

**N & O Obituaries pre-1923, not previously shared
(from Monica Schirmer Eshelman)**

Date of death: 19 Oct 1909

Subject: William Gatzell Nardin

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 21 Oct 1909, p. 2

Savannah, Mo., Oct. 21.—Schools were closed yesterday on account of the death of little William Gatzell, one of the twin sons of Professor and Mrs. George F. Nardin.

Mrs. Nardin was called to Vandalia some weeks ago, by the serious illness of her mother, Mrs. William Gatzell. Mrs. Gatzell died Thursday of last week. Previous to her death Professor Nardin, who is superintendent of schools, had been called to Vandalia on account of the sickness of his little son. Daily messages were received regarding the condition of little "Mike," as he was lovingly called. Tuesday the message bore the sad news of the little one's death. He was buried yesterday at Vandalia. Misses Alice Sutherland and Ruth Colby were sent by the school to attend the funeral and to bear messages of condolence and love to Superintendent and Mrs. Nardin. The good accomplished by Superintendent Nardin among the children of Savannah makes this great grief, which has come to him and his, deeply felt in every home in the city.

Date of death: 13 Oct 1910

Subject: Solomon Nation

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 13 Oct 1910, p. 4

Solomon Nation, fifty-two years old, died at 4:30 o'clock this morning at the family home, 2411 Locust street. He is survived by his widow, a son and a daughter.

Date of death: [22] Feb 1901

Subject: Jake Neal*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 23 Feb 1901, p. 3

Dies in His Lonely Cabin.

Uncle Jake Neal Found Dead in Old Farm Shanty.

Venerable Negro Died as He was Upon the Very Threshold of His Hundredth Anniversary.

[*Several paragraphs illegible*]

Never Left Jones Family.

[*Several paragraphs illegible*]

... Africa... Jake ... went ... the place was fixed ... time ... of his former... an ... man was sitting at a ... wood piled in a ... sug ... his meager ... John left Uncle Jake ... Home Sweet Home in a ... When Young Jones ... latter ... when Jones went ... bed .. Uncle Jake

Date of death: 14 May 1920

Subject: James Andrew Nelson

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 14 May 1920, p. 6

James A. Nelson, seventy-six years old, a retired farmer, died at 10:20 o'clock this forenoon at his home, 217 Clayton street. He is survived by his widow, two sons and a daughter: John Nelson, Longdale, Okla.; James Nelson, St. Joseph, and Mrs. Mary Hoffman, St. Joseph. The body was removed to H. O. Sidenfaden's chapel, where the funeral will be held. Mr. Nelson was a Civil War veteran and a member of Custer Post, G.A.R.

Date of death: 29 Nov 1907

Subject: John Nelson*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 30 Nov 1907, p. 8

That death resulted from his being struck by Burlington switch engine No. 1440, in the yards south of Florence crossing, at 2 o'clock yesterday morning was the result of the coroner's inquest over the body of John Nelson, the negro who was killed, as announced in yesterday's Gazette. Nelson was employed as a porter at a restaurant near the Union station.

Date of death: 24 Feb 1901

Subject: Fanny Marvin (Newell) Waters

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 25 Mar 1901, p. 3

Mrs. J. F. Waters Passes Away

Funeral of Wife of Well-Known Commission Merchant Today.

[*Article illegible*]

same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 3 Mar 1901, p. 2

[Savannah, Mo.]—The funeral services of Mrs. J. F. Walters [sic] who died in St. Joseph Sunday morning were held at the Presbyterian church here Monday afternoon, after which the body was interred in Savannah cemetery.

Date of death: 4 Feb 1917

Subject: J. J. Nichols

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 5 Feb 1917, pp. 1 & 2

Six men were asphyxiated here yesterday morning as the result of carelessness in the use of gas stoves, and one boy was saved from death only by prompt action.

J. J. Nichols, Dick Blackstone, F. Kelley [sic], and John Wolf, laborers employed at the Hammond Packing company, all about 35 years old, were found dead in their room at a lodging

house at 610 Locust street at 9 o'clock yesterday morning by Mrs. Emma Herbert, their housekeeper, and at noon yesterday, Gus Kemper, 26 years old, of Cabool, Mo., and George Payne, 17 years old, a delivery boy for the Jones drug store, were found dead in the latter's room at 417 North Seventh street, by Mrs. Mary Fitzgerald, who occupies the adjoining room.

The first case was reported to the police shortly after the discovery by Mrs. Herbert. Patrolmen Bauer and Fairbanks went to the house to investigate and were almost overcome by the gas when they opened the door of the room. They had to leave the door open for a few moments before they could get to the bodies of the men, who were lying in two double beds. The bodies were still warm, indicating that the men had not been dead very long. Dr. Forrest Thomas, coroner, was called and after viewing the bodies ordered them sent to Sidenfaden's undertaking parlors.

When Mrs. Fitzgerald discovered the odor of gas at the Seventh street rooming house yesterday noon she called some of the other roomers and they forced the transom, which had been tightly closed. The strong rush of gas coming from the room prompted them to open the door at once and they found the bodies of the two on the bed. They were cold and had probably been dead for some time.

The coroner was called and after viewing the bodies they were sent to Sidenfaden's. It is not probable that an inquest will be held in either case, according to the coroner.

Young Payne is a son of Edward Payne, 917 Grand avenue, an employe at the Burlington freighthouse. He had been working at the Jones Drug store, Eighth and Edmond streets, a little over a month. He has no other relatives here, but a sister, Maggie, and a brother, Homer, live at Versailles, Ill. The body will be taken to Versailles tonight for burial.

Later Dr. Thomas issued a warning against carelessness to all users of gas heaters, urging that no one go to sleep in a room with one of them burning and all the windows closed.

Kemper came to St. Joseph two weeks ago and enrolled in the Gard Business college, quitting a week later and going to Maryville. He returned to St. Joseph Saturday. He was a friend of Payne's and went to spend the night at the latter's room. A letter was found in a pocket of his coat addressed to Mrs. Josie Eimers at Maryville, Mo. A telegram to her brought the information that he had a brother, Herman, at Cabool. When the brother was notified, he ordered the body sent to that place today.

Of the men found at 610 Locust, Kelley and Blackstone had been there since Jan. 29, when they started to work at the packinghouse. Nothing is known of their relations. Blackstone is a member of the Industrial Workers of the World. A card of the organization was found in his pocket. He came here from Kansas City. The other two had only been at the house since Saturday when they began working at the Hammond plant.

The room in which they were found was a small one with one large window, one door, and one small window. All of these were tightly closed and the marks left by the flames on the stove showed that it had been going full blast.

The room on north Seventh street was also a very small one with two windows and one door, all closed. The stove here had been placed at the foot of the bed and showed that the flames had been rather high.

Eli Ruth, 16 years old, living at 311 North Fifth street, was rendered unconscious at 5 o'clock last night by fumes from a gas stove in the bathroom of his home. Dr. J. L. Cox, police surgeon, was called and succeeded in reviving the lad, who soon recovered. He had been taking a bath in the tightly closed room. Persons in the house became alarmed when they detected the odor and when the boy did not answer their calls they notified the police.

The peculiarities of the six cases which proved fatal make it exceedingly difficult for the authorities to place the blame for the accidents. Apparently all six of the men had gone peaceably to bed and had fallen into a sleep in which they were not even slightly disturbed. The position of the bodies, of the bedclothes, and the expression on their faces indicated that there had been no suffering.

The theory advanced by Dr. Forrest Thomas, coroner, is that the gas was turned high and that the pressure later became lower, putting out the flames. Then when the pressure again became higher the gas filled the room.

Officials of the gas company say this would have been impossible, and that the pressure has not been at any time low enough to extinguish these fires.

It is the theory of these officials that, with the room closed tight, the flames consumed all the oxygen in the rooms, and that the flames were out because of lack of oxygen. They contend that the gas then filled the rooms, causing the deaths.

To support their contention, they cite several cases of gas heaters left burning all Saturday night. In these cases, they say, windows were left open, and the occupants of the rooms suffered no ill effects.

Dr. Thomas said yesterday he probably would hold no inquests, as it was his belief they were not necessary.

The condition of the bodies at the two separate houses, those at the Locust street house yet warm, and those at the North Seventh street house, found some time later, quite cold, gives rise to the belief that the deaths occurred about the same time.

Date of death: 6 May 1915

Subject: William Holt Nichols

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 7 May 1915, p. 5

William H. Nichols, 71 years old, died early yesterday morning at a local hospital. He is survived by one son, Louis L. Nichols, of this city, and one daughter, Mrs. Joseph Soward, of Albany, Mo.

Date of death: 20 Oct 1910

Subject: August Nosman

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 20 Oct 1910, p. 4

August Nossman, aged 50 years, a farmer, died at 10 o'clock this forenoon at his home, six miles north of the city, on the Amazonia road. He is survived by his widow and three children. The dead man was a member of Humboldt Lodge No. 120, I.O.O.F.

Date of death: 10 Feb 1907

Subject: Virginia E. Nuckols

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 11 Feb 1907, p. 6

Miss Virginia E. Nuckols, of Savannah, Mo., died of cancer, at a local hospital at 2:10 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The body was taken to Savannah last night.

Date of death: 25 Feb 1917

Subject: John O'Brien

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 26 Feb 1917, p. 6

John O'Brien, forty-five years old, died last night in a local hospital. He was unmarried and had been employed at the St. Francis Hotel. He has relatives in Montreal and the body will be sent to that city.

Date of death: 16 Jan 1913

Subject: _____ O'Connor

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 17 Jan 1913, p. 5

An unidentified man, supposed to be a member of a section gang camping in the Burlington yards, was run over and instantly killed near Fifth and Cedar streets late last night by a string of freight cars that were being switched around. It is supposed that he attempted to jump a car in order to ride down to the camp and missed his hold. He was thrown under the car and dragged some distance, being badly mutilated. Coroner Thomas J. Lynch viewed the body and ordered it sent to Rock & Clark's undertaking establishment. A book found in the dead man's pocket is marked with the name of O'Connor.

Date of death: 31 Jan 1912

Subject: Edward O'Donnell

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 1 Feb 1912, p. 6

Mrs. Lucy Thomas and Edward O'Donnell, both of whom died suddenly yesterday morning, were victims of heart disease, in the opinion of the jury at the coroner's inquest at H. O. Sidenfaden's today. Mrs. Thomas was buried in Mount Mora Cemetery this afternoon.

Date of death: 11 Sep 1907

Subject: Mrs. Martha K. O'Reilly

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 16 Sep 1907, p. 9

Maryville, Mo., Sept. 16.—Funeral services over the remains of Mrs. M. K. Reilly [sic], mother of Mrs. Samuel Prather, were held this afternoon by the Rev. D. Kricher [sic], pastor of the Presbyterian church. The funeral was held at Mrs. Prather's home. Mrs. O'Reilly died suddenly Saturday afternoon. She came to this section with her husband in 1865 and was about seventy years of age at the time of her death. Mr. O'Reilly, who was prominently identified with commercial interests here, died twenty years ago.

Date of death: 15 Aug 1909

Subject: Bridget E. (O'Riley) McGettigan

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 16 Aug 1909, p. 3

Mrs. Bridget McGettigan, aged 76 years, died at 5 o'clock Sunday morning at 607 North Ninth street. The body will be taken to Conception, Mo. today for burial.

Date of death: 2 May 1909

Subject: daughter of Archie Ogle

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 3 May 1909, p. 3

The two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Ogle of Pettipier's addition, died at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ogle, 6310 Sherman street, Sunday evening, from the effects of drinking lye. The funeral was held this afternoon. Burial was in Green Cemetery. The child drank some lye last Wednesday afternoon, but it was not thought it swallowed enough to produce death. A physician was called at the time and antidotes were administered, which were thought to have relieved all danger.

Date of death: 1/2 Jul 1905

Subject: Mrs. Ida Ogle

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 4 Jul 1905, p. 7

Mrs. Ida Ogle, who died Sunday afternoon at her home on Sparta road, was buried this morning at Green Hill [sic] Cemetery. Death was caused by consumption, and was not unexpected. She is survived by a mother, husband and a baby three weeks old.

Date of death: unknown

Subject: John O. Olds*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 5 Aug 1906, p. 1- *not an obituary*

Angered because 30 cents he won at pool was not immediately paid him William Brooks, a negro, secured a revolver and shot John O. Olds, another negro, inflicting a serious wound. The shooting occurred shortly before 6 o'clock last night in the basement of the old Transit house, a negro rendezvous on West Missouri avenue, South St. Joseph.

Leaving the pool room as the crowd gathered about Olds, who had fallen to the floor, Brooks coolly walked up Missouri avenue and disappeared. The police arrived shortly after, but were given only meaged [sic] information as to the direction taken by the negro.

Brooks roomed on Division street, but during the few weeks he was in South St. Joseph he hung about the old Transit house a great deal. He was employed at one of the packing houses, having come to South St. Joseph from Kansas City. Little was known of him. He had an overbearing disposition, and feeling had not been good between him and his victim recently.

Olds, who lived at the Transit house, worked at the packing house also. He has no relatives, and he came here from Omaha three years ago.

Olds lost three games in the pool hall yesterday afternoon, and he owed Brooks 30 cents. When the games were concluded Brooks demanded his money at once and knocked Olds down when he did not respond with alacrity.

"I'm going to get my 30 cents," shouted Brooks, leaving the place.

John Austin, who takes care of the pool tables, suspected nothing serious when he saw Brooks coming back a few minutes later. Austin had bene given the 30 cents, but had not opportunity to tell Brooks this, when the negro drew a big revolver and commenced shooting.

He fired two shots and one of the bullets struck Olds in the left side, just below the heart. He fell to the floor, gasping, and believing he had fired a fatal shot Brooks departed without any interference being made.

Olds was removed to St. Joseph's Hospital in the police ambulance, and Dr. W. B. Deffenbaugh attended him. His condition is pronounced serious.

Patrolmen Davis and Williams made an investigation, but could get no clue as to Brooks' whereabouts. He is described as a rather tall negro, 35 years old, and of average weight. He has a long red birthmark on the right cheek.

Date of death: 22 Oct 1901

Subject: Dollie Oliver

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 23 Oct 1901, p. 5

The body of Dollie Oliver who died of general exhaustion in the jail at Kankakee, Ill., arrived in St. Joseph at 6:20 o'clock Tues night and was taken to Heaton's undertaking rooms. From there it was removed to his former home in Avenue City.

Oliver was arrested several weeks ago at his home in Andrew county. He was a partner with James Cox in the blacksmith business in Avenue City. He was charged with ... in the murder of Dennis Reardon on the night of November 10, 1906. Oliver lived in St. Joseph most of his life.

When Oliver was arrested by Sheriff Glass of Kankakee, he was suffering with malaria. His physician ... he had not taken from ... at the time as he was not ... addition to stand ... [*several lines illegible*] journey. Th... disregarded ... Oliver was taken ... He became gradually ... 5 o'clock last Sunday ...

The murder of Reardon occurred in a saloon in Kankakee. Trouble is said to have arisen between Reardon and James Nevins, the bartender, over the payment for some drinks and Nevins is alleged to have struck Reardon with a policeman's club. The dead body of Reardon was found three months later in the Kankakee river. There was no proof that Oliver had anything to do with the murder. He is alleged to have been in the saloon at the time Reardon was struck.

The friends of Oliver are very indignant over the manner in which he was treated by the authorities of Kankakee. They think that the word of the physician that Oliver was too ill to be taken away should have been considered.

Oliver is survived by his widow and one child. His father and mother came to St. Joseph Tuesday from their home in Southern Kansas. They are now at the home of Oliver in Avenue City where the burial will take place.

Date of death: 19 Apr 1902

Subject: Mrs. Emma M. Oren

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 20 Apr 1902, p. 3

Mrs. Emma M. Oven [sic], wife of E. G. Oven of 2325 St. Joseph avenue, died Saturday morning after a long illness. The funeral will be held Sunday at the home and the remains will be taken to Amazonia, Mo., for burial.

Date of death: 8 Jul 1906

Subject: Louella (Orme) Frymire

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 9 Jul 1906, p. 6

Mrs. Luella Frimore [sic], wife of Barney Frimore, living at 504 South Twenty-fourth street, died at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. She was 35 years old. The body will be forwarded to Maryville for burial.

Date of death: 27 Sep 1909

Subject: E. Brown Ortez

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 28 Sep 1909, p. 4

E. Ortis [sic], twenty-three years old, died at a local hospital at 2 o'clock Monday morning, of pneumonia. The body will be sent to Kenmoor, Mo.

Date of death: 7 Jun 1906

Subject: George W. Osborn

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 6 Jun 1906, p. 6

George Osborn, aged 14 years, son of Frank M. Osborn, who lives at 519 Lady street, accidentally shot himself yesterday morning with a shotgun. While playing with the gun a barrel was discharged, one load breaking the bones in his right leg and tearing away the muscles. The

leg will be amputated by Dr. J. A. French. The lad was taken to Doctor French's Hospital, Eighth and Sylvania streets.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 7 Jun 1906, p. 1

George W. Osborn, the fourteen-year-old son of Mrs. Frank M. Osborn, who was accidentally shot in the right leg yesterday morning by Arthur Tygart, a playmate, died at 10:30 o'clock this morning at Dr. French's hospital. The boys were playing in the yard of the Osborn home, 519 Lady street, with a loaded shotgun. The gun was discharged while in the Tygart boy's hands, and the charge of buckshot necessitated the amputation of young Osborn's right limb. He was unable to rally from the shock.

Date of death: 5 Mar 1914

Subject: Harry (or Henry) Osborn*

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 6 Mar 1914, p. 6

Henry Osburn [sic], a negro, twenty-four years old, died at 4:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon at his home, 925 North Seventh street. Dr. Thomas J. Lynch, coroner, viewed the body, as the man died without medical attention, and said that an autopsy was not necessary, death having been due to erysipelas.

Date of death: 1 Oct 1905

Subject: Aubrey Osborne*

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 2 Oct 1905, p. 6

By the reckless rocking of a rowboat, Albert Mesel of Atchison, a white dishwasher, and Aubrey Osborne of St. Joseph, a negro waiter, both employed at the Lotus Club, Lake Contrary, met death in the lake at 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Their bodies were recovered late in the afternoon and were removed to Faris & Barber's undertaking establishment, where an inquest was held at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Mesel and Osborne were drowned in the presence of nearly a score of sightseers who were powerless to aid them. The white man and the negro had started to row across the lake from the Goodwin pier, a short distance northwest of the Lotus Club. Both are said to have been drinking and Mesel began to rock the boat in a reckless manner when about one hundred feet from the shore.

One of the oars slipped from the oarlock of the boat when the craft was almost full of water, and Mesel tried to recover it with the other oar. He stood up in the boat and caused it to careen. Mesel lost his balance and fell into the water just as Osborne pitched headforemost into the lake. The negro caught hold of Mesel in an effort to save himself, as the white man could swim and Osborne could not. Spectators say that the men shouted for help and were holding to each other when they disappeared in the water.

Several men took a skiff and put out to where the empty boat was floating. Neither the white man nor the negro rose to the surface. Grappling hooks were secured and the body of the negro was taken from the water about two hours after the accident. Mesel's body was taken out about 6 o'clock. Coroner Hansbach had been notified in the meantime and he ordered the bodies brought to the ... Mesel was about twenty-five years old and Osborne was about twenty-one.

Mesel's home was formerly in Atchison, where he was foreman of the chemical ... of the McPike & Fox D... His wife, who has been living in Kansas City recently, and a sister, Mrs. Theresa Donovan of Leavenworth, arrived ... noon today and ... Atchison ...

... Second and Antoine ... months ago when ... He formerly ... in a drugstore ... and prior to ... as a jockey by ... He has a number ... Joseph, who will arrive

Date of death: 30 Jun 1906

Subject: Henry Outs

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 01 Jul 1906, p. 1

One man was killed outright and another seriously hurt a mile south of Arkoe at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon by the evening passenger train on the Hopkins branch of the Burlington.

The head of the dead man was torn completely off. The left limb of George Mitchell was fractured.

The body of Outs, which was put aboard the train which killed him, was left at Barnard.

[More information about George Mitchell]

The scene of the accident is one and one-half miles below Arkoe. A high hill on the west shuts off sight of the railroad. The men were coming around the foot of this hill in a lumber wagon, and were on the crossing before they saw the train.

The body of Outs was found down the track sixty feet beyond the place where he was struck, in the direction the train was going.

Mitchell was thrown across the right of way wire fence.

Both men are farmers living near Arkoe.

[Information about Mitchell]

One of the horses was killed and the wagon was torn to pieces.

The wagon was almost squarely on the rails when the train struck it.

Date of death: Mar 1901

Subject: Henry Owens*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 14 Mar 1901, p. 4

The fneral [sic] of Henry Owens, aged twenty-four years, a colored laborer, living at 1602 Grand avenue, will be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon from the church at Eighteenth and Beattie.