

Below are research notes by Nathan Arneal done in 2022 on the history of Scott's Lake, Morse Bluff, taken from contemporary newspapers of the time. If a note does not cite a particular newspaper, the information came from the North Bend Eagle or Argus. Notes are listed chronologically. Please excuse the typos, these are notes.

Aug. 18, 1882- Fremont Tribune. North Bend's bridge and barbecue Nine years earlier bonds voted for a bridge. when nearly completed, a year ago last spring, flood took it out. It was replaced and is now one of the handsomest and most substantial bridges that spans the Platte. Saturday Aug. 12, big party. NB folk marched to island in Platte, where joined by Saunders county people. Rev. Inches performed the ceremony wedding North Bend to Saunders County A toast by JP Scott: "Saunders County" lauded Saunder very highly for her merits and great promise.

1884- NBFilail- If you want to buy or sell lands or town property, callon JP Scott
1891- NBARgus - JP Scott run for Mayor of NB
1891 - JB Scott was assessor of North Bend

1892- NBARgus- JP Scott has a new, fresh complete stock of groceries. Call on him. (Ad) Aug 25, 1892- FREMTRIB- JP Scott has sold his stock of groceries to John McCreath. MR. McCreath will remove the stock to Oconee.

1894

May 1894, JPS figureing on rasingsome sugar beats on his SC farm.
July 1894- JP Scott is secretary of the school board.
Nov. 1894- JP Scott feeding 60 cattle on his farm in Saunders Co.

Arugs, p.5, May 18, 1894
J.P. Scott is making some elaborate improvements on his lake at the farm near Morse Bluff. Six boats are being made to be used on the lake, swings, croquet, hammocks and other pleasureable pastimes provided; a hall and refreshment stand to be completed and other conveniences and necessaries for pleasure and to make a pleaseant outdoor resort provided. Mr. Scott is confident that a place of this nature will receive a good patronage and will spare no pains and expense to make it a pleasure to visit his lake. The lake will be deepend and enlarged if found necessary. It is an excellent place for picnics and afternoon outings and we predict for Mr. Scott a good return for his outlay and trouble. He has under advisement the idea of getting an electric launch and may do so. Our picnic loving people should remember Scott's lake.

Argus, p. 5, June 1, 1894
"The Modern Woodmen of this city will celebrate the organization of their camp Friday, June 15, and have formally open Scott's resort at his lake near Morse Bluff. A cordial invita-

tion is extended to the numerous friends of the members of the order to participate with them in the day's enjoyment."

Elsewhere on the page:

"When the 15th day of June arrives, the Camp of Modern Woodmen of this city will have been organized five years. Consequently, the members of the Camp have decided to celebrate the day by an outing at Scott's lake, a mile east of Morse Bluff. The members extend a cordial invitation to their friends in other lodge and also to every one within the jurisdiction of the order which includes a goodly number of the states, to take part with them in the day's outing. Mr. Scott is erecting three buildings at the lake which will be completed for use by the day set. A bath ouse, refreshment house and hall are the buildings referred to. Boats have been provided and the necessary "weapons" for outdoor games will be at the disposal of those who take advantage of this opportunity for a days outing. The shade at the lake is sufficient to accommodate 5,000 people. The camp here has extended an invitation to the camps at Fremont, Cedar Bluffs, Linwood, Morse Bluffs and other cities to take part with them in the celebration of this anniversary."

Argus, P. 5, Friday, June 8, 1894

"Remember the picnic at Scott's Lake on Friday of Next week."

"The Woodman picnic occurs at Scott's Lake, Friday, June 15th. A cordial invitation is extended to everybody to participate in this day's outing."

"The work at Scott's Lake is progressing finely and the bath houses, hall and other buildings nearly completed. They will be in readiness for the opening picnic to be held Friday of next week."

June 9, 1894- FREMONT TRIBUNE "JP Scott of North Bend, was in the city [Fremont] today. Mr. Scott owns a big farm with a lake on it a mile and a half east of Morse Bluff and he hwas just fitted up a splended pleasure resort with bath house, pavillionand restaurant. It is his purpose to boom the place for picnics and excursions and he declares it to be one of the finest pleasure resorts in Nebraska. The Modern Woodmen of the North Bend will hold a picnic there on the 15th and the Fremont lodge has agreed to join. Mr. Scott was today negotiating for a special train from Fremont for the occasion. this will be the formal opening of the resort.

Argus, p.5, June 15, 1894:

Local section: "The M.W.A. picnic and opening of Scott's Lake should receive your undivided attention to-day.

"You run no chances for enjoying a splendid outing at Scott's Lake to-day. A grand time is assured."

Later same column: "The opening of Scott's Lake occurs to-day. Take advantage of thsi golden opportunity to enjoy a day's outing."

"The Epworth League of the M.E. churld held a picnic at Scott's Lake Tuesday. They report an enjoyable time, and the lake they found fixed up in fine shape for a day's outing."

June 19, 1894, FREMTRIB- "Messrs. Campbell, West and Simmons captured three yougn wolves on Robert Sloss' place near North Bend, and J.P. Scott has secured them (the wolves) as a nucleus for his menagerie at Scott's LAke, Saudners County.

Argus, June 22, 1894 (probably page 3- screw up with the online archives. I think June 22 pages were included with the June 15 paper. Page 11 is really page 3)

"TWAS A GRAND OPENING'

The M.W.A. Picnic and Scott's Lake was a Glowing Success

We did not count and therefor are unable to report the exact number of people who attended the M.W.A. picnic at Scott's Lake Friday last.

From early morn till midnight people came and went and it is safe to estimate that a thousand people tread the picnic grounds during the day and enjoyed themselves different amusements, such as boating, bathing, dancing, foot races and other pastimes. The grounds are in very good condition and make a most excellent resort for a day's outing and rest for the labor and turmoil of the world. The facilities for amusement are many and arranged in such a way that no one attractoin coflicts with another. The lake has a good supply of water and no doubt will have a better supply in ordinary seasons but owing to the extended dry spell the water was low and yet enough was there to make the boating one of the most pleasurable pastimes of the day. The dacing pavillion, bath house and other conveniences and necessaries are in excellent condition and taken in all Scott's lake is the plarece to go for a day's reast.

Mr. Scott will still add other featurese to the grounds for attraction and pleasure and we predict that in a short time it will be the most popular resort in Saunders or any of the surrounding counties.

Argus, June 29, 1894

"M.M Huck and family visited in the city Sunday, and made a trip to Scott's Lake."

July 13, 1894, p.5

"A goodly number of families from this city put in the day, yesterday, at Scott's Lake and report a most enjoyable time."

July 20, 1894

Well, we had the pleasure of being one of a party, that took an outing at Scott's Lake Tuesday afternoon, and while we were able to attend to business Wednesday morning, the thoughts of the good time we had at tho lake came pretty near driving business from our mind. This makes but the second time we have had the pleasure of an outing at tho lake. and we want to say right here that if we could spare the time that once a week at least would catch us enjoying the many pleasures that one can at this place. We were with a jolly crowd and we had a jolly good time, and there is no reason why tho people of

North Bend cannot have an excellent time almost any day by visiting the lake.

The boating is simply fine, and no better exercise than the pulling of an oar—or drenching those in the next boat—could be thought of. The party enjoyed a number of contests at the bowling alley, and the ladies of the party carried off as many honors as the gentlemen. The party was composed of A. L. Norris, J.A. Wolfe, H. I. Adams, O.M. Scott, O. White, J.H. Foot, G.E. Springer, C.S. Fowler, and their families, Mrs. E.R. Smith, Mrs. Small, and A.B. Miller. Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Scott did everything in their power to assist the company to enjoy themselves, and are ever ready to assist all visitors to the best of their ability.

Argus Aug. 3, 1894

There will be a dance at Scott's Lake Friday evening, Aug. 10. The North Bend orchestra has been engaged to furnish the music. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the evening.

Aug 10, 1984: There will be a picnic at Scott's Lake Saturday, Aug. 18, for the children of Webster school districts and their parents and friends and neighboring districts.

Aug 17: The Webster Sunday school will hold a picnic and Scott's Lake, Saturday Aug. 25, instead of the 18th. Preparations are being made for a grand time on this occasion, and a cordial invitation is extended to all to enjoy the day with Webster's people at the lake."

"Miss Laura and the Misses McVicker gave a part at Scott's Lake last Thursday afternoon in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Chapman who were visiting here at that time"

Aug. 31, 1894

The joint school picnic held at Scott's Lake Saturday by the school district of Webster and adjoining districts was one of the best outings that have been held this season. The people came from every direction in great numbers and the enjoyment they had will be remembered for many years to come. It was one of the largest crowds that has attended a gathering at the lake since its opening and good nature and pleasure abounded on every side.

"J.P. Scott is making arrangements for a picnic at his lake, Monday next, on account of Labor Day. A game of base ball will be played between the North Bend club and some other club, possibly the Cedar Bluffs nine. Free boat riding will be offered from 1 to 3:00 to all men and their families who earn a living by day's labor, and a free dance given in the evening. Other pleasures will be provided for without cost to the picnickers. Mr. Scott will do all in his power to make the day one of pleasure for all those in attendance. An effort will be made to have the business houses of the city close their doors during the afternoon of Monday, and we heartily second Mr. Scott's idea to properly observe the day.

Sept. 7, 1894

A large crowd attended the Labor Day picnic at Scott's Lake from North Bend, Cedar Bluffs and surrounding country. NB vs. CB baseball. "The Cedar Bluffs nine can no more play ball than can nine spring chickens. They can make plenty of noise but the North Bend lads

can even beat them at that." 30-20 "rotten" game, but more fun than a good game, "When it came to foot racing and horse racing, Cedar Bluffs put it all over the North Bend sports. Bruce Keaton was the only Bender who was able to down his opponent in a 75-yard race.

1895

May 31: "The people of Morse Bluff and vicinity have decided to hold a celebration at Scott's Lake, July the Fourth. A program of sports and other entertaining features is being arranged and will be announced in the near future. Mr. Scott has made some very accommodating improvements at the

June 14: "The North Bend Gun Club will hold its annual shoot on the Fourth of July at Scott's Lake. Live bird matches, blue rock matches and English sparrow matches. Everything will be in first class order. Bring your guns and have a good shoot. No skin game will be worked on you. COMMITTEE

June 14: Fourth of July committee- Hon. R.C. Brownell, president.

On speakers: J.E. Dorsey, R.C. Brownell, F.C. Kavan

On vocal music: Mrs. Hall Mitchell

On sports: J.W. Daily, A. Crawford, Nick Wagner.

"Prominent speakers will be in attendance. The sports will consist of blue rock shooting, ball game, bicycle racing and other amusements. The boating course is being improved and a good diamond and bicycle track will be in readiness.

"A cordial invitation is extended to the people of northern Saunders Count, southern Dodge county and the United States in general to attend."

Also a party at Maben's grove north of NB.

June 21: "Tom Cotterell in the bicycle race at Scott's Lake, the Fourth, will be worth going two miles and a half from North Bend to see."

June 28: "Picnic parties at Scott's Lake are becoming quite numerous and as a rule the participants enjoy a good time. There is plenty of shade and plenty of room for amusements. Mr. Scott has made some improvements this season and will make more changes to add to the pleasure and convenience of those who visit the Lake." Bicycle track almost done, other improvements moving rapidly.

July 12: North Bend nearly empty fourth of July. People went to Schuyler, 100 to Fremont, a "host" to Scott's Lake and strong delegation to Maben's Grove. "We do not believe there were over one hundred people in the city at 3 o'clock in the afternoon."

July 26: mention of bowling alley. "The bowling alley, boats, swings and other appliances were brought into play." at OJS gathering.

Aug 23, 1895: union picnic of the three Sabbath schools of the city (NB). Transportation

from each church leaving at 9 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 29.

May 24, 1900: "JP Scott informs the editor that he expects to have a Fourth of July celebration at Scott's Lake this year, and that he expects to eclipse all former efforts in this direction. The grounds will be put in good shape, a good speaker secured and an excellent Fourth of July program generally arranged."

June 12, 1900: North Bend junior band will furnish music. The boys will have their new uniforms on.

Aug. 9, 1900: "Quite a number of people of this city have been enjoying an outing at Scott's Lake this week. Besides parties from North Bend, there are a number of people from other points camping there. The place is getting quite a reputation as a summer resort."

Aug. 16, 1900- "While at a picnic at Scott's Lake Thursday of last week, Miss Gertrude Gregg had narrowly escaped from drowning. She was in a boat with Roy Cusack, John Millar and Miss Ethel Hanks and in attempting to change from one seat to another lost her balance and fell out. The water at this place is very deep and it was not until Miss Gregg had been under water long enough to render her unconscious that her companions were finally able to get her safely back into the boat."

July 9, 1903: Fourth of July boats. Supposed to be gasoline boat, but it didn't work. No extensive firework show. Later in evening dancing.

May 19, 1904- NBHS enjoyed picnic Saturday, at grove a quarter mile south of Indian Peak, later going to Scott's Lake "where boat riding and other amusements of that popular pleasure resort were engaged in." Made trip on large hayracks.

June 8, 1905- There will be a Fourth of July celebration at Scott's Lake this year. Mr. Scott will have a good program arranged for the day and ample preparation will be made for entertaining the people who may go there.

July 6, 1905- North Bend quite. This is a pattern. NB had not 4th celebration. Large number went to Scott's Lake.

Aug. 10, 1905- During Sunday school picnic at Scott's Lake, Mrs. Matilda Starkey dislocated and slightly fractured her right ankle. Missed her footing while stepping from door of the hall to the ground.

Rev. EB King had accident at same gathering. Stumbled and broke two ribs.

July 12, 1906- party of young folks from Colon camping at Scott's Lake.

July 19, 1906- Morse Bluff vs. Colon baseball at Scott's Lake

Sept. 13, 1906- Teachers and students of the high school enjoyed a hay rack ride to Scott's Lake.

-only mentions in 1906

Feb. 21, 1907- Flood

"The volume of water which poured out over the south bank of the river was almost as

large as that which came out on this side but as there are comparatively few farms near the river and the railroad is from a half to a mile away, the damage was not so great. At Scott's Lake east of Morse Bluff some damage was done to the restaurant, dance hall and buildings long the lake."

-No other mention of events in 1907.

Aug, 27, 1908- Linwood baseball vs. "best amateur team in Omaha" at Scott's Lake

Oct. 15, 1908- Obit of JP Scott

"James P. Scott, one of the pioneer residents of Nebraska and for many years a resident of North Bend, died at his home in Saunders County east of Morse Bluff Wednesday of this week after a brief illness. He suffered from stomach trouble. At this writing we had not learned at what time and place the funeral would be held.

"Mr. Scott was one of the early settlers of Saunders county, locating a farm near Prague. While a resident of Saunders County he serves a term in the state legislature after being elected on the Republican ticket. About 25 years ago he moved to North Bend and the family made their home here most of the time since then. Several years ago he purchased a farm one mile east of Morse Bluff and part of the time they have lived there. On this farm is a lake which has been quite popular as a pleasure resort and is known as Scott's Lake. Mr. Scott was a most highly respected citizen and while a resident of North Bend served a term or two as a member on the school board and also as justice of the peace. HE leaves a wife, five sons and one daughter.

May 18, 1911- NBHS picnic at Indian Peak, then NBHS vs. Columbus High baseball in Morse Bluff. Ended day at Scott's Lake. Only mention between 1908 and 1916

Jan. 25, 1917, page 5;

"The JP Scott farm of 250 acres one mile east of Morse Bluff was sold at a referee's sale in Wahoo Monday. Joseph F. Bauer was the purchaser and the consideration was \$16,300. The farm was the home of the JP Scott family for many years and was widely known hereabouts as the seat of Scott's Lake, a popular resort for the people of North Bend during the years that it was personally conducted by the Scott family. It has not been used as a pleasure ground for the last eight or nine year."

Must have made Scott's Lake home field for MB baseball that year.

May 24, 1917, WAHOO NEWSPAPER & Cedar Bluffs Standard- Grand opening! of the Famous Scott's LAKE Pleasure Resort... Sunday May 27, 1917. Wahoo vs. Morse Bluff ball game, boating and dacing. Pavillion open from 7:30 to 12:30. Tickets 75¢. Refreshment stand. Music by Dunker's 6 Piece Orchestra. May 31, 1917, p.5 Ad to use. J.F Bauer, Manager.

Grand Ball June 3, 1917

June 12, 1917: Scott's Lake was home field

for Morse Bluff town team, baseball.

June 14, 1917, WAHOO NEWSPAPER- Wahoo class of 1913 had reunion at Scott's Lake, "evening was spent in rowing, exploring and kodaking."

Another ad, June 28, 1917, page 5. Smaller ad.

Yutan vs. Morse Bluff. July 1

Same page "Fourth of July. "Dancing in the big, new covered pavillion, 70x60 feet. Music by the famous Dunker's 7-piece orchestra."

Nov. 28, 1917- FREMONT TRIBUNE- Thanksgiving Ball at Scott's lake, Thanksgiving eve, Nov. 29. "Tickets \$1, Spectators 25¢, Ladies free" "This dance will mark the closing of the pavilion for the season."

Dec. 10, 1917- FREMTRIB- "Scott's Lake Under Grand Jury Fire- Finds conditions there harmful to morals - attorneyes asked to act Grand jury sitting in Wahoo has recommended that the dances at Scott's Lake near Morse Bluff be close. Furthermore, the jury recommends that Sunday dances in Saudners County be prohibited."

Through summer and autumn scored of young people went weekly to Sunday dances at Scott's Lake on a bus. 30 mile drive. Charge between \$2 and \$5 for round trip. \$1 admission at dance. "The entertainment thus proved costly, but many were willing to testify that it was "worth the price.""

Parties come from Omaha, David City, Columbus, Wahoo and many other points.

"It was claimed that on certain occastion a mysterious automobile appeared on the scene, curtained and numberless. From this, it is claimed, bottled goods that might have come from St. Joseph, Mo., were dispensed."

Fremont officers had heard many complaints about SL dances and had talked about raiding some of the returning cars on Platte bridge. "They thought they might in this manner find some of the booze.

the report-

"We have made a general investigation into all conditions of vice in Saunders County and it is the sense of this grand jury that the public dance as conducted in certain places is bad for the morals of our community.

"We therefore recommend that the county attorney take steps to close perpetually the dance hall known as Scott's Lake at Morse Bluff in said county for the reason that said lake as now conducted is a public neusance and that said resort be closed until such time as there is a management that enforce the liquore regulatiosn and the laws of public decency."

recommends no dancing anywhere on Sundays.

"In our investigation of Scott's Lake, we found that 15 and 16-year-old girls were there intoxicated. We found that an undesirable class of women frequented the dances."

Dec. 11, 1917- LINCOLN STAR- Grand jury advocates that Sott Lake Resort be Wiped Out (same story as in Bernices' clipping)

also ran in Beatrice Daily Sun, many other state newspapers.

June 6, 1918- B!G banner add on bottom of Wahoo Newspaper, Big Dance at Scott's Lake

April 11, 1918 FRETRIB- ad: "Grand ball at Scott's Lake, Sunday, April 14. Music by Johnson Jazz Orchestra. Good order and music guaranteed.

Aug 15, 1918- CB STANDARD- both churches hold sunday school picinc at Scott'sLake

Feb. 18, 1919, LINCOLN STAR- "No votes were recorded against HR 200, to prohibit public dances on Sunday. The score was 75-0" April 4, 1919- Lincoln Journal Star- No Sunday dance law not in effect in Omaha because Omaha has an ordiance regulating dancing and has a public welfare committee to see that all Sunday dance to see that all Sunday dances are properly dance.

July 19, 2019- SCRIBNER RUSTLER

"The last Sunday public dance will be held at Scott's Lake 1 1/2 miles east of Morse Bluff, Sunday, July 13."

July 10, 1919- WAHOO INDEPENDENT- "The last SundaHy dance will be given at Horse Shoe Pavilion this Sunday, July 13. Music by Prokop's Jazz band. Remember, this is positively the last Sunday dance in this state.

July 11, 1919, YORK DEMOCRAT- "A law making Sunday dances illegal went into effect in this state July first.

April 29, 1920: WAHOO DEMOCRAT

"Mr. E.E. Wolf is having Delco Electric light plan installed at Scott's Lake.:

July 8, 1920- FREMTRIB- large NOTICE! "Owing to the fact that all members of the Scott's Lake Outing Club cannot be reached by mail in time, I take this method of notifying all its members that the Club will hold a dance at the pavilion at Scott's Lake on Sunday, July 11. Music by DeFord's Jazz Fiends of Lincoln. Joseph F. Bauer, President."

WAHOO DEMOCRAT July 29, 1920

"Scott's Lake Dance Declared Illegal"

"Joseph F. Bauer of Morse Bluff on trial for running a public dance on Sunday was tried and convicted in the county court..." appealed to District Court, bond fixed at \$250.

Long description of trial and testimony. Fined \$2.20

May 13, 1925- FREMTRIB "Scott's Lake is made into park - Cottages Spring up - Many improvments "

Joseph Bauer plans to erect 100 cottages in the park within next few years. Ten immediately, some started already Also- enlarged dance pavilion with 60x50 foot addition.

Another smaller addition to west for orchestra and ladies rest room. Third addition on front for ice cream parlor and check room. With additions, whole thing now 130x50 feet.

Cottages 24x20 with screened in porches. His park included 320 acres of ground in a

shady grove surrounding the lake. the lake has been stocked with fish to allow the followers of the Walton art plenty of sport.

Mr. Bauer has also purchased a merry-go-round which will be delivered soon.

SAME PAGE- ground leased just east of MB and north of Scott's Lake from E.E. Wolf to Lincoln Sand and gravel. Start of Wolf's lake?

July 25, 1925- WAHOO DEMOCRAT Fourth of July at Scott's Lake, kids will enjoy the merry go round

Aug. 23, 1927- LINCOLN EVENING STATE JOURNAL

"Sunday dancing held unlawful-- Judge Landis issues writ of injunction"

"Landis of fifth judicial district filed memo at Wahoo direct an injunction prohibiting the owners and operators of Scott's Lake Outing Club to permit dancing at that resort in Saunders County on Sundays.

Emil E. Wolf, defendant, owns the ground, leases to defendant named BAUER who conducts an amusement and recreation park.

"The defendants allged the statute which prohibits dancing on Sundays is unconstitutional and that the dancers, not the owners of the place, are subject to punishment under the law. It was contended also that the place was not a nuisance.

Denied. Judge: "The position taken by the defendants is a challenge to law enforcement. They should respect the law and obey it even tho they do not believe in it. A change in the law should come from the legislature, which is the proper forum to address most of the arguments used by them"

LINCOLN EVENING STATE JOURNAL- May 30, 1928

"DEFENDS VALIDITY OF DANCE STATUTE"

Saunders County Attorney Galloway says that the Legislature had a right to ban Sunday exploitation.

EE Wolf, JF Bauer and AF Vrba. Wolf owns the land, other two leased and for a time operated what is know as Scott's LAke Outing club. "Because of the character of the Sunday evening dances conducted in the county sought and secured an injunction against their continuance."

Sherrif and deputies went there and found drinking and disorderly conduct. Wolf defended on ground he had no control of use of property. other two said nothing was going on wrong. They said dance law unconstitutional, because it permitted Sunday balls in Omaha, and thus was discriminatory.

Sheiffs deputy testified he saw a drunken girl or two and 500 empty bottles scattered around. He said he bought ticket under name of Jones and was told when he inquired that he would be introduced to "the ladies" later in the evening. Was told by floor director that he knew Sunday dancing was illegal, ut taht they had devised a little scheme to get around ti, which was to run it as a club.

"Mr. Galloway says that the conduct at this resort was full justification for the legislature for prohibited Sunday dancing."

July 20, 1928- FREMTRIB Knights of Columbus hold tri-county picnic at Scott's Lake. Used to be on Sunday, but moved to Saturday dance will not violate law. Expected 5,000 people. Baseball tournament between KCs of Wahoo, David City and Fremont.

Jan 24, 1929 - South Sious City Eagle quoting the Sioux City Daily Journal:

"Nebraska law banning Sunday dancing was declared unconstitutional today by the supreme court which ruled that the present statute is class legislation.

"Reversing a decree of a Saunders County court, the higher tribunal's decision was based largely upon that part of the law, the opinion stated, which had a mandatory effect upon smaller towns but regulated the matter to welfare boards in metropolitan cities.

"The case upon which the reversal resulted, pertained to an action which sought forcible closing of the Scott's Lake outing club near Morse BLuff where Sunday dances had been held.

"Presenting the case to the supreme court, the contention that the morals of the youth of that locality were being corrupted was made by Cecil F. Galloway, Saunders County Attorney."

Jan. 24, 1929- WAHOO DEMOCRAT

"State's ban on Sunday dances illegal says court"

"No decision in recent years has been of greater importance in this state than the one handed down by the State Supreme Court last Saturday in the case of CF Galloway..." against Emil E. Wolf, Joseph F. Bauer and AF Vrba and Scott's Outing Club. Reversed decision by Judge Landis who issued permanent injunction forbidding Sunday dances at pavillions at Scott's Lake near Morse BLuff.

Galloway Filed petition last May in our district court, asking injunction to prevent Sunday dances.

Section 9795 of Criminal Code of Nebraska: anyone 14 or older. Forbidden: "rioting, quarreling, engaged in public dacing, hunting or shooting, he or she shall be fined in a sum not exceeding 20 dollars, or be confined to the county jail for a term not exceeding 20 days, or both, at the discretion of the court.... Provided, the provision of this act relating to public dacing shall not apply in cities of metropolitan class havingt a public welfare board with authority to regulat public dacing." Also forbid common labor "except that of necessity and charity")

Defendants case: Since it did not apply to Omaha, only city of the metropolitan class in state, the act was special, class legislation.

Second, that act did not forbid all dances, only public ones, so that it permitted private dances. Individual or club could hold dance on Sunday and invite as many friends to attend as the person or club desired.

Third, the injunction was improper because the above Section is penal and any proceeding under it would have to be by way of a criminal prosecution and defendants had a right of trial by jury, which the injunction proceedings

denied and took away from them. Further, they claimed the court had no right to pass any judgement without a jury declaring them guilty. And then, only judgement that could be imposed was the fine provided by the act. Said it was a deliberate act to deprive them of right to jury trial.

Judge Landis denied all, granted permanent injunction. Defendants appealed to Supreme Court. Case argued Dec. 3

Last Saturday high court entered its decree sustained the contention of the defendants that the about Section so far as it related to dancing was unconstitutional on the ground that it was a special, class legislation because it exempted Omaha. By its decree, the SC reversed the judgement entered by Landis and dismissed the proceeding.

WAHOO: needs reform. Law also forbids hunting and shooting on Sunday, yet many people do that. "It does seem as though dancing on Sunday is no more a desecration of the Sabbath than golfing, joy riding, roller skating, card playing or any other of the many amusements indulged in by the people generally over the state.

Another page of Jan. 24, 1929 WAHOO DEMOCRAT:

"It was the charge of the county attorney that the morals of the young people in that vicinity were being corrupted.

"The ruling does not affect those quarreling, hunting and shooting. Those related to hunting and shooting have been nullified for years by public opinion and no effort has been made to enforce them"

Local laws still stand. "Towns and villages 1884 may prevent Sunday dances within their limits by the enactment of such an ordinance enforceable under their general police power.

"It is understood a new bill we be introduced in the legislature to re-enact the law prohibiting Sunday dances with will comply with the constitutional requirements."

"Private Club ruse" pay a nominal membership fee in addition to admission fee.

June 24, 1929- NBE - reprinting from Lincoln State Journal

Ruling does not mean legislature has no right to pass law prohibiting persons over 14 from engaging in public dancing on Sunday, but such a prohibition should operate on all people alike, whereas this law discriminates between Omaha and everyone else

"The court says that if a Sunday dance it a scandal or injurious to the health and morals in the rural communities, it is even more so in the cities because of the congestion of population, and taht the same vices and immoralities may as easily be present at a barn dance as in a gilded palace in a metropolitan city."

Had the law said public dacing may be carried on in all cities having public welfare boards, the principal objection would be met, but by limiting the class to metro cities, it barred the act from all cities but Omaha. "The attempted classification is held unreasonable because it permitted individuals in Omaha to do what

individusals elsewhere could not lawfully do."

Jan 29, 1929: COLUMBUS TELEGRAM
Nebraska Constitution, Sec. 18, Art. III, prohibits the passage of any local or special law "granting to any corporation, association or individual any special or exclusive privileges, immunity or franchise whatever."

SC:

1. Because it discriminates between persons of the same class doing the same act and
2. Because it discriminates between metropolitan cities and between them and other cities by a classification having no reasonable basis."

The story: "The test case which resulted in the Sunday dance provision being declared unconstitutional was one instituted by Earl (Cecil earlier?) F. Galloway, county attorney of Saunders County, in which he sought to enjoin Emil E. Wolf and others from conducting a Sunday dance in Saunders County on the grounds that such a dance constituted a public nuisance because it violated this provision of the state law.

"Platte County was one of the counties in the state in which Sunday dancing was permitted to continue while the test case was being carried through the courts.

All other parts of Sunday law stand.

Feb 25, 1929: Lincoln Star: HR 297

"Sunday Dance bill dies" - attempt to amend to meet constitution

Originally intended to permit Sunday dances in communities (therefore prohibiting in cities without) having local welfare boards, broadened to repeal law against "Common labor."

48-35 in favor, three votes shy of majority needed. So many amendments, one pertaining to irrigation, on prohibiting rodeos on Sunday.

Feb. 21, 1929- Cedar Bluffs STANDARD

Emil E. Wolf sells 160-acre farm 1.5 east of MB to John Vopalensky, for \$265 an acre. "Mr. Wolfe still retains the land on which Scott's Lake is located."

1931: At least temporarily. a Ferris wheel, also merry-go-round

Aug. 13, 1931: Cedar Bluffs Standard: sheriff said no Sunday dances. A provision in law says the sheriff shall appoint a deputy for each dance outside municipalities to supervise and see they are properly conducted. According to reports, most trouble in the county originates in Sunday night dances, and it is for this reason the sheriff refuses to make the appointments. Inside city limits, local cities and villages have control, not sheriff.

Cedar Bluffs Standard Aug. 20: 1931: As a result of the new state law which caused the closing of country dance halls, it is reported here that Morse Bluff is planning to extend their city limits 1.5 miles to the east to include the ground on which the Scott's Lake Pavilion stands.

Law went into effect Aug. 3, 1931. all public

dances on Sunday nights must be supervised by a deputy sheriff, but law makes it discretionary as to whether the sheriff will appoint one. Saunders county didn't, so dance halls closed on Sunday.

Aug 6, 1931: Law also prohibits Sunday baseball.

Wahoo Wasp: Sheriff L.D. Megel has not made up mind whether he will appoint deputies.

"It seems to me that six days a week is enough for dancing."

'30s events as normal. School picnics, Wahoo. Church picnics, company picnics, wedding dances

Sunday dances again.

1933- seems many dances on Saturday now.

1933- Regular Large banner ads across page of Wahoo Democrat. - 1935- 1937. box ads in Tribune -1939, 1940

Gents 15¢, Ladies 10¢ "Unique electrical stage display"

1934 NBE- fourth of July celebration. sponsored by St. Charles Catholic of NB. NB vs. Elkhorn Elkhorn Valley town teams. Air show, Airplane stunts. Also gave rides in planes.

1935 ice skating. K of C multi councils. MB Legion Post 340

1935, July 24, Lincoln Evening Journal. Beer licenses granted: Scott's Lake, John Vopalensky, Morse Bluff, on and off sale

LAWRENCE WELK ORCHESTRA- I had a couple people tell me LW played at Scott's Lake. I saw ads for them playing at Howells ballroom and in Wahoo, Pla-Mor in Lincoln and other area places around 1939. Never saw them billed playing at Scott's Lake, and they always promoted their bands. Makes me doubtful they played there.

1936- Sept 17- NBE. NBHS faculty members entertained at picnic dinner Wednesday evening. The affair took place at Scott's Lake in the Watson cabin.

Open in May. Last dance late September, early October. Dances nearly every Saturday.

Ad- July 22, 1937, Eddi Vlasek and his melody boys

The most popular band in Omaha. Bohemian & Modern music

1937- celebration Sunday, July 3. picnicking, fishing, swimming, boating, plenty of shade. Grand Display Fireworks. Dancing in evening. Park admission 10¢, dance 25¢. No dance Saturday

1938- free dance. 15¢ park admission

Nov. 8, 1939 FREMTRIB

"Reckmeyer also says that the Moravian missionaries, Ohler and Smith, record in their books the first sight of what is now Scott's Lake and a beautiful spring in the side of a hill west of the lake, which still runs on the Vopalensky farm west (sic) of Morse Bluff.

April 4, 1940- Beer application of John Vopalensky (Scott's Lake) approved.

Jan 10, 1940- FREMTRIB "Albert Vopalensky has a force of men cutting ice on Scott's Lake"

June 24, 1941, Lincoln Evening State Journal "Wanted- Concessions, July 4. Contact manager, Scott's Lake, Morse Bluff, Neb."

July 2, 1941 Fremont Moringi Gudie- ad 4th of July. park 10¢, dance 25¢

April 26, 1942- Lincoln Sunday Journal- "Where to find fish" Saunders Co. "Mores Bluff- Scott's Lake near here has good number of bullheads and crappie.

Ads continue through 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, no dances advertised in 1948. Some picnics though

Aug. 5, 1943- BLAIR ENTERPRISE- marriage of Jean Stricklett of Blair and Rodric McVicker of Albion- "Immediately following the reception, Mr. and Mrs. McVicker left for a short honeymoon at Scott's Lake, Morse Bluff, Nebraska/

Jan 13, 1944 NBE- Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Coen moved recently from the Lewis Racek farm north of town to John Vopalensky's farm at Scott's Lake near Morse Bluff.

July 27, 1944- Wahoo Democrat: "Application for renewal of Dance Hall license at Scott's Lake was approved and a license granted to John Vopalensky." & 1947

1946: closing dance. Oct. 12. Park 10¢, Dance 50¢

Aug 7, 1947 WAHOO WASP- "The appointment and bond of Theodore Blatny as Special Deputy Sheriff for Scott's Lake was submitted" and approved.

Dec. 10, 1948- Lawrence Coen quit farming, public sale Dec. 13 on Scott Lake Farm.

1949- June 3 FREMTRIB- ad "Open Sat. Nite. 'Nickelodian' June 11 Sparta Orchestra"

1949, May 12 NBE- Opening dance, Scott's Lake, Sat. May 14

1949 Wahoo Newspaper- big banner ad, first in could of years. Dance July 16, Park admission 10¢, dance 65¢

Only two found advertised

1950, May 11- Wahoo Newspaper- Special Deputy Sheriffs for Scott's Lake appointed.

May 18, 1950 Cedar Bluffs Standard- Scott's Lake-Dance every Saturday. Admission 75¢, park free

1950, July 4 Weston will play Prague at Prague ball park in the afternoon of the 4th. There will be an aerial show of fireworks and dance at Scott's Lake.

1951- May 31, NBE ad: Dance Scott's Lake Sunday June 3

June 28, DC Butler County Press- Dance and fireworks at Scott's Lake

Regular dance ads in Butler County Press. Similar to ones used to be in Wahoo paper.

July 12, 1951, BC PRESS- banner ad for Wedding Dance honoring Mr. and Mrs. George Odvony. Saturday, July 14. Marlin Grubbs Orchestra.

Aug 23- BCPRESS Dance at Scott's Lake Saturday Aug 25, Dave Huskey's

Ad Aug 23, Schuyler Sun- Dance, Dave Huskey Orchestra, everybody welcome

1952- Dance for Seaman First Class Alex Legge given by his sister, Marilyn Legge, Saturday night at Scott's Lake Dance Pavilion. About 250 guests invited. -- only mention for 1952

1955- summer social and picnic for Dodge County Young Republicans. Games, swimming, boating refreshments. Dinner at 6, outdoor dancing to follow.

1956- MB Legion steak fry at Scott's lake. NBE

1957- MB Legion second annual steak fry at SL.

Oct. 1960- Beverlylue Wieglus honored on 10th birthday wienner roast, all girls of Dist. 10 and teacher Mrs. Opal Scott.

1962- Methodist Men picnic at Scott's Lake

1964- Family picnic at Scott's Lake.