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MATTHEW GERING DELIVERES ADDRESS AT LINCOLN ELKS LODGE OF SORROW

He Spoke Eloquently and Sympathetically of the Mysteries of Death and the Desolation Which is Felt by the Living Over the Departure of Their Loved Ones.

Mr. Matthew Gering of this city delivered a most befitting and eloquent address at the memorial services of the Lincoln Elks last Sunday. Matt, as everyone knows, is one of Nebraska's foremost orators, and it is always a pleasure of the Journal to give the reader that which it thinks is good. And we believe that Mr. Gering's address last Sunday is one of the best we have ever read. In part Mr. Gering said:

"The most luxurious fancy of an opium eater, reveling in the wild delirium of an excited imagination, cannot pluck words from the garden of language, or weave a picture upon the tapestry of the human mind in exaggeration of the hallowed purpose which has brought together, amid these peaceful surroundings, such an assembly of men and women in order to obliterate the seeming cold oblivion to which our friends have been consigned and in memory, to recall their deeds for good.

"In the presence of such a concourse of sorrowing friends of the departed dead, no epitaph need be written, no language uttered to recall remembrances of the past, no words so potent as the silent song of death, for in the invisible telegraphy between soul and soul, the sweetest epitaph in all the world is found and speech but mocks the hallowed memory of the dead.

"These meetings each year so aptly termed a lodge of sorrow, intensify the bond between the present and the past, between the cradle and the grave, and emphasize to all the world that this organization of fraternalism has for its purpose, not only joy for the living, but tears for the dead. They throttle hate and stimulate affection, blot out resentment and foster friendship. Charity without display, sympathy without ostentation, friendship without effusion, hope with its highest and loftiest aspirations, faith in the universal brotherhood of its organization, is the church and religion in which every member of this order is a most willing communicant. So true to every instinct of natural religion are the tenets of this fraternity that, although festivities may be at their height, when the hour before midnight comes, the absent ones are not forgotten. Heads are bowed, laughter ceases, mirth is dissipated, and we stand in fancy, as the sentinel of time strikes the hour of eleven, at the tomb of our un-forgotten dead.

Faith is a Gem.
"Reason stands aghast and staggers at the thought of death, while faith courts marriage with dissolution. The latter is the rarest gem that sparkles in the diadem of a soul, and as we stand tiptoed upon the apex of a life whose sands are nearly run, we peer with seeming hopelessness in the awful uncertainty of the future and find no consolation until faith stretches forth her hands and welcomes us to hospitable shores.

"Between the optimism of faith and pessimism of reason, we tremble like an aspen leaf quivering in the crevice of a rock and cry out in our helplessness for

being a great aid to the missionaries in the field. In the afternoon Miss Troutman, secretary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary society, addressed a large audience. At 4 p. m. Miss Troutman and Dr. Huddleston both talked to the children. The evening service was conducted by Dr. Parker of India, who is an instructor in Frances Nicholes' Theological school in India. All of the services were of the greatest interest and calculated to greatly aid the cause of missions.

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some surcease from such emotions. No answer to our cries. Death itself does not cause so much sorrow as the separation which it creates.

"Death is the valet who opens the door of the future and permits us to look into the mysterious chamber of eternity. Death is the end of all sorrows, it either secures happiness or ends suffering. It is the last and best boon of nature for it is the emancipator of a man from all his cares and is at worst but the close and end of a banquet we have all enjoyed.

"Death with a relentless tread has wandered into the forest of this order, and hewed therefrom its sturdiest oaks and most promising saplings; plucked therefrom the buds of spring and the sear and yellow leaves of autumn. Men in the flush and morning of their manhood and others who had passed the meridian of life have been cut down by that inexorable and desolating law of nature which we call death. In this ceaseless carnage, hearts are bleeding, wounds are made which never heal, and tears of sorrow make a furrow on the cheek of love. Mourned members of this order, whose names have been so tenderly announced and fades away amid these scintillations of electric lights have gone to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns.

"Whether their journey was only one stride across the imperceptible line of demarcation between the two eternities, or whether a boundless, unfathomable ocean stretches between these earthly shores and those invisible shores, we do not know.

"In reply to the savage incantations of the unforgotten Patagonian who listens to the winds and the voice of thunder with unfeigned awe, as to the subtle meditations of the metaphysician, comes the same answer to this stupendous question. None, except the throbbing of a soul and the longing for a life hereafter.

In Memory of the Dead.
"If this desire for immortality is to be the splendid realization of our hopes, then men should dread to live and not to die. To the undying dead who live in the memory of affection, I pay the tribute of this brotherhood, to their living friends I offer the consolation of lives well spent and which has made the world better for their being in it.

"Farewell, a long farewell, and as you sleep in silent dreamlessness in God's holy acre, while the soft winds sing a requiem and the weeping heavens shed a tear upon your resting place, let it be said of them and you when God's finger touched your eyelids in death, that you were one where God did seem to set his seal and give the world assurance of a man.

"Such an epitaph, engraved upon the hearts of loving friends is the proudest legacy and gentlest memory which man can leave to those who follow after him. Sleep on, sleep on, and with each coming of this holy month, the flowers of unforgetfulness will be placed by loving friends upon your bier."

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Death of Former Nebraskan.

A message was received in the city Sunday morning informing Mrs. A. L. Henry of the death of her husband's father at his home at Mt. Vernon, Iowa. The deceased was formerly a Holt county, Nebraska, citizen, and one of the prominent men of that locality, having been a member of the legislature at different times from that county.

SAM PATTERSON MAY SUE STATE FOR BACK SALARY

Supposed Former Secretary of State Banking Board Looks Into Matter of Getting His Pay.

A special from Lincoln under date of December 4, says: "Samuel Patterson, who was supposed to have been secretary of the state banking board under the Shallenberger administration, but who was prevented from serving because of the bank guaranty law under which he was appointed, was held up in the courts, may sue the state for salary, was partially disclosed at the state house today by Matthew Gering of Plattsmouth. The latter looked over the entire records of the case of Bank Examiners Dolwing and Tate against the state board and obtained considerable information with regard to the status of that action in which Auditor Barton turned down the claims of these men. Both were under the Shallenberger administration and not only took their oaths of office, but were ready for service during the entire period for which the new law was questioned as to its validity.

"Patterson was appointed at a salary of \$3,000 per year, and not only took his oath of office, filed his official bond, but he made a trip to Oklahoma, where he conducted a rigorous investigation of the operations of the bank guaranty deposits law. The trip at that time was authorized by the state banking board, but out of this it is understood that the Arapahoe man never realized anything, not even his expenses.

"An appeal to the district court will be taken by the two former examiners, it is understood, in the hope of obtaining the salary by this means."

K. and L. of S. Meet.

There was a large attendance at the regular meeting of the Knights and Ladies of Security last night when President Mrs. Laura Thrasher rapped for a business session of the council. When the time arrived for presentation of applications for membership the secretary read 15 applications, which was more than has been read at any one time before since the present campaign began. The roll of new members now foots up more than the necessary amount to entitle Platte Council 372 to the \$50 prize offered for additions during the present quarter. A social time was enjoyed during the intermission, and refreshments, consisting of nice red apples, were served at the same time. A guessing contest was pulled off, in which Miss Georgia White won the king prize. On next Monday night the largest class for initiation admitted during the quarter is expected to be ready.

Ready for Xmas Shoppers.

Have you observed the windows of M. Fanger's department store, how tastefully they have been arranged preparatory to the Christmas rush? The designs are the work of the skill and ingenuity of Manager V. Zucker, who is second to none as a fancy window decorator. In the east window of the millinery and dry goods department is a fine display of ladies' hats, while in the opposite window artistically arranged are ladies' furs, muffs and cloaks. On the gent's side of the emporium can be seen nobby suits and as fine a display of footwear as can be seen in a city of metropolitan class. Mr. Fanger is certainly fortunate to have so capable a man as Mr. Zucker in charge of his department store.

L. J. Mayfield, proprietor of the Louisville Courier, was a county seat visitor this morning.

BOARD OF EDUCATION HOLDS MEETING

Direct Schools to Be Dismissed Friday, December 22, for Two Weeks' Vacation.

From Tuesday's Daily.

At a meeting of the board of education for the city last evening important matters were disposed of. The usual routine of bills were audited and allowed. The matter of insurance on the buildings had been attended to and the contracts signed up. Supplies were ordered, such as examination papers, book covers, etc. The financial statement was read by Secretary Wescott and approved by the board. Superintendent Abbott made his monthly report, showing tuitions and other incomes collected to the amount of \$45,11. The annual collections on Wednesday before Thanksgiving for the benefit of the library amounted to \$25.09, which is an increase over former years of several dollars. The board directed the schools be dismissed for the annual Christmas vacation from Saturday, December 23, until Monday, January 8, a period of two weeks.

Superintendent Abbott's report showed that "the discipline of the schools as a whole has been good during the past month, the only exception being at the Columbian building. While I dislike very much to send boys to the Industrial school at Kearney, I foresee that this action will be necessary if there is any more trouble from truancy and vandalism.

"The reports from the various rooms indicate that there has been scarcely any variation from the attendance and punctuality of the preceding month. They show also that the material increase of a month ago was not ephemeral, but bids fair to continue throughout the year. The teachers in several rooms are still overburdened through excessive numbers, but up until the present time I have not been able to find a teacher that seemed to me just fitted for the place. I take some summaries from my tabulations: Attendance first day, boys, 457; girls, 472; total, 929. Enrollment to date, boys, 477; girls, 488; total, 965. Tardy marks, boys, 74; girls, 32; total, 106. Truants, boys, 8; girls, 0; total, 8; punished corporally, boys, 17; girls, 0; total, 17. Visitors, 30."

The graduation exercises will take place May 23, and the arrangements for commencement were placed in the hands of Superintendent Abbott, and he will manager all of the details, secure the speaker, and so on.

John Walker Discharged.

John Walker, the colored man with the gun, whom Sheriff Quinton brought in from John Urish's farm last Saturday, was discharged today without prosecution and left for his home at Lincoln on the fast mail. The man had friends in Lincoln who interested themselves in his behalf and wired him a ticket to returned to Lincoln. He is an ex-union soldier and always thought to be harmless, his action at the Urish farm being thought to be due to long abstinence from food. The sheriff took him to the station this afternoon and procured a ticket for him to Lincoln, and handed him his gun disjuncted and wrapped in paper. When he was picked up Walker had an empty gun and two loaded shells in his pocket, neither of which would fit the gun. He was released on advice of the county attorney.

In County Court.

C. S. Aldrich, attorney and banker of Elmwood, was in the city today looking after the final settlement of the Leana Weisheit estate. Herman Luthe of Murdock, executor of the estate, and Misses Sophia and Ida Weisheit and their sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Senf, were present at the hearing. The party motored over from their homes near Murdock.

Do you need money? See R. M. Schlaes.

He loans money on anything of value.

Never May Occur Again.

N. K. Peoples and wife are the proud parents of a fine young daughter, which enjoys the distinction of having her birthday on the eleventh day of the eleventh month of this year of our Lord, 1911. May the little miss live long to be a blessing to her parents.

Will Meet at Weeping Water.

On next Saturday, December 9, the Cass County Teachers' association will hold a meeting in the High school building at Weeping Water. The following fine program has been arranged and the teachers of the county will have a most interesting meeting:

FORENOON.

11:00 Roll Call
Vocal solo
Miss Mildred Coon, Nehawka
"Importance of School Organization"
Prin. C. O. Larson, Plattsmouth
Discussion
Prin. John Brannigan, Avoca
"Transforming the Student Into a Teacher"
Supt. J. B. Slothower, Elmwood
Discussion
Supt. L. N. Clark, Weeping Water
Music
Plattsmouth Mandolin Club

AFTERNOON.

1:30 Roll call
Respond by stating what use you are making in your school of Cabot's Ethics for Children.
Vocal solo
Miss Hazel Tney, District No. 7
"What We Are Doing to Make Our School the Community Social Center"
Supt. E. D. Lehman, Greenwood
Discussion
Miss Verda Thorpe, Murdock
Music
Plattsmouth Mandolin Club
"My European Trip"
Miss Lily C. Tighe, Manley
Address
Assist. State Supt. Anna V. Day

Watch It Grow.

At the call of C. A. Rawls, chairman of the committee to take subscriptions to the Y. M. C. A. and sell membership tickets for the same the committee met at Mr. Rawl's office last week and mapped out the territory and allotted the work, and on Monday morning of this week the committee began the campaign to raise the required \$2,000.

A careful estimate has been made of the necessary outlay to get the necessary working material to carry on the enterprise as it is done elsewhere, and the completion of the enterprise will reflect credit on the town and those who reside in Plattsmouth. The Journal will print the list from day to day and we will all be interested in watching the list grow. Two of the leading fraternal organizations of the city have started the list with nice contributions as follows:

Knights and Ladies of Security \$50.00
P. E. O. Society 35.00
E. H. Wescott, C. A. Marshall, R. Glen Rawls, Floyd Partridge, John Hatt, Jr. 50.00
G. B. Gould, John Crabill, R. A. Bates, J. P. Sattler, Thomas Wiles, Leland Briggs, T. H. Pollock, C. F. Mayfield, H. D. Travis, E. Weyrich, W. Clement, H. F. Goos, M. S. Briggs, Robert Rebal, G. L. Farley 150.00

Total to date \$285.00

Danger Lurks There.

A communication has been filed with City Clerk Wurl for consideration of the city council at its regular meeting next Monday night, informing the council of the hazard from fire lurking near the Standard Oil tanks near the Burlington tracks. The author of the communication has noticed pools of oil accumulating on the ground near the tanks and fears if a spark from a passing engine should ignite the oil in one of these pools an explosion might follow, as well as a disastrous fire. The ground seems to be saturated with oil from the leakage from the tanks and there is no doubt but grave danger of fire exists.

Moves to Cass County.

Lawrence Bowers, who has resided north of Pacific Junction during the last year, moved yesterday to a farm near Cedar Creek, while his son, Tony Bower and family, will occupy the Mills county farm.

A THREE-CORNERED REPUBLICAN FIGHT

Paul Clark Will Not Have Everything His Own Way in the First District.

A Lincoln correspondent for the Omaha World-Herald says: With a view to averting what might be a hard, mud-slinging contest for congress from this district, republicans in several parts of the First have suggested that A. W. Field of this city would be a competent candidate to oppose the candidacy of Paul Clark for the nomination at the April primaries. Set out as particular reasons why the local man would be good timber are that he "is a gentleman and a politician of sufficient experience and diplomacy to enable him to rally to the support of Clark in case he was defeated by the latter." In other words, there are several well meaning politicians of the First congressional district who are anxious to see an afternoon tea affair made of the race for the nomination, in the hope that Clark will be greatly aided thereby and will have less opposition than he would if W. A. Selleck makes the fight against him which all present indications promise he will.

The hand of Clark has been exigent in the formation of the Lancaster County Taft club, and now there are evidences that quiet forces are at work in the hope that similar influences may be exercised in other lines of the primary campaign. Standpaters claim that eternal vigilance must be used by the man who defeats the alert progressive and several of them, who recently held an informal conference here, declare that from now on they will not relax their efforts to nominate a man of their own ilk. While it has not been definitely announced that the reactionary strength has been concentrated on Selleck, there are indications that such is the case and that the suggestion of Field's entrance will be guarded off even by Field himself.

Both sides, however, are preparing to enter men whom they believe will detract from the vote of the other man, and there are prospects that this will eventually mean that there will be several men entered before the nomination list is closed. One of those who is looked upon as a fit man and one whom the progressive leaders believe might effectively cut down Selleck's vote and not take any votes from Clark, however, has not evinced any decided interest in the standpat cause and might thereby thwart the plans of the Clark supporters in this regard. The progressives who have laid a portion of their scheme bare say that they want a standpat republican to make the race against Selleck, one who can solicit votes on the standpat plea, yet one who is desirous of seeing Clark sent to the house from this district.

Gasoline Engine Does It.

T. E. Todd, who has taught his gasoline engine to do almost all sorts of farm work, surprised the neighbors a day or two ago by setting his engine to work to load wheat from the bin into the wagon. The device worked like a charm, as all other devices which Mr. Todd has put together, and two wagons were loaded with 65 bushels of wheat each in six minutes, three minutes for each wagon. The result was that with four wagons Mr. Todd delivered 1,000 bushels of wheat to the Cullom elevator in five hours. The plan was simple and anyone could work it when shown the trick. Mr. Todd took the elevator off of his corn shelter and placed it in the bin and constructed a metal spout long enough to reach from the bin to the wagons, and backed two wagons in at one time and set the engine to work and the wheat was lifted into the wagons like magic.

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