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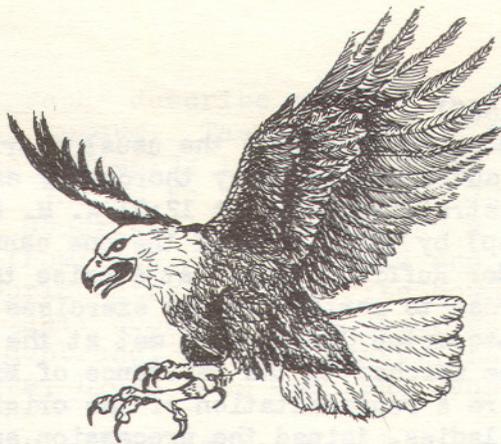
BALD EAGLE

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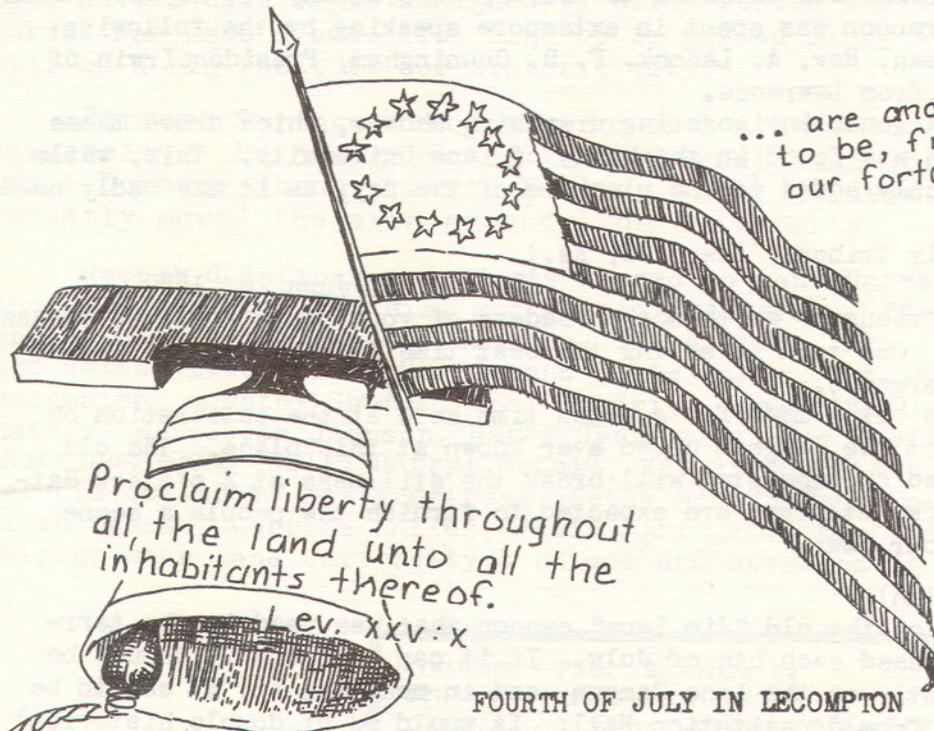
EAOC

VOL. 9 NO. 2

LECOMPTON, KANSAS

SUMMER

1983



... are and of right ought
to be, free ... pledge our lives,
our fortunes & our sacred honor.

Proclaim liberty throughout
all the land unto all the
inhabitants thereof.
Lev. xxv:x

FOURTH OF JULY IN LECOMPTON

(From the National Democrat, Lecompton, K. T., July 8, 1858)

In pursuance of a call from the Committee of Arrangements, for the purpose of celebrating in an appropriate manner, the Anniversary of American Independence, a large number of citizens of Lecompton and invited guests from abroad, met at the American Hotel, and at 4 o'clock sat down to a most sumptuous collation, gotten up in elegant style by the proprietor, S. O. Hemenway.

After discussing full the good things spread before them, on motion of A. P. Walker, Esq., Judge Cato was called to the chair, assisted by Sam'l J. Jones (former sheriff) as vice president, and Chas. S. Wynkoop, Sec'y..

A. P. Walker read the Declaration of Independence, after which Col. Sam'l Young addressed the group, reviewing the history of the Republic from its organization to the present period, speaking eloquently of the march of the Empire westward, and the present happy and harmonious condition of the country, after which his honor, Judge Cato, made a speech with appropriate remarks upon the day and spoke feelingly of his leave-taking as he had just resigned, he mentioned the ties that bound him to Lecompton, and that where-ever his lot should cast him, the memory of those ties should ever hold a green spot in his heart.

Many of the participants then offered toasts to our country, including A. P. Walker, M. W. Chambers, Geo. Brown, D. Mitchell, Sam'l Young, E. W. Wynkoop, and many others.

(Lecompton Monitor, July 9, 1885)

Lecompton celebrated Independence Day in the usual patriotic way, there were enough to make a respectable audience, and they thoroughly enjoyed what had been prepared for them. The demonstrations began at 12:01 A. M. (to the discomfiture of the editor who wanted to sleep) by the firing of the one cannon Lecompton possesses, a relic of Jim Lane and "Border Ruffian" days. At sunrise the sleeper was again disturbed by its roar, and arose to partake in the exercises of the day.

About nine o'clock the Lecompton Cornet Band met at the corner of Isaacs Street and Woodson Avenue, and thence marched to the residence of Mr. Lacock, in the north-western part of the city, where a representation of the original thirteen states, consisting of thirteen young ladies, joined the procession and marched eastward to Elmore street to Woodson Avenue. Here the "Band of Hope", led by the Mayor, himself, fell into ranks, and they all marched down the avenue to the College Campus.

The Honorable H. M. Greene was expected to deliver an oration, but he was unable to be there, hence, the forenoon was spent in extempore speaking by the following; Prof. A. J. May, Rev. Sherman, Rev. A. Lacock, F. B. Cunningham, President Irwin of the college and Mr. French from Lawrence.

And then it rained! A good, invigorating drenching shower, which drove those assembled to shelter, which was found in the halls of Lane University. This, while it broke up the exercise, only added to the pleasure of the day, as it was badly needed.

(June 28, 1880, Kansas Daily Tribune, Lawrence, Ks.)

Lecompton, June 28, 1880

To the Editor of the Tribune: We think the readers of your paper would be pleased to hear of our prosperity. Our town is seeing the best time it's seen in 20 years. People are getting more energetic.

Great preparations are being made for a grand time here at the celebration on Saturday, July 3. We expect the largest crowd ever known at this place. The old Cannon that Jim Lane leveled on Lecompton will break the stillness at 2 o'clock Saturday morning. The fireworks at night are expected to furnish the people a scene never before witnessed in our town.

(June 10, 1913, Lecompton Sun)

Who knows what became of the old "Jim Lane" cannon that was used in the territorial struggle and later used each 4th of July. If it can be found it should be mounted and placed permanently on the Lane Campus, and in mounting it, it should be placed on discarded boards from Constitution Hall. It would be of double historical interest to have this old cannon, brought to Kansas to help make it free of slavery, to have it mounted on materials from the hall that framed a constitution that would have forced slavery on Kansas, and permanently locate it on the capitol grounds of what was to have been the Pro-slavery Capitol.

(W. C. Hoad, in an account of his Lecompton boyhood, says he and his friends overloaded the cannon about 1910 and split the barrel-where it was discarded is unknown.)

(July 5, 1928, Lecompton Sun)

The great, grand and glorious Fourth of July was celebrated in Lecompton with a parade, speeches and a ball game. In the evening a good program was given by home talent as follows:

Flag drill--12 junior girls

Duet--Mrs. Chas. Wells and Curtis Sehon

Recitation--Pauline Baughman

Recitation--Grace Kellogg

Dialog--Marie Cottrell and Billy Springer

Play--"Mr. Hardy Takes a Hand"--Curtis Sehon, Edna Lasswell, Lucinda Hanna, Mary

Agnes Walter, Maybelle Slavens and Frances Drake
Solo--Edith Leslie
Play--"Benn Takes a Hand", William Hanna, Frank Walter, Patricia Gibbens, Martha
Smith and Lavina DeKat.

The small and large boys had a good time shooting fire crackers all day and into
the night.

Submitted by Sara Walter

THEN IT'S JUNE & WEDDINGS

We thought it would be interesting to find the earliest couple who was married
in Lecompton, who lived and celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary there. In
checking records and newspapers, I find that my own great Grandfather and Grand-
mother were one of the earliest marriages in Lecompton. This was Alexander G. Glenn
and Elizabeth Zinn.

Alexander G. and his father Alexander Walker Glenn came to Kansas from Missouri
with George W. Zinn arrived here in the fall of 1854. They all homesteaded land
west of Lecompton. George W. Zinn stayed on his homestead the winter of 1854, but
Alexander G. and his father returned to Missouri and returned with their possessions
and family in the spring of 1855.

Alexander G. Glenn and Elizabeth Zinn, daughter of George W. Zinn were married
November 15, 1857 at Lecompton. On his homestead two miles west and one mile south
of Lecompton, he built a fine home with the wood work all done in walnut wood. Also
he built a fine large rock barn, which has stood for many years, until a few years
ago when there was nothing but the stone walls, which now are gone, as the rock has
been sold to be used elsewhere. On this homestead, they set up housekeeping and
raised ten children as follows: George Alexander, William Benjamin, John Thomas, Eliza
Ann, Ulysses Grant, Cyrus Levi, Nancy Jane, Jacob Thompson, Mary Elizabeth and
Alpharetta.

When they retired from the farm, they moved into Lecompton where on July 31, 1903,
they purchased the home of A. R. Greene who had built the house and was now moving to
Oregon. While living in this home, on November 15, 1907, they celebrated their
Golden Wedding anniversary with the immediate family. Alexander G. died April 9, 1913
and his wife Elizabeth continued to live in the house until her death January 6, 1916.
After her death, Fred Nace purchased the home from her estate. This house is still
standing on the southeast corner of Woodson and Isacks streets.

Submitted by Iona Spencer

FIFTY GOLDEN MILE STONES

Thursday, February 6th, Mr. and Mrs. Moses McCall, two of the pioneers of
Kansas, and for 48 years residents of Lecompton township, gathered their children
and grandchildren, and a few old neighbors and friends together to rejoice with
them over their golden half century passed as husband and wife. They are the
parents of 10 children; all of whom were present except one son, John McCall who
died several years ago, there are four boys and five girls and all stalwart men
and women. The sons-in-law are big enough to serve in the Pope's body guard,
which is said to be the largest company of men in the world. All the families live
in this township with a single exception of Dave McCall, he lives just over the east
line. E. E. Myers a son-in-law lives temporarily in Lawrence while he is serving
Douglas county as sheriff, but his home is in Lecompton.

Two of the daughters married brothers, Hedger and Frank McClanahan, whose par-
ents, Mr. and Mrs. John G. McClanahan celebrated their Golden Wedding in September,
1900, and both were present on this occasion. We don't believe that any township in
Kansas can beat this record. One of Hedger McClanahan's sons is now grown to man-

hood and lived all his life in the same neighborhood with his four grandparents, all of whom he met on this occasion and both couples passed half a hundred years together. This is truly a good field for life insurance companies to work.

The friends outside the family were Wm. Leamer and wife, who has sold goods to this couple almost all their married life, and who on this occasion presented a pair of gold fleece lined blankets.

Dr. Lewis and wife, the Doctor for 30 years has been the family physician of both the McCall and McClanahan families, Rev. J. J. Skinner, the present pastor, W. A. Smith and wife, parents of Mrs. Will McCall, John Hennesey and wife, George Duncan and wife, George Gibbons and wife, Mrs. S. F. Harris, Tom Hogg, wife and mother, Robert McGegory and wife of Leavenworth, Kans., a brother-in-law of Moses McCalls'.

When we think of this couple, how they have labored and prospered, we exclaim "What is the matter with Kansas?" And we answer in the language of her citizens "Oh, she is all right."

→ COMING-TERRITORIAL DAYS ←

Keep in mind "Territorial Day" on June 25th. Scheduled events include: Kid Games, Pony Pull, Baseball Tournament, Bingo, Street Dance, Lots of Food, and many more activities. A parade will be held at 2:00 P.M. The Lecompton Historical Society will again be serving homemade ice cream at 5:00 P.M. in front of the Community Building. Maxine Dark will be in charge of this fund raising event. Lane University will be open all day for visitors to tour the museum. Don Willis is in charge of the Territorial Day Committee.

TERRITORIAL DAYS

As we all know that we will again be in the process of getting Lecompton cleaned up and prettied up for this celebration, I would like to share with you an article found in the Lecompton Sun, May 11, 1922.

YOUR HOME TOWN FIRST by Dr. Frank Crane

Work for your own town. Beautify it. Improve it. Make it attractive. The World War, the Treaty of Peace, the Protective Tariff and all such things are important subjects, but what is the good of cleaning up the world unless you clean your own doorsteps? The city whose main street is dirty, sordid looking, cluttered, uninviting, suffers much. Such a city wants to be cleaned, recreated, made a thing of beauty, so that people will come for miles to see it. Towns get reputations, as well as men. Make your town talked of all over the country. It will thus draw people. And where people come, there is prosperity. Rid your town of one eyesore after another. Clean up vacant lots and plant them in gardens. Make a cluttered yard a disgrace. Make public opinion too hot for those who will not help.

IT'S MAY—SCHOOL'S OUT

(Taken from the Lecompton Sun, Friday, May 15, 1903)

Of those who took the Examination in the eighth grade at Lecompton, four received grades whose average was over 80. Christine Wenrich received the highest grade in this township and the second highest in the County, which entitles her to the Washburn scholarship. Those who passed were Christine Wenrich, Ralph Lewis, Mildred LaHue and Flora Copple of the Lecompton school and Bessie Taylor of the Crowder school.

(Taken from the Lecompton Sun, May 26, 1932) Grade School Notes

Those who had perfect attendance for three years in the grade school were Gene Sulzen, 8th grade, and Doris Holloway, 6th grade. Those who had perfect attendance for two years were John Traxler, 7th grade; Norma Jean McClanahan, 7th grade; Louis Traxler, 5th grade. Those who had perfect attendance for one year were, 7th & 8th grades, Don Michael and Elmer Goodrich; 5th & 6th grades, Denzel Gibbens, Marie Cottrell, Mary Nelle Lasswell, Warren Springer, Charles Michael, and Betty Jane Traxler; 3rd & 4th grades, Harold Crady and Ivalou McCall; 2nd grade, Billy Springer. Ninety-five percent attendance were Opal Lasswell, Ray Norwood, Christine Traynor, Arlene Bohnsack, Lucill Michael, Harry Carr, Fritz McClanahan, Merle Morris, Theodore Sulzen, Pauline Baughman and June Steinmetz.

Following are a few of the eighth grade graduates in the country: Kanwaka school--Elmer Johanning, Mary Frances Kuester, Howard Hurd, Howard Sale. Star school--Ida Mae James, Robert H. Walter, David Paslay. Barker school--Lucille Rothwell. Greenwood Valley school--Riley Goff, Mary Edna Lancaster, Madalyn McClanahan, Elsie Kellogg. Glenn school--Doris Mellenbruch, Rosemarie Barland, Rosemary Glenn, Dorothy Sanford. Lone Star school--Richard Saunders, Vera and Vena Flory. Big Springs school--Helen Wymer, Helen Henry, Lawrence Cree, Ralph Spencer, Harold Tholl.

(The Lecompton Sun, June 2, 1921) Eighth Grade Exercises

The graduating exercises of the Eighth grade took place at the high school gymnasium on Wednesday night.

The address to the class was made by Major Herbert J. Corwine of Topeka. He built his remarks around the parable of the Good Samaritan.

County Superintendent Oscar J. Lane presented diplomas to the following graduates: Wilbur Hildenbrand, Harold Foree, Elsie James, Jennie Grauel, Julia Sehon, Ruth Baughman, Sarah Dummer, Flossie McRae, Ruth Nace, Julia Shirk, Mabel Slavens.

Glenn School District #33

The Glenn School is located $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Lecompton. In Aug. 23, 1862, Wilburn and Louisa Shirley gave a acre of land where a frame structure was boxed and made entirely of native walnut, its only furnishings being seats and desks of hand-hewn slabs and a stove. Pupils paid one dollar each per month for the three-months' term taught by Robert McGregory.

The second and last schoolhouse was of native limestone quarried from the hills nearby and its walls laid up by a Swedish stonemason, Chris Christenson. The old frame building was torn down and the lumber sold to Adolph Sulzen.

The school yard was very small and left no place to play ball, as the boys spent more time climbing across the fence retrieving balls, than they got time in playing. A. G. Glenn and his wife Elizabeth came to the rescue with a deed in July, 1890, that added enough land on the west and north to make a site of about $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres. Still having trouble keeping the ball in the school yard and needing more space, when Cyrus and Josephine Glenn, in 1922, gave some more land on the west and north, making a site of four and one-tenth acres.

For 75 years straight, there was at least one Glenn child attending this school. When the school was closed and nothing was being done to keep the building up, Starr Glenn secured permission to sell the school and Vernon Beatty bought it in 1951, later selling it to Herschel Lee. It is now owned by Mark Boose, who has made a nice dwelling out of it and is living there at the present.

(Taken from the Lecompton Sun, Thursday, June 13, 1918)

The graduating exercises of those in Douglas county schools who completed the eighth grade were held at Lawrence, Wednesday, in the Methodist church. The address was delivered by Dean F. J. Kelly of the University of Kansas.

Quite a number from Lecompton and surrounding districts attended.

The graduates from this part of the county were: Lecompton; Mary Nace, Kathryn McCall, Geneive McCall, Irene Slavens, Grace Arnett, Frank Taylor, Winifred Drake, Goldie Gray, Harry Glenn, Trueman Orr. Greenwood Valley; Elizabeth McClanahan, Neva Morris, Vena Morriss. Big Springs; Emile Hartman, Lola Cree. Crowder; Ruth Collins, Winter, Ruth Schroyer, Addie Carter and Blanche Shelley.

~ MUSEUM SEASON BEGINS MAY 1 ~

The Lane University Museum is now open from 1 to 4 P.M. on Sunday. A number of different items and displays are currently being exhibited. Lane University Museum has grown into one of the outstanding museums in Kansas in less than one year. All this is possible because everyone is so willing in so many different ways to promote a great city with a fantastic historical society and museum.

The Library is currently open from 1 to 3 P.M. the first and third Wednesday of the month. Sara Walter, Elda Flowers and Lydia Long have done a great job organizing the Library. Plan a visit and see for yourself.

The Lecompton Historical Society meets the second Thursday of each month with a covered dish dinner at 6:30 P.M. and a meeting at 7:30 P.M. You would be most welcome to come and be a part of this exciting organization. The next meeting nights are June 9th and July 14th. See you then.



Forrest Springer and David Paslay recently spent a considerable amount of time building storage cabinets in the furnace room. They did a terrific job and their efforts are appreciated. The location of the cabinets was changed from the northeast room because we will soon need to expand into that room.

The Lecompton Historical Society recently received on permanent loan from the Kansas State Historical Society 7 lighted display cases. Opal Goodrick, Dorothy and Les Shaner have spent many days creating displays for the cases. Their work looks professional. Also the day the cases arrived David and Darlene Paslay, George Simmons, Tom Goodrick and Les Shaner helped move the piano from the first floor to the music room on the second floor. A big job well done.

Herman Banks a faithful member and supporter of the society for many years decided this winter he wanted to do something for the museum. He wrote 50 letters to past community families asking for pictures or other memorabilia to display in the museum. His response has been great.

David Paslay, George Simmons, Les Shaner and Charlie Paslay have installed the fireplace from Governor Stanton's Home. It was lots of hard work but, certainly looks elegant in the main display room.

Arloene Simmons would like to display some more recent pictures of activities at Lecompton High School. They would enhance an already attractive area of our museum. Her number is 387-6284.

The last five paragraphs describe some of the changes that have taken place in Lane University Museum. The Lane University Curators are in charge of creating ideas and using ideas suggested by you to create this most attractive museum. Thanks to Sally Wright, Julia Springer, Sara Walter, Dorothy Shaner and Opal Goodrick. They have had a tremendous amount of help the last few weeks from: Les Shaner, David and Darlene Paslay, Iona Spencer, Wilma Tibbs, Doris Matney, Marguerite Bowman, George and Arloene Simmons, Helen Norwood, Jeff Goodrick, Tom Goodrick, Forrest Springer, Maxine Dark, Margie Hildenbrand, Dorothy Beatty, Lavina Hanna, Charlie and Ione Paslay, Elda Flowers, Lydia Long and Paul Bahnmaier.

The Lecompton Historical Society recently joined with the City of Lecompton to share in the cost of making 9 historical markers for Lecompton. John Delfelder has done a super job making the signs from redwood. They will have a bald eagle designed by Ellen Duncan installed at the top. Draque Carver has made a beautiful sign to be placed along a nearby highway. These will be a big boost to our historic city.

Forrest Springer recently donated a handmade display table to Lane University. He designed the table himself and looks great. Chuck Wright, Les & Dorothy Shaner, David Paslay, Wally Holderman and Joe Stauffer recently mowed the area around Lane University

Recent donations or objects loaned to Lane University were made by the following people: Bill and Marcella Anderson, Edna Schriener, Florence Andes, George and Arloene Simmons, Wilma Tibbs, Mrs. Winter Ingham, Wilbur and Helen Hildenbrand, Herman and Allie Banks, Bob Steinmetz, Elizabeth Bahnmaier, Dorothy Shaner, Opal Goodrick, Joyce Behlke, Maxine Dark, Doris Matney, Elizabeth Johnson, Harry Hart, Alta Huey, Sally Wright, Helen Norwood, Marie Hill, Darryl McCall, Katherine Johanning, Louise Schiffer, Deloris Golladay, Roy Armstrong, Letha McClanahan, Omer Huey, Lavina Hanna, Ellen Duncan, Corrine Childs, Julie Springer, and Lois Coates. Thanks for helping make Lane University a unique and outstanding museum.

President - PAUL BAHNMAIER
Editor - ELLEN DUNCAN
Geneological Writer - IONA SPENCER
Historical Writer - SARA WALTER

THE LECOMPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Lecompton, Kansas 66050 is a non-profit corporation for the preservation of Historic Sites. We are eager for continued membership and new members!

Individual membership is \$2.50 per year, from December to December. Life membership is \$50 per individual. Contributions are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to the Lecompton Historical Society, and mailed to Mrs. Iona Spencer, R.R. #1, Lecompton, Kansas 66050.

(Please clip and mail with your check)

_____ \$2.50 Annual Individual Member _____ \$50 Individual Life member

_____ Other Contribution

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Note: If your name or address is not correct as shown on this copy of your Bald Eagle, please let us know.

The Lecompton Historical Society participated with other historical societies of Douglas County in a quilt show held at Watkins Museum in Lawrence. Quilts from our area were shown by: Daisy Wingfield, Virginia Confer, Phyllis Martin, Opal Goodrick, Mary Mathews, Maxine Dark, Mable Glenn, Sharon Porter, Connie Robertson, Allie Banks and Elizabeth Johnson. Thanks to the volunteers who watched the quilts and Elizabeth Johnson, Allie Banks and Julia Springer for making this money making project possible.

Recently Sara Walter, Julia Springer, Mae Holderman, Iona Spencer and Paul Bahnmaier made a presentation about Lecompton at a workshop held at the Watkins Community Museum in Lawrence. This workshop gave us an opportunity to spread the word about Lecompton and Lane University Museum.

Mae Holderman and Shirley Funk recently went to Governor Carlin's Office to remove the Historic Lecompton Quilt and return it home to Lane University Museum. Needless to say the Governor's Staff requested the quilt be returned to Topeka next year. They reported people just came to the Governor's Office just to see the quilt. This provided great publicity for Lecompton. Thanks Mae for providing this opportunity to promote Lecompton.

It is time again to say thanks to all who have either renewed their membership or have joined our society since the last Bald Eagle was mailed in March. We do appreciate your support and the donations made to keep the Lane University Museum operating.

Again, we are proud to add the following names to our Life Membership list, which now totals 172.

Starr & Mabel (Humbert) Glenn	Harold V. Leslie
Charles F. Boydston	Merle Stover
Jason W. Dexter IV	David & Darlene (Carter) Paslay
Clare J. Colman	Clayton & Maxine (Glenn) Dark
Corina F. (Harris) Vausbinder	Mrs. R. Dale Dickson (Silliman)
Daniel P. (Dan) Winter	
Edythe (Leslie) Stevenson	

Also, we have added three more young members to our list.

Miss Jennifer Matney Kate Johnson John Dunaway

We are sorry to mention of another death, that of William (Bill) Richards, who died February 17, 1983.

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