

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1928

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## PARSONS FAMILY RECORDED IN HISTORY

DATES BACK TO YEAR 1843

Acquire Large Tract of Land; Phillip Vedder's Also Are Early Settlers and Neighbors

Alfred Parsons and Phillip Vedder came to Deerfield in 1843. Grandparents of Lura Parsons Jordan of Arden Farm on Telegraph road and County Line.

Phillip Vedder was born in Granville near Schenectady on March 21, 1804. In a nearby town, Glenville, lived Margaret Haverly, born April 29, 1810. They were married December 23, 1824, and one son and three daughters were born to them.

Stephen Parsons and Pena, his wife, who lived in Denmark, Lewis county, N. Y., had three sons and one daughter. The eldest son was Alfred, born April 6, 1810.

When Phillip Vedder and wife with their small children moved to this town there must have developed a firm friendship, for Phillip and Alfred Parsons formed a friendly partnership and with some cousins of the Vedders emigrated to Chicago. Alfred Parsons was but six years younger than Phillip, and seems to have been the leader and financier. It is possible that the two men first came out alone and looked over the land and began negotiations to purchase. The homesteads of the Vedders and Parsons were purchased from the government in 1841 by a Conrad Hyre and Mary Warner. Parsons and Vedder purchased the land on October 18, 1843. They built two log cabins on the high land back from the Telegraph road, a spot which was just on the edge of the woods facing the little natural prairie, which lay between the Shokie woods and the Des Plaines river woods.

In one of these two cabins lived Phillip Vedder and his family; in the other the cousins and Alfred Parsons. In the two years which followed Mr. Parsons purchased a joining forty from non-residents, who had probably got them from the government, as a matter of speculation, until he and Mr. Vedder owned nearly a thousand acres in the vicinity.

On September 30, 1844 Alfred Parsons married Mr. Vedder's eldest daughter, Susan. After their marriage they went back to New York, probably to visit his widowed mother. When they returned to Deerfield, possibly in the fall of 1845, they built their home of a few rooms across the road from the log cabins in which the Vedders lived. It is probable that at the same time Mr. Parsons built his house of lumber and hand-hewn oak beams that Mr. Vedder built his new house which is still the rear wing of the old Vedder home. They brought with them from New York the seed of the locust trees which they both planted around their homes, and followed the custom of New England and New York in planting evergreen trees and an osage orange hedge.

Mr. Parsons owned huge flocks of sheep and cattle but his chief interest was in land transactions. Quoting from an account published in 1886: "Although not a speculator in the common acceptance of the term, he had faith in the future development of these western prairies, and purchased large tracts of lands," here and there as far west as Freeport and "resold to settlers for farms, taking a small cash payment and the balance in yearly installments."

He never was oppressive in his dealings with his creditors on account of deferred payments occasioned by poor crops, or low prices but on the contrary was lenient toward all who made proper efforts to discharge their just obligations to him.

From 1865 to 1870 he acquired a large tract of state land, about 1500 acres, in and about Des Plaines. He and Mr. Simon Lee laid out the Parsons and Lee addition to Des Plaines and were loyal residents there. In 1870 Mr. Parsons built his home there and lived there until his death on December 6, 1886.

His name is intimately connected with many town projects. He gave land for the founding of the Congregational church. The second floor of his store building on the main street was for many years the only public hall.

About a year previous, Jan. 23, 1885, Phillip Vedder had died, in his home which he had built. For many years Margaret, his daughter, had been the head of the household, for her mother had died November 29, 1856. Mrs. Vedder was still a young woman, only 46, and had been an invalid for a long time, and when she died Margaret was only eighteen years of age.

The children of Alfred and Susan Parsons were born (with exception of Ellen) and reared in the old home which still stands, much as it was when they left it for their new house in Des Plaines. Charles and Albert

were young men when they left for Des Plaines, Hattie a lively girl of eleven, and Phillip, the baby, only three years old. But Deerfield and Des Plaines though much further apart in the days of horses and buggies, were always closely associated in their lives, and in the lives of the children of Charles Parsons.

When on October 9, 1877, Charles married Rose Davison Goodfellow, of Arlington Heights, his father gave him the old homestead at Deerfield. They lived there a few years, then in Arlington Heights as her mother's delicate health seemed to need her nearer. In later years Charles returned to the Parsons home in Des Plaines. So the old Deerfield farm was rented year after year to tenants until a granddaughter, Lura Parsons Jordan, and her husband bought it from the other heirs in 1915.

Sons of Charles Parsons: Harrie Alfred Parsons and Roy Milton Parsons were born in the old homestead. Robert Eastborn Jordan is the fourth generation to live in the Parsons house.

Lura Parsons Jordan has the old school books that were used in New York by her great-grandfather Stephen Parsons. One is signed and dated 1807, and seems to be a book of religious essays and hymns. There is an Emigrant's Directory published in 1817, over which he pored, and it was probably his interest in this far country of Illinois that incited his son, Alfred, to come out here, for Stephen died in 1832, when his son was twelve, the adventurous age.

In the course of thirty-two months the forty acres, which Alfred Parsons finally bought, had been transferred three times before he bought it. One piece was owned by Andre Myre, of the Rokenbach pioneer party from Alsace.

Mrs. E. B. Jordan has the old four poster spool bed, spool crib, some tables, a clock, and other furniture which were her grandmother's, also some brown Wedgewood, a few lustre pieces, and some silver.

An Indian tree on the bank of the Middle Branch, the old stream that flows through Arden Farm woods, is a huge maple, and the bend in the tree points southward. Members of the Jordan family have picked up in the open many fine arrow heads, also parts of arrow heads, which indicate a camping ground.

Charles Parsons recalled the Indians passing by, and camping for weeks when they came to see John K. Clark ("Indian" Clark), who lived south of the Parsons farm.

Four babies of the Parsons family, one was a five year old son, are buried on the hill north of the Parsons-Jordan home. The tombstones have been laid flat and are hidden in the bushes there.

An unusually large number of large glacial granite boulders have been unearthed in plowing the Parsons farm. Some of these have been utilized in making a fire place in the home, and others have recently been made into a rock garden for Mr. Jordan, who with a Mr. Gage have started a nursery and landscape business.

**MRS. KNAAK GIVES BOOKS TO LIBRARY**

The Literary Guild of America has quite a number of subscribers in Deerfield. Our understanding is that they send to their subscribers one book a month, which books are supposed to be the newest and best books published.

Mrs. Alvin Knaak is a member of this guild, and has just presented to the Deerfield Library association, the books she has received in the past, of this guild, and is going to give us what books she receives this year. This will give us the newest books as they come out.

We have just finished ordering 50 more new books, which should be ready for circulation the latter part of this week. A list of their titles will be published in the next week's paper.

**CELEBRATE GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Perry Married 50 Years; Hold Party New Year's Eve

On New Year's eve at their home on Rosemary terrace, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Perry celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Fifty relatives and friends attended.

On a table beautifully decorated in yellow and white with a wedding cake in the center, a sumptuous dinner was served.

Following the dinner, Rev. A. P. Johnson reread the marriage lines to Mr. and Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Philip Schaefer, sister of the groom acted as bridesmaid and Mr. William Kincaid, a brother-in-law, as best man. Mr. Kincaid attended the ceremony fifty years ago.

Showers of rice and congratulations were extended to the couple who also were the recipients of many lovely gifts. Mr. and Mrs. Perry have lived in Deerfield many years, where they have a host of friends who hold them in high esteem.

## LEGION AUXILIARY OFFICERS INSTALLED

Vote to Hold District Meeting Jan. 25; Meeting Monday at Mrs. Clavey's

The January meeting of the Deerfield American Legion auxiliary was held at the home of Mrs. Raymond Clavey on Second street, Monday afternoon. Mrs. E. Mieczynski, eighth district committee woman of North Chicago, and Mrs. Kynberg, district secretary of Waukegan, installed the following newly elected officers:

President, Mrs. Harry Mau; vice-president, Mrs. Raymond Clavey; second vice-president, Mrs. George Jacobs; historian, Mrs. Jesse Strong; sergeant-at-arms, Mrs. Chas Steiner; chaplain, Mrs. William Tennerman; secretary, Mrs. Alex Willman.

The following committee chairmen were appointed by the president: Rehabilitation, Mrs. Harry Whitcomb; social, Mrs. Theo. Taylor; Americanism, Mrs. John Farmer; membership, Mrs. Ed. Jacobson; publicity, Mrs. Alex Willman; finance, Mrs. Glenn Bowman; child welfare, Mrs. George Harder.

Mrs. Harry Mau reported that the committee who were appointed at the previous meeting had investigated and found a Deerfield family in great need at Christmas time and the ten dollars appropriated by the unit was spent for food and clothing and that the committee had been instrumental in obtaining help from other sources.

The unit voted to hold a district meeting on January 25 and Mrs. Ed. Jacobson and Mrs. C. Steiner were appointed to find a meeting place.

All the members of the local unit are expected to attend this meeting but voting power is given only to six delegates, including the president. Mrs. F. Jacobs, Sr., Mrs. Earl Frost, Miss Louise Huhn, Mrs. Philip Scully, Sr., and Mrs. Alex Willman were appointed as the delegates.

Sandwiches and cake was served at the conclusion of the meeting by the hostess, Mrs. Theo. Taylor, Raymond Clavey and Glenn Bowman.

The next regular meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Alex Willman with Mrs. E. H. Willman as assistant hostess on Monday evening, February 13.

## BASKETBALL TEAM IN SUBURBAN LEAGUE

St. Paul's Group Joins Northwest Division Schedule of Games

Representatives of five teams met Thursday, Dec. 22, at St. Peter's Community hall and formed the Northwest Suburban Basketball league. The members of the league are:

St. Peter's of Northbrook, St. Paul's of Deerfield, Morton Grove Cardinals, Niles Center and Glenview.

A schedule, which runs from January 9 to April 5 was drawn up. The schedule is so arranged that each team plays twelve games. Games will be played at St. Peter's Community hall on Sherman avenue, one and one-half miles southeast of Northbrook and at the new Niles Center public school on Lincoln and Harms avenues.

Following is the St. Paul's schedule: Tuesday, Jan. 10, Morton Grove; Tuesday, Jan. 17, St. Peter's; Monday, Feb. 2, Niles Center; Monday, Feb. 6, Glenview; Tuesday, Feb. 14, Morton Grove; Tuesday, Feb. 21, St. Peter's; Thursday, Feb. 23, Glenview; Thursday, March 8, Niles Center; Monday, March 12, Glenview; Tuesday, March 20, Morton Grove; Tuesday, March 27, Niles Center; Thursday, March 29, St. Peter's.

All but the two games for February 2nd and March 8, will be played at the St. Peter's Community hall. There will be no admission charged at the games.

Please cut out the above schedule for future reference.

## JOSEPH TESAR DIES HERE; FUNERAL HELD

Joseph Tesar, gardener for George Donnesberger, 902 South Green Bay road, died Jan. 5, aged 59 years. The funeral was held Saturday and burial was in the Bohemian National cemetery, Chicago. Decedent was a widower without children as far as known here.

## DEERFIELD R. N. A. TO INSTALL OFFICERS

The Deerfield R. N. A. will hold installation ceremonies at the Masonic temple on Thursday evening, Jan. 12. Only members, their families and a few friends are invited to witness the ceremonies.

The New Year is represented in pictures as a kind of infant Cupid, but anyway he is big enough to hand us a real wallop in the form of the January 1 bills.

Congress has returned from its holiday vacation, but no one threatened to attack us because they weren't in session.

## CIVIC OPERA PROGRAM FOR WEEK IS GIVEN

Feature of the Twelfth Week Outlined; Is Next to Final Seven Days

The twelfth and next to final week of Chicago's civic opera season begins Sunday afternoon, Jan. 15, with a gala matinee performance of "The Jewels of the Madonna," at which the many opera lovers, both from the city and the suburbs, who find this particular time of the week most convenient for attending performances, will hear a distinguished cast in one of the most popular of all modern operas. Rosa Raisa will once more have the role of Malialla.

"Faust" will be repeated Monday night, Jan. 16, with the company's new Belgian tenor, Rene Maisson, in the title role. Edith Mason, Vanni-Marcoux, Desire Defrere and Maria Claessens will have familiar parts. Tuesday's bill is "La Gioconda," one of the season's most popular operas, with Rosa Raisa, Lorna Doone Jackson, Augusta Lenska, Charles Marshall, Cesare Formichi and Chase Baromeo in principal roles. The ballet will be seen in the famous "Dance of the Hours."

Florence Macbeth, eminent American coloratura soprano, will rejoin the company for Wednesday's mid-week matinee, when "Rigoletto" is given its last hearing of the season. Charles Hackett's first appearance as the Duke this season will be an added attraction. Richard Bonelli, Lorna Doone Jackson and Chase Baromeo will have other roles. Henry G. Weber will conduct. The performance will be sung at popular prices.

"Sapho" will be given its second performance Wednesday evening with the same cast heard in its revival a week before.

Thursday's bill will be the delightful opera, "Die Fledermaus," heard for the second time since its introduction as a special New Year's Eve bill.

"Resurrection" will be given its only performance of the season as Friday night's special bill. "La Traviata" will be repeated at the Saturday matinee, with Claudia Muzio in the title role. "Carmen" will constitute the bill for the popular-priced Saturday night performance.

## DIES IN WAUKESHA FUNERAL HELD HERE

A. Joseph Arnold, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony James Arnold, 1625 Broadview avenue, died Jan. 7, in Waukesha, where he was employed as a bookkeeper. Heart trouble was the cause of death. He was 24 years, 6 months and 17 days old. The funeral was held at the H. M. Prior company's chapel, here, and burial was in Rosehill cemetery.

## HIGHWOOD BOY DIES OF HEART TROUBLE

George F. Reilly, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Reilly, 108 Elm avenue, Highwood, died last Friday of acute heart trouble, aged 11 years and 16 days. The funeral was held at St. James church, Highwood, on Monday, and burial was in the North Shore cemetery.

## What Am I Doing This For

I told you quite a spell back that I'd got a new slant on this advertising thing and I think it's about time to go a step further. Gotta 'nother thought.

I want it thoroughly understood that I CAN'T AFFORD to tell you each and every week ALL the bargains, ALL the new stuff, ALL the good things I've got here in store for you to shop over. You've got to form the habit of grabbing your purses by the nape of the neck, and coming down here FIRST when you start out on a shopping toot!

I generally look over the store carefully before I write this weekly ad. Then I jot down different items that I KNOW are mighty good buys for ANY one. When I look over my list I always find I've got about ten times more items than I can use. Result is I have to cull out and cull out until I can get a few em for the size of my advertising wad. Point is, I want you to ask us folks for stuff EVEN IF IT ISN'T ADVERTISED!

Shorty said yesterday: "Doc, don't anybody know how to write here in this town? Generally when I write for a guy press-agenting, folks write me letters and such—what's the matter with this town? Why don't you sell 'em some pen and inks, Doc, and see what they got on their chests?"

However, that's got nothing to do with the idea I want you to get. COME IN ANYHOW, WE'VE PROBABLY GOT IT!

MELVIN D. SWEETLAND.

## Shorty Says:



I see Doc's hinting that you write me a letter about something and didyuh notice how he brings in something about selling pens-and ink. Always wanting to SELL something. I DID say what Doc says I did, but I see no good reason why he should bust out in print about it. I like the simple things, simple life, simple people, so today to be more than usual simple, I borries the landlady's youngster's play clothes and Boy! you got no idea how cam it makes one! It beats a lot of the ammonias and face powders and hair-tonics that Doc's always recommending to folks that come in his store.

Come in and see us sometime.

## SCOUTS PREPARE FOR FIRST AID CONTEST

The Boy Scouts of America were incorporated on February 8, 1910. During Anniversary week, February 5 to 12, scouts in every state in the Union are uniting in a wide spread celebration.

In a bulletin issued this week from local scout headquarters, the request was made that every church, school, civic club, community and home group will at sometime during that week, or during the early part of February make some recognition of the fine work that scouting is doing in the development of boys into men. The plan for commemorating the week is as follows:

Sunday, Feb. 5—Boy Scout day in Church school.

Monday, Feb. 6—Parent day, Scout participation in the home.

Tuesday, Feb. 7—Community day. Recognition of the Scout Master.

Wednesday, Feb. 8—Boy Scout day in school. Every scout is asked to renew his pledge on this Anniversary day.

Thursday, Feb. 9—Scout Troop day.

Friday, Feb. 10—Boy Scouts and civic clubs.

Saturday, Feb. 11—Boy Scout Service day. "Good Turn" to community.

Sunday, Feb. 12—Boy Scout day in church. Lincoln's birthday.

Theme: "Adult Responsibility for Boyhood."

## Beautify Your Grounds

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# \$8.85 a pair

An I seeing straight? Florsheims for 8.85? Lead me to it!

Let's go, Al, Here's the address!

## Fell Bros

DON'T MISS THIS SALE—it's the only time you can get Florsheim Shoes at this low price.

## Are Your Canary and Dog Going to Florida, Too?

We have Kaemfer's bird seed to We have KAEMFER'S BIRD SEED to keep it happy and certainly SPRATT'S DOG CAKES are absolutely necessary! And there you ARE!

## Why Deny Your Grandchildren!

What would YOU give for a series of snap shots of YOUR great grandfather? YOUR great grandmother AT THE AGE OF FIFTEEN!! Don't you realize that the camera pictures you take TODAY become priceless as the years roll on? Why not make it a RULE to take a certain number of "snaps" each month? Thousands of thoughtful citizens are doing this. We carry EASTMAN KODAKS and films and do 24 hour developing.

## "Mad Skin!"

A kid six years of age slides up to me last week and says: "Please, Mister, my Ma sent me in here with this money to get something for her hands—'the skin's mad and bitin' me!" His HANDS were all chapped and nearly bleeding but the bottle of EVENOD LOTION we sent him home with fixed 'em up all quiet again!

## Sweetland's PHARMACY

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