

# Locomotive fireman drowned in Smoky Creek

By Evelyn Ward

*Sherman County Historical Society*  
**September 3, 1905:** Drowned In Smoky Creek — C.A. Aderton, a locomotive fireman with the Rock Island at this place, was accidentally drowned in the Smoky.

In the presence of his companions, he went down in a deep hole amid the giant moss, which grew there, and could not extricate himself, and the witnesses of the unhappy event were seemingly unable to give him aid.

It was about half an hour before the body was recovered from the creek. Word was telephoned from the Dyatt ranch to Goodland, giving the news of the sad accident and asking the coroner, Dr. A.C. Gulick, if those in charge of the body should bring it to town. Consent was given, and the body was placed in the undertaking rooms of W.J. Bower & Sons.

James Bainbridge, who is fish and game warden for Sherman County, L.E. Brinker, E.W. McGuire, W. Powers and C.A. Aderton started Saturday morning

## today in history

for the Smoky for a day's vacation and to stock certain holes in the creek with crappie, bass and other game fish received that morning from the state fish warden.

They reached the Smoky at a point 13 miles south of Goodland, south of the Frydendall place and two miles up the stream from the Hutchison ranch. The party secured an A-shaped drag and hitched the horses to it to drag out the excessive growth of moss before the fish were put in.

Two ropes were attached to the rear ends of the drag, one being in the hands of W. Powers and the other in the hands of Aderton.

While this process was going on, Aderton accidentally fell into a deep hole into the thick of this giant moss, becoming so entangled as to render his escape by his own efforts impossible.

The fatal plunge occurred so unexpectedly and Aderton went to the

bottom so soon that it was almost half an hour before the rescuers could recover the body of the unfortunate companion.

The body was viewed by many acquaintances at the undertaking rooms, and Sunday morning it was removed to the home of the deceased.

Monday morning an inquest was held by Coroner Gulick to secure evidence as to the circumstances of the drowning. The verdict of the Jury was "death by accidental drowning."

Funeral services were held at the Christian Church, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Fireman attending in a body. Burial was made in the Goodland Cemetery.

Mr. Aderton was a fireman on trains Nos. 9 and 10. He came here from Limon, Colo., about three years ago. He was 26 years of age and is survived by a wife and child and also by family relatives living

in Limon, who were present at the funeral.

The deceased carried insurance to the amount of \$3,000, \$1,500 being with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and \$1,500 with the Standard Accident Insurance company of Detroit, Mich.

**September 4, 1905:** Postponed One Day — Teachers Going to Denver on Excursion Rate and Can't Get Back — The fall term of the Goodland city schools, which was advertised to begin Sept. 4, has been postponed one day for the sake of the teachers and will not convene until Tuesday, Sept. 5.

It so happens that most of the teachers employed in the city schools have planned to go to Denver during the national Grand Army of the Republic encampment in that city.

They can travel for one cent a mile, and that makes it too cheap to stay at home. But the difficulty is, the tickets are not good to return until Sept. 4, the day that school was scheduled to begin. The board of education found no objection to the

proposed plan of the teachers and so the excursion program will be carried out.

Prof. Mallory states for the benefit of the scholars that will attend school to be sure and be on hand Tuesday morning, when registering and the preliminaries to organizing the school for the new year will be attended to.

**September 5, 1905:** An Electric Light Plant — The city council has passed an ordinance granting a franchise to A.H. Bennett and Galen Nichols of Topeka for an electric light plant.

The franchise is granted for 20 years, after which time the city may acquire the plant if it desires to do so. The other conditions of the franchise are considered very reasonable by those who are familiar with the subject.

It is also understood that an artificial ice plant will be installed under the same roof with the light and power plant.

The ordinance passed the city council by a unanimous vote. The subject was thoroughly gone over,

after which the ordinance passed, being voted on by sections and as a whole.

The public can inform themselves on every detail by a careful reading of the ordinance. It is a move in the right direction, as our growing city needs this auxiliary to its business needs. Street arc lamps are provided for in the ordinance and probably will be installed. The lighting company proposed to furnish electric power where desired by its patrons.

**September 6, 1905:** AD RICHES are not the result of how much you make, but the aggregate of small things you save, therefore isn't it advisable for you to take advantage of our lower prices and equitable workmanship? Prodigality results in Poverty. — Harry J. Rowe Watches, Clock and Jewelry Repairing Goodland, Kansas.

*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.*

# Volunteers, case manager have been helpful

The school year is beginning, and I believe parents are happy that their kids are headed back to class.

We are excited with the number of recent volunteers that have come forth, especially families interested in becoming Bigs for some of our kids on the waiting list. It has also been good to have Wendy Wellmann assist our program as a case manager. I know Wendy has and will continue to make a difference in our community.

I recently heard Randy Travis singing a song he wrote that impressed me, the message being that we all hope to give each child that needs one a friend, that they have an opportunity to eventually "change the world." Please pay attention to the incredible message that the song "Raise Him Up" gives:

When I first met his momma  
 She was just 19.  
 Couldn't say for certain who the



## dennis daise

- big brothers big sisters

What a son can do  
 With a father's love  
 He can change a world

Ya'll may

father was  
 I have known him since he was pup  
 And I'm gonna raise him up

If you never knew your daddy  
 Like I never knew mine  
 It feels like everybody knows you're fatherless

This boy may not be blood of my blood  
 But I'm gonna raise him up

I'll provide for him  
 Walk beside of him  
 I am strong enough  
 Cause it's time he knew

have to look at Joseph  
 A couple thousand years ago  
 When he held a newborn baby he named Jesus

He said he may not be blood of my blood  
 Still I'm gonna raise him up  
 I provide for him  
 Walk beside of him

I am strong enough  
 I will show him too  
 What a son can do  
 With a fathers love  
 And he will change a world

33 years later  
 When the son was in his grave

Broken and abandoned by a world he came to save  
 His real dad said he's mine  
 Blood of my blood  
 And I'm gonna raise him up

I'll provide for you  
 Walk beside of you  
 I am strong enough  
 I have seen from you  
 What a son can do  
 With a fathers love  
 One man changed the world  
 And he can change your world  
 But you gotta raise him up  
 Raise him up

To finish, please watch for information concerning a "Family Fun Day" event on September 26 that encourage families to daily eat at least one meal together. With our busy lives these days, the family meal is nearly extinct. Please don't let that become a reality — participate and shut off the television!

## rotary news

The Goodland Rotarians were treated Friday to an informative program given by engineer John McCullough, who was born in Scotland and lives in England, the project engineer for Goodland Energy Resources.

McCullough told the Rotarians of his life's work in engineering and coal processing in different countries throughout the world. He explained the intricacies and the importance of coal processing and said the coal-fired plant being built in Sherman County will be one of the most modern and environmentally-friendly plants.

He said, "This plant will be extremely clean burning and a very friendly neighbor to all."

The Rotary Club has volunteered to help with the "Rod Run" which will be one of the features at the Flatlander Fall Festival in Goodland on September 24.

Friday evening before the Hoxie-Goodland football game, Rotarians and their guests from Hoxie held a tailgate party at Steever Park. About 45 members and their children were in attendance.

Friday Rotarian of the Day will be Marty Melia, radio station owner. Marty has asked his father, Kay Melia, a local radio personality, who for many years was co-host with Dale Schilling of the unforgettable "Good Neighbor Hour," to present his favorite program, "Gardening in the High Plains."

## public notice

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS**  
 FILED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 59 OF THE KANSAS STATUTES ANNOTATED

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DALE R. FREYTAG, Deceased.**

Case No. 05 PR 10

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT**

The State of Kansas to All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed on the 31st day of August, 2005, in said Court by E. Darline Freytag, executor of the estate of Dale R. Freytag, deceased, praying for a final settlement of the estate, approval of her acts, proceedings and accounts as executor, allowance for attorneys' fees

and expenses, determination of the heirs, devisees and legatees entitled to the estate and assignment to them in accordance with the Will of Dale R. Freytag, deceased. You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 27th day of September, 2005, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on said day, in said Court, in the City of Goodland, in Sherman County, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course and upon said petition.

E. Darline Freytag  
 Executor

VIGNERY & MASON L.L.C.  
 214 E. 10th, P. O. Box 767  
 Goodland, Kansas 67735  
 Telephone: 785-890-6588  
 Attorneys for Petitioner

Published in The Goodland Star-News Tuesdays, September 6, 13 and 20, 2005

## music club news

The Goodland Federated Music Club met in Linda Koons' parking lot at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 21, to carpool to Burlington.

The members experienced "yesterday" with a tour of the Kit Carson County Carousel and the Monster Military Band Organ. For 25 cents, they each chose an animal to ride on the carousel.

Everybody brought a sack lunch for a picnic in the park. President Birkley Barnes called the meeting to order during the picnic. Martha Gunderson led the club in singing the state and local club songs and the Hymn of the Month, "I Love to Tell the Story," by Katherine Hankey and William G. Fischer.

After the reading of the collect, Gunderson called the roll. Nine members answered: Barnes, Gunderson, Koons, Linda Lucas, Joanna Norris Grimshaw, Sharon Palmquist, Pat Schiefen, Eva Lou Selby and Isabelle Hellerud. Eva

Lou's husband Bill Selby was a guest. Lucas, secretary, read the minutes, and Gunderson gave the treasurer's report.

Gunderson reported on plans for the Northwest District Meeting in Goodland. Koons, yearbook chair, reported on the yearbook for 2005-06. The local theme is "Music... A Treasure Chest of Our Best." The August program is the "Kit Carson County Carousel, Round Tones."

On Oct. 1, "Sharing Our Music," the Goodland club is holding the Northwest District Meeting of the Kansas Federation of Music Clubs at the Sunrise Christian Church.

On Nov. 6, "Pumping up America" is "Dedicated to the Parade of American Music." The club will travel to Sharon Springs to see Dick Rhea's Antique Organ Museum, topping the afternoon off with dessert at Penny's Diner.

Dec. 5, "Do You Hear What I Hear?" is an evening of Christmas

caroling, a study of Menotti, who wrote "Amahl and the Night Visitors," a poem and other Christmas music, vocal, piano and recorders.

"We Love Mozart" is the theme for Feb. 6 and is demonstrated with piano and clarinet performances. A John Stanley organ piece will add a little spice, as will the love songs for group singing.

March 6 will provide members an opportunity to reminisce about "Memories of Our Teachers and Their Influences on Our Lives." Group singing of Irish songs, a cool poem, a barbershop quartet, music of Dmitri Kabalevsky for piano, music of Joe Bishop and Gordon Jenkins for clarinet and piano... What's not to like?

April 3, "April Showers" inspires rain songs for group singing. An A.E. Housman poem and music of Robert W. Thygerson for piano, Ross Edwards and Henry Purcell for recorders provide music for a

rainy day. Music of the medical missions sisters and Wilfred Roberts rounds out the program of recorder, singing and guitar.

May 7, "Tomorrow's Treasures" showcases the musicianship of our junior and senior students. May 7-14 is National Music Week, and the theme is "Music... A Great Joy in Life."

June 6, "Gershwin — 'Swonderful!'" Group singing of George and Ira Gershwin songs kicks off an evening of celebrating through vocal and piano performances the 110th anniversary of Ira Gershwin's birth. An exciting contrast will be the music of Egnacio Sevantes.

The meeting adjourned for another ride on the carousel. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 1, at the Sunrise Christian Church, Ninth and Caldwell.

Submitted by Birkley A. Barnes, publicity chair.

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