses were introduced on both sides and the evidence submitted to a jury of six men.
Strand and Moore have been neighbors for years and have interchanged work and otherwise had small deals between them.
Recently Strand sold out and was preparing to leave when a settlement between them could not be effected, Moore bringing suit to re-

cover the amount of his claim.
When all had been said between the disputants, each claimed the other owned him and thereby hung the suit.
March 23, 1904: A new tailor shop has started in the Allen building with Phillip Brehm, more commonly known as "Jack, the Tailor," at its head. Jack came to town several years ago and worked in the Warriner tailor shop until it was discontinued when he was employed in the tailor shop of Joe Kolancy.
From weekly issues of The Goodland News, provided by the Sherman County Historical Society. Since the paper was published weekly, some items were arbitrarily assigned a date.

Time flies in March, but weather not lending moisture to our area

March has flown away in great style. We didn't get the moisture I thought we might get, but everything went around us as usual.
Listening to the forecast this evening, the northeast is going to get slammed again with snow, as much as eight inches or more. The southern half of the state is going to get some rain, but their drawings don't show much for us.



Jan Zwetzig
• goodland gazette

Maybe we'll get one like Fort Collins got a year ago that took several roofs off of businesses.

Just before I came home in December, the business Bed, Bath and Beyond moved back to downtown after getting their building reroofed, among other repairs. Their building was severely damaged from that heavy snow last

March. I think they said they had almost three feet of that white stuff over three days or so.
The crocus are blooming in my front yard. The tulips, hyacinths and daffodils are all sticking their noses out from underneath the mulch that has had them covered all winter.
I also noticed the mum plants are also coming forth with new green leaves, so spring isn't that far away.
The television says it will arrive this Friday. Boy I can see a lot of yard work ahead but wonder just how much I'll be able to do. I probably will have to get me some help to at least get the heavy stuff off, and then maybe I can keep up with the rest this summer. At least I hope so.
I got a letter from an Edna Look of Phillipsburg telling me about her family. She came from a family of nine, five boys and four girls. They lived and grew up during the dirty dust bowl years.
Among the family, only one brother, Raymond Hiebert (Barney) is still in Goodland. He is a resident of the Good Samaritan

Center. He worked for the county for many years.
Edna said he served as a radio operator during World War II in 1943-45. Two of the boys were in the army during peace time, two were in World War II, and one was killed in Korea.
He's "truly a home-town war hero, and I think he deserves a pat on the back" was her comment in her letter. So here's to you, Barney, a great big thank you and happy St. Patrick's Day to you from your sister.
I knew Barney's brother Ferd Hiebert and their sister Amy Mosco, who are now both living in the Loveland-Fort Collins area. Their moves were made due to health reasons and being closer to the doctors both are needing. Ferd, or Bud, as I called him, is hoping to get back but will have to see how he gets along. I don't know about Amy but wish them both the best.
I rode along with Lucille to Colby, and it was the first time I was out. I sure enjoyed the trip and hope

to do a few more in the next few weeks. I'm still not driving, but I hope to do that one of these days.
Someone asked me if it's boring having to be so close to home, and I can tell you it is great to get out. Laura came and got me Saturday and took me to the Boy Scouts chili meal, and I really enjoyed that little outing very much.
I saw and visited with several people while there. It's surprising how tired I get on those little jaunts. Each day finds me getting stronger, and one of these days, watch me make tracks. I use my smaller cane more and more each day and use the big walker at night if I need to get up during the night. One of these days, I'll do it without any walkers, thank God.
Birthday greetings to George Sun and Marlyn Mangus. There are no anniversaries, but best wishes to anyone having a special day. Sincere sympathy once again to all mourning the loss of a loved one. I'll see you all next week, God willing.

100-year-old shows trains



Gladys Nicholson, a resident at the Good Samaritan Center, showed Charles V. Strickland from the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board the railroad decorations at the facility during a tour. Strickland came from Wichita to give Nicholson recognition for turning 100 in February. Her husband worked for the railroad until he retired in 1969.

Photo by Sherry Helton

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