

No. to Convent Property

Mrs. O'Brien

11-14-63

Editor, News-Press: I am surprised someone hasn't suggested we use the old Patee House or our college in St. Joseph. Just think what a new roof and a sprinkler system would do for it.

There would probably be a few rooms or maybe a section or wing in it too we wouldn't need or know what to do with—but that would be all right too—we can spend a fortune heating

it until such time as the excess space is needed.

It is sickening—the idea of spending \$150,000 on a flea-bitten, termite ridden building that has already been abandoned as a school! It was bad enough to even consider it as a possible home for our museum, but believe me it would make a far better museum than it will a college.

It is indeed already a mu-

seum, and obviously one that is in an advanced stage of dilapidation.

I would like to know too, if the estimated cost of "refurbishing" the convent for museum purposes is \$250,000 to \$300,000, just how far will \$150,000 go toward putting it in shape for college use?

It is doubtful if it will cover the cost of a new roof and a sprinkler system. It's for sure the amount will cover little else.

Sincerely,

—Interested Subscriber

City Benefactor George Bode Died Ten Years Ago May 11

N.P. 5-2-25

Spending of Legacy to Citizens Only Now Starting

By EDWIN R. McDONALD
(News-Press Staff Writer)

Ledgers from the old Buffalo saloon have turned up at a timely moment in an attic at 715 South 9th street. George Bode, one of the proprietors, lived at that address and his son, George Bode Jr., is the man who left a fortune to the people of St. Joseph. May 11 will mark the 10th anniversary of the death of George Bode Jr. in St. Louis at the age of 86.

As that anniversary approaches, the first large scale Bode fund project is under way in the reconstruction and asphaltting of Noyes Field tennis courts.

In the years since the benefactor's death, his \$2,500,000 estate has grown to about \$4,000,000. An attempt by Bode heirs to break the will failed. Another

again for October, 1870 and for January, 1871, but the situation was much improved in September, 1885, with receipts of \$903.80 and expenditures of \$406.05.

Profitable Then

Seen from the present day, Buffalo figures were small. For example the receipts for the first eight days of August, 1870 were, respectively, \$35, \$31, \$23, \$25, \$30, \$39, \$27 and \$40.75. For the whole month, the receipts were \$836 and the expenditures \$529.65, leaving a balance of \$306.35.

If the proprietors could split most of the balance as profit, and they probably could, they took home around \$150 apiece. That was a lot of money in 1870.

Food for the tables at the Buffalo was cheap—it had to be,

for those were the days of free lunches for the customers who bought drinks.

Buffalo proprietors spent \$7.35 on Oct. 7, 1865. Their entry was "marketing, beer and coal oil."

More was needed on the 24th; "Marketing, oysters, whisky, cheese, etc., \$46.35."

Their biggest day that month was the 31st: "marketing, beer, whisky, rent, Herald, etc. \$70.65." (The Herald was the morning Herald and Tribune.)

All they needed Dec. 26, 1865, was eggs, for which they paid \$2. Milk, sausage, matches and towels on the 27th cost \$3.50.

In one of the books was a letter from Arthur Bode to his mother, written from a hotel in St. Louis April 15, 1895. The trip had been rough, he said, and the hotel room was "out of sight." It was \$1.50.

was listed at 525 South 9th street and later at 630, which was at the northwest corner of 9th and Locust.

In the year that George Bode received the big certificate, George Bode Jr. was 17 and was listed in the 1886 directory as a bookkeeper for Northwestern Lumber Co. He was shown in 1888-9 as a bookkeeper for Henry Coatsworth Co., another lumber dealer, in business at the northwest corner of 9th and Monterey streets. In the 1891 book he was at the same location, but the business had become Biles, Kyle & Co.

Buffalo Records

Included in the find by Mrs. Young is a book on bookkeeping, dated 1883 and bearing the name of George Bode. It would seem to have been the property of the man who left the money to St. Joseph, but no "Jr." is affixed to the name.

The Buffalo records cover a period of about 25 years, beginning in September, 1865, a month in which receipts were \$675.65 and expenditures, \$421.80.

September, 1870, was a different story: \$709.35 taken in, \$791.85 paid out.

The Buffalo was in the red

Bode Memorial

Day 7-18-62

The Bode fortune gets bigger and bigger. It may be remembered that the first report of the size of this gift to St. Joseph put the figure at \$1,000,000. And that was considered quite an inheritance.

But after the appraisal of the estate it was revealed that it really was worth \$2,500,000. It wasn't long until the trustees reported that this fortune had increased to \$3,000,000. And the last report showed that the wonderful (if one is on the right end) mathematical calculation called interest had boosted Mr. Bode's gift to the citizens of St. Joseph to the lofty figure of \$3,662,000. Before any sizable part of this trust is spent the principal will be crowding \$4,000,000.

Much energy has been expended and a tremendous amount of thought given toward the disposition of the Bode fortune. There are plenty of projects that certain groups want to see materialize on the back of Bode money.

But we have yet to hear of anyone pushing for some kind of individual memorial to George Bode Jr. as municipal appreciation of what he tried to do for St. Joseph. It would

LE

EDITION

14 PAGES

TEN CENTS

Mississippi Sit-in Drive Starts Fight

But Besieged Group Remains at Counter

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—A Negro drive against rigid segregation kicked off Tuesday with picketing and an uproarious sit-in marked by intermittent violence.

Battering fists and mustard baths failed to break up the lunch

counter sit-in.

7 p. m. 73

60

10 a. m.

57

4 a. m.

art along stubbornly to their stools

dent, James H. Meredith.

Judge Sidney Mize's order brushed aside a state college board decision that McDowell could not be accepted because of campus "unrest."

The suit for McDowell's immediate admission was filed in open court by Mrs. Constance Baker Motley during her arguments for Meredith.

Meredith, still protected by federal marshals while on campus, had asked the court to make Ole Miss grant him married student quarters for the summer term. He has a wife and son.

Judge Mize said he was making his McDowell order completely separate from the Meredith case. He set June 3 as the date for a hearing on the Meredith petition.

Problems Faced in Trying to Use Bode Cash Told to Court

By GARY CHILCOTE

(Gazette Courthouse Reporter)

McDowell
5-29-64

Problems in meeting the terms of the will of the late George Bode Jr. were traced Tuesday by Bode trustees in court testimony before Judge William Kimberlin.

Trustees of Bode Estate to Discuss Course of Action

Day - 2-28-63
By HUGH A. SPRAGUE

(Gazette Courthouse Reporter)

Trustees of the George Bode Jr. trust will meet this afternoon at 3 to discuss legal alternatives in their circuit court suit to construe portions of the Bode will.

Attorneys for the trustees will attend the meeting, to be held in the conference room of the Corby building.

A motion by Mrs. Mildred L. Peters, a niece of the late Mr. Bode, to intervene in the litigation will be heard March 18 by Judge William H. Kimberlin. Filing of the motion Monday forced postponement of the will hearing, which was to have begun Tuesday morning.

Trustees are seeking instruction by the court of certain portions of the will which they deem ambiguous. They also ask that certain administrative duties of trus-

tees be varied to make the will more practical.

Mrs. Peters, according to her motion, contends that one-half the assets of the \$3,825,000 trust will go to her and one-half to another Bode niece, Eleanor Tiehoff, Los Angeles, Cal., if the trust is decreed to be impractical and unenforceable in its present form.

The trust was established in a

Concluded on Page 2—Column 3

Trustees Decide to Include Bode Nieces in Suit

Amended Petition to Be Filed in Will Interpretation Action

Trustees of the George Bode Jr. Benevolent Trust have decided to include both of the late Mrs. Bode's nieces in the court suit to liberalize the will.

Judge W. H. Kimberlin has received word from the Bode fund trustees that they would file an amended petition before next Tuesday with both of the nieces named as defendants in the litigation. The nieces are Mrs. Mildred L. Peters of St. Joseph and Mrs. Eleanor Tiehoff, Los Angeles.

The Bode estate was left to residents of St. Joseph to purchase land for recreational pur-

trustees will cause a further delay in the hearing on their petition to liberalize the will, Judge Kimberlin said. He pointed out that Mrs. Tiehoff has given no indication she desires to intervene in the suit and therefore it is assumed she has no attorney to represent her in the matter.

"It is likely that both mail and publication methods of serving the two relatives will be used," said Judge Kimberlin. "In that case it would be at least 45 days before a hearing on the petition could be held."

Judge Kimberlin also pointed out the possibility that both

TRUSTEES

Continued From Page One

1945 will of Mr. Bode, who died in May, 1955. The bulk of his estate was left to citizens of St. Joseph for park and recreation purposes.

Filing of the motion by Mrs. Peters, wife of Charles A. Peters, 1018 Ashland court, may broaden the scope of the will interpretation suit filed last August by trustees. Alternative courses of legal action opened to trustees by filing of the motion are several.

May Contest Intervention

Trustees may vigorously contest intervention by Mrs. Peters or other heirs as parties to the suit. Basis for this course is a \$50,000 settlement by trustees to Mrs. Peters and other Bode heirs in August, 1958. The heirs unsuccessfully sought to admit to probate in St. Louis county a purported 1948 will of Mr. Bode which allegedly left his estate to kin.

In dismissing their action concerning the alleged later will, Mrs. Peters and other heirs agreed, the estate attorneys say, to abandon all claims to any portion of the Bode estate and forfeited all claims involving validity of the 1945 will.

In view of the apparent release by Mrs. Peters to any claim in

Slow Use of Bode Money Hit

**Fantus Critical
of "Cumbersome"**

Method Used

12-8-67

By PAUL STEWART

(Gazette Staff Writer)

Lack of forceful action in applying Bode fund money toward improvement of St. Joseph's recreational facilities has been criticized in the Fantus report.

The analysis of the city's industrial expansion potential, made recently for the city and the area Chamber of Commerce, lists this as one of the shortcomings which should be remedied in improving the city's status as a site for new industrial plants.

"In spite of the presence of the Bode fund, the park board has been slow in using the funds and the method of screening projects is cumbersome," Fantus states.

Prepare for Bode Will Trial

N-17 11-6-62

Trustees of the George Bode Jr. benevolent Trust plan to be able by the first of the year to present to the court their case asking interpretation of the Bode will.

Attorney General Thomas F. Eagleton's answer to their action filed in Circuit Judge W. H. Kimbryn's court confirms what the trustees said before entering the suit: Namely that getting such an interpretation made will not be a simple matter.

Allegations Denied

The attorney general admits that the trust has been set up properly and that it now contains approximately \$3,725,000 to be spent for recreational purposes

for the people of St. Joseph. He denies all the other allegations contained in the plaintiffs' petition supporting their claims for the release sought.

To amass a "preponderance of competent evidence," the trustees and their counsel now are gathering testimony for city officials, recreation experts, real estate men, appraisers and others.

Their purpose is to show why it is impractical and impossible to carry out the terms of the Bode will.

Questions Raised

Their petition raises several questions: (1) Does buying land mean that the land can contain

improvements? (2) Can the city condemn land which the Bode trust would buy and is it possible to procure the land best suitable without such condemnation? (3)

What public agencies are authorized to accept to title to acquisitions under the new city charter? (4) Can money from the trust be used for improvements and maintenance when it is shown that the city does not have funds to maintain and administer a facility acquired by the trust?

It is the position of the trustees that a record be made in the trial court that would stand up and be sustained if the case should get into the appellate courts.

Bode Niece Files New Trial Motion

Mrs. Mildred L. Peters today filed a motion for a new trial in the George Bode Jr. will suit.

Judge William H. Kimberlin last month signed a judgment liberalizing terms of the Bode will that would permit the city of St. Joseph to use the \$3,800,000 trust for maintenance as well as acquisition of land, with certain limitations.

In the original will, the late Mr. Bode had specified the money was to be used for the purchase of land only. Judge Kimberlin's ruling was the result of a suit filed by trustees of the estate, seeking wider authorization for the use of funds.

Errors Charged

Mrs. Peters, a niece of Mr. Bode, contends the trust money should revert to the heirs, if it cannot be used for the original purposes listed in the will. A similar position was taken by her

10-23-63
sister, Mrs. Mildred Thiehoff, living in California.

Mrs. Peters' five-point motion cites what she alleged were a number of trial errors on the part of Judge Kimberlin, both in his findings of fact and judgment. The findings and judgment, she states, are without support in the evidence.

Under the 15-day limitation, today is the final date for filing appeals to Judge Kimberlin's ruling. No appeal has been received from Mrs. Thiehoff.

No Hearing Date

Last Friday, the Missouri attorney general's office filed a motion for a new trial. It listed nine points in which it was claimed the court erred.

Judge Kimberlin has not set any date for ruling on the motions. Should they be overruled, the next step by the appellants normally would be an appeal to the Missouri supreme court.

State Seeks New Trial in Bode Case

Interpretations of Will Are Challenged

Day - Feb 20 - 63
Attorney General Thomas F. Eagleton will contest Circuit Judge W. H. Kimberlin's ruling in the Bode will liberalization case.

An award of \$20,000 in fees to attorneys representing nieces of George Bode Jr., who were defendants in the action, also will be contested.

A motion for a new trial will be filed today, John Denman, assistant attorney general, told The Gazette Thursday night.

Mr. Bode died in 1955 at St. Louis, leaving a substantial sum of money now amounting to about \$3,800,000, to the citizens of St. Joseph for the purchase of land for recreational purposes. A

used for improving and equipping properties purchased and to pay for maintaining the equipment afterward," Mr. Denman said.

"It is our opinion that this authority is not within the terms of the trust instrument and we don't

STATE SEEKS

Continued From Page One

sending Mrs. Mildred Peters and Mrs. Eleanor Thiehoff, nieces of Mr. Bode. "In the first place we don't think they should have been allowed and secondly, we think they are entirely too high," he said.

He referred to Judge Kimberlin's award of \$8,000 to Maurice Pope, St. Joseph attorney representing Mrs. Thiehoff, and the \$12,000 award to Charlotte P. Thayer and Carl D. Gum Jr., Kansas City, attorneys representing Mrs. Peters.

Mr. Denman said his office was not contesting \$9,000 in attorney fees awarded to Floyd M. Sprague, Robert E. Douglas and Charles S. Wilcox, attorneys for the trustees. All fees were to be paid from the Bode fund.

Interpretations by Judge

Provisions in the ruling issued by judge Kimberlin are as follows.

1. That the trust is a valid one.
2. The legal title to all of the assets is vested in the trustees.
3. The trustees may purchase land, improved or unimproved.
4. Trustees may pay the city for purchase price of property

tant among community factors which are considered by companies when deciding on a location for a new plant.

These facilities also contribute to the attraction of tourists to the area, the report added.

The recreational appraisal by the Chicago firm pointed out the following assets for St. Joseph:

(1)—The presence of the Bode fund for parks and recreation has served to create the foundation for one of the finest recreational programs for a city of under 100,000 persons in the country.

Because of these funds, an aggressive recreation program is possible. Fantus reports a top-notch director is running the program, and a high-quality advisory park board manages the effort.

(2)—St. Joseph is a famous historical center and offers such things as a Patee House and a Pony Express Barn, as well as, a wide variety of historical exhibits to show the role which this community played in the winning of the West.

This can serve as an important recreation, not only for visitors but the natives as well, Fantus says. Outstanding his-

the administration of the Bode fund.

(2)—Within the guidelines of the recreation plan, the Bode fund trustees should be asked to speed up their distribution of funds.

(3)—In addition to the Bode fund, citizens should be asked to contribute funds to parks and recreation on an annual basis. Other bequests might be encouraged, either for city recreation or for the development of the

George Bode Will Before Court Today for Interpretation.

Daquette 3-28-63

St. Joseph's efforts to liberalize the will of the late George Bode Jr. will get under way at 9:30 this morning after a day of pre-trial conferences.

Circuit Judge William H. Kimberlin said he hopes to complete the trial this week if possible.

Trustees of the \$3,800,000 will are asking that its terms be liberalized so the people of St. Joseph may use the money for public purposes other than the purchase of additional land for recreational needs as specified in the will.

Stipulations Are Made

Intervening in the suit is a motion by Mrs. Mildred L. Peters, a niece of the city's benefactor, who claims that if the money cannot be used for its specified purpose it should revert to the heirs.

Monday attorneys met with Judge Kimberlin to work out a number of pertinent facts about the case. These admissions may now be accepted in the trial proceedings without further proof, thereby speeding up the trial so it may be completed this week.

Included in the admissions Mon-

Bode Trustees Hear 3 Museum Proposals for Financial Help

N.P. - 1-27-62
Three proposals designed to provide more space for the St. Joseph Museum were presented to trustees of the Bode estate yesterday afternoon.

They included the purchase and conversion of the former Convent of the Sacred Heart, 12th and Angelique streets; the purchase and restoration of the old Patee House, 12th and Penn streets, and building an addition to the present museum building at 11th and Charles streets.

More Space Needed

The gist of the presentation was that the museum needs more room which could be provided by any one of the three proposals. However, one of the proposals would also make it possible to preserve a historical landmark. It was hoped that one of the three propositions would be favored by trustees and that money would be provided from the Bode estate.

William M. Morton, chairman of the trustee board, said the meeting was an informal discussion of the possibilities and that

funds to preserve the historical structure. The city has designated the building an extreme fire hazard and ordered it either repaired or razed.

No cost estimate or plans were available either on constructing an addition to the present museum building.

Turning Back the Pages

40 YEARS AGO—Aug. 26, 1923—Mayor George E. McIninch called a meeting of the city council to discuss the possibility of the city purchasing electric current from the street railway company . . . Everything was in readiness for the Pony Express Festival week which was expected to surpass any entertainment previously attempted . . . Joe Lawrence, local aviator, piloted a Canadian-Curtis airplane during a stunt show featured at the opening of Lake Thompson near Agency . . . Arrangements were being made so that President Calvin Coolidge could start the Pony Express race by a special telegraph connection between the White House and St. Joseph.

25 YEARS AGO—Aug. 26, 1938—Work was scheduled to get under way Aug. 29 on renovation of South Park School, according to Paul M. Lowry, school district engineer. It was the first work to be done under the recently-voted \$2,331,000 school improvement bonds . . . Frank D. Connett was unanimously chosen by the Buchanan County Democratic congressional committee for state committeeman. He was elected after an all-day deadlock and nine separate votes failed to break a tie between Mayor Phil Welch and W. F. Enright . . . Youngsters on Eugene Field avenue raised \$3.55 for the Rev. A. L. Water's mission by giving a neighborhood play. Those in the show were Shirley Jean and Jennie Whitsell, Mary Lou Stubbs, Carol Hartigan, Frances Parisoff, Joan Pitman, Bonnie Butler, Otis Parisoff and Barbara Eaton . . . Douglas Timmerman, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, said arrangements were made to send the South Side boys' band to Maysville Sept. 9 for the horse show there.

15 YEARS AGO—Aug. 26, 1948—Cowboys in the Pony Express Rodeo were to decide Sept. 23 who was to be their queen, selecting from area contestants . . . Men scheduled to register for the draft the following week were told by Miss Mary O'Connor, draft board clerk, if they were out of town they could register in whatever city they were in . . . Democratic congressional nominee Phil J. Welch said he favored repeal of the Taft-Hartley

Turning Back the Pages

40 YEARS AGO—Aug. 27, 1923—Band concerts by the Hugh McNutt concert band, the St. Joseph historical pageant and a \$1,000 fireworks display were among Pony Express Festival events for the day . . . Buchanan county Sheriff William Kueker named 16 additional deputies to be stationed at Lake Contrary where most festival events were to take place . . . Post office officials termed transcontinental air mail service tests as successful.

25 YEARS AGO—Aug. 27, 1938—Everett Trunk, president of the Moila Temple Vice-President's Club, announced plans to construct four lanes of lawn bowling as the outdoor sport began to sweep across the country . . . An armed bandit held up two employees of the Chatterbox restaurant at 612 Faraon street. The bandit obtained \$20 from the cash register . . . G. A. Thomann, president of the Exchange Bank of Helena, Mo., said burglars broke into the bank vault but did not get \$4,000 which earlier had been reported stolen . . . Miss Alice Pipkin, St. Joseph representative of distributive education of public schools, announced plans to start salesmanship classes in St. Joseph in order to help more persons find jobs . . . The start of construction on concrete runways at Rosecrans Field was scheduled for late September. Fred M. Wanger, president of the city aviation board, said the project would cost \$198,000.

15 YEARS AGO—Aug. 27, 1948—Nine more Midland Empire communities were to be visited by the Good Joes of St. Joseph on their next tour. Stops were scheduled at King City, Stanberry, Grant City, Albany, Bethany, Pattonsburg, Maysville, Clarksdale and Union Star . . . Frank Baker, Ralph Wilkinson and Glen Douglas of the St. Joseph school system returned from a meeting of vocational teachers and co-ordinators at Columbia . . . Mrs. Anna Ingersol, manager of Lake Contrary amusement park, held the annual back-to-school night for children at the park . . . Work was nearly completed on the new drive through Bartlett Park, expected to be ready for traffic during the Pony

Turning Back the Pages

40 YEARS AGO—Aug. 28, 1923—A cast of 1,500 took part in the Pony Express Pageant depicting St. Joseph's part in linking the East with the West from Robidoux' arrival to the Pony Express days. Air maneuvers, motor races and vaudeville shows were in the day's program . . . The paving of Jule street, 13th to 22d streets, was completed except for track work to be installed by the street railway company . . . Orestes Mitchell left for Minneapolis to attend the annual American Bar Association meeting.

25 YEARS AGO—Aug. 28, 1938—Sam Alberts, a member of the city council, announced plans to support an ordinance which would require all city work over \$100 to be awarded from bids. He argued the action would give all city firms a chance to participate in the city improvement program . . . A committee of the St. Joseph Federation of Women's Clubs announced plans to confer with Fred Karr, manager of the Gas Service Co., concerning gas rates at St. Joseph. The special women's committee was composed of Mrs. J. L. Griffin, Mrs. R. A. Brown and Miss Orrel M. Andrews . . . Mrs. Mary Costello, 80, a former St. Joseph resident and a sister of Tom J. Pendergast of Kansas City, died at a Kansas City hospital. She formerly resided in St. Joseph at 1715 Frederick avenue . . . Work on St. Joseph's new post office building was expected to get under way by Nov. 15, according to the treasury department. This was in spite of the fact original bids were rejected and new ones were not to be opened until Sept. 29.

15 YEARS AGO—Aug. 28, 1948—The state conservation commission was unable to secure options on 400 acres of land required for the 120-acre lake proposed near Amity, according to word received by P. L. Shouse, president of the Northwest Missouri Sportsmen's Association . . . Sutherland Lumber Co. set Sept. 1 for the opening of its new yard at 505 Illinois avenue . . . Mayor H. D. Allison was in Jefferson City attending the Democratic state committee session at which a nominee for the office of secretary of state was to be chosen . . . Brothers at

Turning Back the Pages

40 YEARS AGO—Aug. 29, 1923—An estimated 5,000 to 6,000 persons attended the second performance of the St. Joseph historical pageant at Lake Contrary the previous night. The Gazette featured 1861 photographs of Pony Express rider Johnny Fry . . . Congressman Charles L. Faust announced that the government planned to start work soon on the Missouri River bank near Lake Contrary . . . The city council introduced an ordinance authorizing the board of public works to purchase electrical power from the street railway company and authorizing the city to cease operating its electric light plant . . . Edward Austin of Cameron Mo., a Civil War veteran who was with General Sherman on his march to the sea, died at his home.

25 YEARS AGO—Aug. 29, 1938—State Representative Francis Smith was conferring with members of the St. Joseph police department concerning a proposal that the legislature enact legislation placing local officers on a civil service basis . . . Maj. Gen. Julian Schley, chief of the U. S. war department engineers, halted briefly in St. Joseph while making an inspection trip of the Missouri River from Sioux City to St. Louis . . . John C. Landis III, owner of the house in which Jesse James was shot, said he would sell the house to a prospective purchaser unless the city made a move to keep the house here. The man offered Landis \$1,250. City councilmen and the Chamber of Commerce turned down a chance to buy it at the same price because it was "too high" . . . An animal act featuring "Romeo and Juliet," goats, was canceled at Lake Contrary Amusement Park after someone stole "Juliet" while she was tied between shows. R. C. Heatherington, owner of the six-goat show, said he could not continue the act without the trained goat.

15 YEARS AGO—Aug. 29, 1948—Patrolman Charles Pettit was found to have polio, the second case of the year in St. Joseph . . . Explanation of the proposed Missouri River cutoff across French Bottoms was scheduled for the city council meeting, Dr. R. S. Minton, council president, said . . . A play in one act directed by Mrs. Ethel B. . .

Turning Back the Pages

40 YEARS AGO—Aug. 30, 1923—The St. Joseph Civic Festival Association was host to pioneers of St. Joseph and vicinity as part of the week's Pony Express celebration . . . A highlight of the day's event was when Charles Cliff, one of the original Pony Express riders, took his first ride in an airplane, piloted by Walter H. Beach of Wichita, Kan. . . . About 170 students were expected to enroll for the fall term at Christian Brothers College . . . Fred E. Roach, county school superintendent, announced plans for an exhaustive survey of rural schools for the coming school year.

25 YEARS AGO—Aug. 30, 1938—The Lehr Construction Co. began work on the South Park School as the first project of a new \$2,000,000 school improvement bond election got under way. South Park was slated to get extensive fire-proofing under the contract . . . The St. Joseph Pony Express Association issued a challenge through its president, Lee Starnes, for the suggestion of a better location for the Pony Express memorial than the site in the Civic Center triangle . . . The South Side Civic Pride Club announced it favored an area on the boulevard east of the Benton School as a site for the newly-proposed high school building. The newly-organized club was set up by Louis Beaty, Dr. W. H. Bailey, Ed Hendra and Winstead Tadlock . . . Juliet, the white goat which was stolen from an animal act at Lake Contrary Park, returned to R. C. Heatherington and his menagerie of five other goats, 25 chickens, 15 dogs and a goose.

15 YEARS AGO—Aug. 30, 1948—Operators of two Belt highway night spots were cited to appear on charges of alleged liquor law violations . . . County Clerk Floyd Inman was checking signatures of 9,000 persons on petitions seeking a county charter commission . . . Paul Stewart of the Vulture Model Airplane Club won first place in Class A free flight at a model meet in Lincoln, Neb. . . . An offer to purchase the old Pony Express stables was received from a California man by County Collector Clifton Hurst. The man said he was interested in historical sites . . . Miss Rita Fisher, deputy clerk in the court of Judge Emmett J. Crouse,

Turning Back the Pages

Aug 31-63

40 YEARS AGO—Aug. 31, 1923—President Coolidge today pressed a gold key and a signal was flashed to St. Joseph starting off the first horseman westward toward San Francisco in a revival of the old Pony Express. It was one of the events of the Pony Express Festival here . . . The Burnes National Bank today took out a building permit to remodel the first floor, northeast corner, of the Corby building for its new banking quarters . . . Rain in measurable quantities fell in St. Joseph 17 days during this month which tied the record for July of 1915 . . . Plans have been made to erect a handsome new residence for Dr. G. A. Lau in Lovers' Lane.

25 YEARS AGO—Aug. 31, 1938—County Judges Harvey Boyle and Frank M. Gill have sued the county for back pay, Boyle for \$6,000 and Gill for \$3,000. They say they are entitled to \$4,500 yearly instead of the \$3,000 they received . . . The Rock Island railroad is seeking to drop its Topeka to St. Joseph daily train, saying it is losing money on the operation. The train makes one round trip daily . . . A campaign to raise \$1,250 to buy the home of Jesse James at 1318 Lafayette street was begun today. A citizens committee wants to buy the home and give it to the city to be used as a tourist attraction . . . C. C. Glaze has bought the two-story building at 602 North 2d street and is moving his construction firm there from 1220 South 11th.

15 YEARS AGO—Aug. 31, 1948—Homer Croy, famed Northwest Missouri author, is a visitor here today. He is searching for Jesse James lore as he is writing a book about the outlaw . . . Jackie Collum, St. Joseph Cardinals pitcher, who has 23 wins and only two losses, will be honored by fans at the City Stadium Saturday night . . . Plans to teach motor car driving in St. Joseph high schools have been taken up with school officials by the Automobile Club which has offered to sponsor the project . . . W. B. Sherwood of the Quaker Oats Co. has been transferred from the St. Joseph retail sales department to the Topeka retail sales.

Turning Back the Pages

40 YEARS AGO—Sept. 1, 1923—The final presentation of the Pony Express week pageant will be given tonight at Lake Contrary driving park . . . The Pony Express rider passed through Junction City, Kan., at 5:21 this morning . . . Bishop Francis Gilfillan will formally dedicate the news boys' Catholic orphanage at 36th and Frederick avenue Monday at an all-day picnic at the orphanage grounds . . . James J. Freel of Caldwell, N. J., spent today in St. Joseph visiting newspapers and union officers. Mr. Freel is president of the International Stereotypers and Electrotypers Union.

25 YEARS AGO—Sept. 1, 1938—The Sells-Floto circus was in town today and its agent parted with a \$25 license fee and 500 passes after a visit to the county court . . . Earl Lawrenson, organist at the First Christian Church, will join the faculty of the University of Idaho. He will teach piano and musical theory . . . The first demonstration of television as a reality in St. Joseph was given today at an exhibit set up at the Enterprise Furniture Co., 501 Felix street . . . Mr. and Mrs. Frank Degginger have returned from a vacation trip to Superior and Duluth, Wis. Mrs. Degginger is deputy county probation officer.

15 YEARS AGO—Sept. 1, 1948—Since the state's crackdown on illegal sales of liquor at rural night spots, operators of such places have been singing the blues because business is so bad . . . Charles A. Beard, 73, the noted historian, died today at a hospital in New Haven, Conn. . . . Excavation has been started at State Hospital No. 2 for a new occupational therapy building, whose cost is estimated at \$128,620 . . . Mayor John Hoshor of Savannah was named to the vacancy created by the death last Saturday of Jess Sexton of Lawson, who was the Democratic nominee for state senator of the 15th district . . . Pete Lopez will sing with the Good Joes when the group visits towns in the area northeast of St. Joseph tomorrow.

Turning Back the Pages

40 YEARS AGO—Aug. 25, 1923—Mayor McIninch has called a meeting of the city council for Tuesday night to prepare an ordinance for calling a special election to submit the street lighting proposal to a vote of the people . . . Congressman Charles L. Faust of this district will return to St. Joseph today. He is not expected to return to Washington until November . . . Generally fair with occasional thundershowers is the forecast for the Pony Express Festival week, according to W. S. Belden, weather forecaster . . . G. C. Von Neida, boys' secretary at the Y. M. C. A. here, has been offered the position of general secretary of the Y. M. C. A. at Atchison, Kan.

How Mr. Bode Felt

N.P. 8-29-62
If there has been any doubt about how George Bode felt about the St. Joseph Museum, an item in the 15-Year-Ago column of The Gazette on Tuesday should end it.

Mr. Bode in 1947 made the first pledge of \$1,000 to the museum's campaign for funds. That was eight years before he was to die and bequeath an estate, now valued at close to \$3,800,000, to the people of St. Joseph for recreational purposes.

There is now in the courts a suit by the trustees of the Bode Trust to construe the will in order to permit the use of funds in a number of ways, one of them for the museum.

The gift Mr. Bode made to the St. Joseph Museum 15 years ago seems a guide to his intentions.

Bode Will Case Reset for Feb. 26

NP 2-8-63
The case involving the request of the trustees of the George Bode Jr. Trust for an interpretation of the will has been reset for Feb. 26. Originally the trial was to be Feb. 18.

It will be heard in Judge W. H. Kimberlin's court. The will left the Bode money to residents of St. Joseph to purchase land for recreational purposes. Trustees are seeking to liberalize the terms of the will.

The reason for the change in the date for the hearing was that all parties involved could not get together on Feb. 18.

A Deserving Judge

Missouri 11-11-64
The bar and public generally hold our circuit courts in esteem. Therefore it is pleasing, far and wide, that the Hon. William H. Kimberlin has been upheld by the Missouri Supreme Court in the long-drawn-out and very important Bode case.

Jefferson City has affirmed the court of Judge Kimberlin as to procedure that the attorney for the Bode trustees thinks right and proper. Judge Kimberlin agreed with counsel, the high court agrees with Judge Kimberlin.

Congratulations, Judge Kimberlin.