

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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NO. 21

## Greenwood and Eagle Robbers Caught at Sutton

State Sheriff Condit Secures Confession from Four Youths Captured in Barn

Tracked from a loot laden car found late Wednesday morning near Sutton to a barn on the farm of Lewis Kendall, east of Sutton, four youths were arrested Wednesday afternoon in connection with robberies Tuesday night at Grafton, Greenwood, Waverly and Dorchester. Questioned in Lincoln Wednesday night, the quartet confessed, according to State Sheriff Condit, the Grafton and Dorchester robberies and seven others.

The four are Kenneth Duane, twenty-one, North Platte; Ed Wharton, eighteen, Muskegon, Mich.; Earl Johnson, twenty, and Jack Roberts, eighteen, both of Minneapolis.

Deputy State Sheriff Volcott, Condit and Furrow discovered the men in the barn as a posse, led by Sheriff Condit, was scouring the vicinity of the abandoned car. The machine, loaded with loot, was found about two miles from the barn. It was identified as one stolen from Dorchester.

Besides the Grafton and Dorchester robberies the youths are said to have confessed to breakins at Syracuse, Union, North Bend, Eagle and Albion, and to have admitted theft of seven cars including the one from Dorchester. Sheriff Condit stated Wednesday night that he expects more robberies will be admitted by the quartet in the course of further questioning. He looks for their arrest to clear up a series of breakins over the eastern part of the state and an effort will be made to identify them as the "petty robbery" boys who have broken into two dozen stores in southeast Nebraska the past two months.

The quartet of youthful robbers are no doubt the same that have been active in this county for the past week. Sheriff Bert Reed stated today, the parties being those who stole a car at Alvo and later abandoned it near Bellevue where it was recovered by the Cass county authorities.

## ELKS INSTALL OFFICERS

The installation of the officers of Plattsmouth lodge No. 789, B. P. O. E., was held on Tuesday evening at the lodge rooms at the Elks club house and was an event attended by a very large number of the members.

The event was marked by the past exalted rulers of the lodge taking the various stations. L. L. Turpin, secretary of the state association of Elks serving as exalted ruler; E. J. Richey, leading knight; William J. Streight, loyal knight; Jess F. Wurga, lecturing knight; R. W. Clement, chaplain; H. A. Schneider, exalted, chaplain; H. W. Barley, trustee.

The new officers to take their stations were Hilt Martin, exalted ruler; Dr. J. A. Griffin, leading knight; W. T. Distell, loyal knight; Carl P. Of, lecturing knight; James W. Holmes, secretary; Charles K. Bestor, treasurer; Fred Sydeman, Tyler; W. M. Barclay, trustee.

Following the taking of office Exalted Ruler Martin announced the appointment of Dr. R. P. Westover as chaplain, John E. Turner, esquire and Charles Bestor as inner guard.

The greatest enthusiasm was evidenced by the new officers and the outlook for the coming year was one of the brightest and with every promise of a successful period in the history of the lodge.

At the close of the evening the committee served a very fine luncheon that was very much appreciated by all of the members in attendance.

## SETS TENTATIVE DATE

The formal opening of the new Missouri river bridge which has been looked forward to for the past several months seems now but a short time away, as President C. C. Westcott of the Chamber of Commerce, under whose auspices the opening program will be staged, has received an acceptance from Governor Arthur J. Weaver and at the same time request the governor has signified that Friday, May 16th, would be a date agreeable to the head of the state government. The opening will be set to conform as near as possible with the wishes of the governor, who with Governor Hammill of Iowa are to be the honor guests of the occasion and to formally open the bridge and highway that will connect the two great states of the middle west.

## DEATH OF AGED LADY

From Friday's Daily—  
Last evening at the Nebraska Masonic Home occurred the death of Mrs. Mary Ann Isler, aged 88, who has been a resident of the home since November 5, 1925. Mrs. Isler was a native of Ohio, born June 23, 1842 in Portage county. She came to the Home from Tekamah where the family resided for a great many years. The deceased is survived by several grandchildren. The body was taken to Tekamah today for the interment.

## CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

From Thursday's Daily—  
This morning Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Pell, old time residents of Liberty precinct were in the city being en route to Omaha where they have been making their home for some time. They have been visiting at the farm northeast of Union where their son is now located, enjoying very much the visit with the old time friends in that community. It was thirty-five years ago today that Mr. Pell and Miss Mary Taylor drove up in the then popular horse and buggy from Union to Plattsmouth and when they returned home it was as Mr. and Mrs. Pell. The wedding having been celebrated at the court house in this city.

## Acquit Aged Man Charged with Shooting to Kill

T. A. Cole of Near Weeping Water Is Freed in District Court by Jury

The time of the district court was taken up Wednesday with the hearing of the case of the State of Nebraska vs. T. A. Cole, a resident of the vicinity of Weeping Water and who was charged with shooting with intent to kill Fritz Bauers.

The shooting was at the home of Cole where Bauers had accompanied the aged man and these two were the only eye witnesses of the shooting and which had resulted in Bauers being shot in the mouth, making a dangerous wound but which fortunately did not prove fatal.

Mr. Cole in his story of the trouble stated that he and Bauers had gone to his house and got into an altercation and quarrel and which had led to both men getting very angry and he had started to fight with Bauers who had been knocked or pushed down on the floor. Bauers, Mr. Cole stated, had grabbed a hatchet that was on the floor and he had picked up a pistol that was nearby and had sought to frighten Bauers and as he lifted the pistol dramatic produce fire is emitted, or some part of his clothing and had been discharged, the shot causing the wound to Mr. Bauers.

In the case Mr. Cole was represented by J. A. Capwell.

The case was given to the jury at 11:30 and the verdict arrived at shortly before 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

## SELECT CAST FOR PLAY

The selection of the cast for the senior class play has been made at the high school and numbered a large array of the talented young people of the class, who are especially gifted in dramatic and musical lines.

The play this year is a new production which has been out only a few years and is owned by a firm of Samuel French & Sons, widely known dramatic producers. It is entitled, "New Brooms" and is a very clever three act comedy drama.

The play will be given at the Parnelle theatre on Friday evening, May 9th. The cast that will offer the play and their characters are as follows:

Warren Farmer	Williams
Chas. Nowacek	Mr. Bates
Robt. Livingston	Mr. Morrow
Gerald Sperry	Tom Bates
Geo. Saylor	Wallie
Ira Mumm	Mr. Dew
Chester Lund	Mr. Simpson
Fred Wehrlein	Mr. Nelson
Roy Turner	Ethel
Marie Valley	Florence
Jeanne Parker	Jerry
Margorie Ann	Margaret
Alice Taylor	

## FIND FOR PLAINTIFF

From Friday's Daily—  
The jury in the case of Searl S. Davis, guardian of Eveline Rager, incompetent vs. Ralph S. Rager, returned a verdict this morning in which they found for the plaintiff in the sum of \$500. In the case the guardian had sued for the collection of two notes, one for \$1,040 and one for \$400 made by the defendant in favor of Mrs. Rager, the plaintiff. The defendant also filed an answer and set off in which he claimed the sum of \$1,183.56, for board, care and labor for the plaintiff.

Phone your news to No. 6.

## State Adjutant Guest of Local Legion Post

Accompanied by District Commander Mike Potet—Memorial Day Committee Appointed

From Thursday's Daily—  
Hugh J. Kearns post, American Legion, held its regular monthly meeting last night, with an attendance of thirty of the members, and as guests Department Adjutant "Hank" Duxbury, and Dist. Commander Mike Potet, who drove down from Lincoln to attend the meeting.

Owing to the inter-city meeting and dinner-dance with South Omaha last month, the March meeting was dispensed with, last night's being the first meeting of the post since early in February.

The reports of various committees were heard, including a very encouraging report on this year's trade exposition and style show, which will be bigger and better this year than last. Chairman Holly reported all the available booth space taken.

The Minstrel Show committee was empowered to continue with its plans and use its own discretion as to the advisability of deferring this activity until early fall, on account of conflicting dates with other events. It had been originally intended to hold this activity on March 3rd and 4th.

The Inter-City committee was also continued on the active status and directed to make arrangements for the return visit Plattsmouth Legionnaires will pay their South Omaha comrades in the near future. Leo Boynton is chairman of this committee and when definite plans are formulated for this visit, he will conduct the canvas of local post members and make reservation for the number that expect to attend.

Vice Commander Distell has been named by District Commander Potet to have charge of Junior Baseball activities in Cass county this year and is busy with plans to get several Legion sponsored teams organized over the county and later hold a Cass county championship tournament.

Junior Baseball is one of the major activities among Legion members over the country and ranks well up in importance with Boy Scout troops, juvenile bands, etc., as something worth while for Legionnaires to interest themselves in.

## Decoration Day Committee

Commander Otto Lutz named a special Memorial Day committee to have charge of the morning ceremony at the cemetery as well as make arrangements for the Legion's portion of the afternoon ceremonies that are arranged by the different patriotic organizations of the city. In the past, the Legion's part has been to furnish the speaker and provide the hall.

The members of this committee are County Judge A. H. Duxbury, chairman; Frank Smith and W. G. Kieck.

## Program at Lewiston

An invitation was recently extended to the Legion to furnish a short program for the Lewiston Community club at one of their get-together meetings in the near future, and on motion this request was approved. Commander Lutz announced that he would appoint a committee within the next few days to have charge of arranging this program.

At the conclusion of the business session Adjutant Dudley was called upon and gave the members a splendid talk on the Legion, its aims and accomplishments. Mr. Dudley touched briefly on membership, stating that the service men who don't pay their dues are "riding along" at the expense of the ones who do, sharing in all the benefits the Legion secures for its service men generally.

Dudley cited the securing of the new veterans' hospital at Lincoln as a distinct achievement of the Legion in this state and touched briefly on several others, including passage of the state aid relief fund seven years ago, which has set up a revolving fund that will revert to the taxpayers when there is no longer need of the earnings from it for relief work. He predicted that in five years it would no longer be necessary to put on drives to bring the members in, but that instead they would keep up their Legion dues with the same regularity as they now pay lodge dues, etc.

District Commander Potet was the next speaker, and in a short talk filled with witticisms directed at the state adjutant, he urged upholding the state and national officers' hands in legislative and other matters by giving them adequate membership to back up their demands. Mike's district is at the bottom of the list in the entire state for percentage of its quota filled, and he is anxious to get out of the cellar position.

Time was taken out for cats following Mike's address and the feed committee composed of M. D. Brown, A. H. Duxbury, Elmer Webb and Albert Wurga called the chow line into formation. Pork and cheese sandwiches, pickles and coffee were provided.

## ENJOY BIRTHDAY DINNER

From Thursday's Daily—  
This noon Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Clويد entertained a few relatives in honor of the birthday anniversary of P. T. Becker, brother of Mrs. Clويد, who was observing the passing of his birthday anniversary. The gathering was one of the greatest pleasures to all of the members of the family circle. The members of the dinner party were Mrs. Dora Peacock, Mrs. John B. Livingston, P. T. Becker and son, John H. Becker, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Clويد and daughters, Maxine and Frances.

## Fire Chief Sounds Warning on Grass Fires Over City

Past Week Has Kept Fire Department Busy Answering Calls—Fire Causes Heavy Loss

Fire Chief O. Sandin is sounding a warning to the residents of the city relative to the danger that exists in the all too common practice of burning off grass and weeds and especially at this time when the season has been extremely dry.

With the very dry condition of everything and the windy weather that has prevailed, it does not require a great deal to let a fire get beyond the control of anyone and in many cases in the past week there has been grave danger of residents being burned and in one case the Tel Jed Sokol hall was destroyed at a loss of several thousand dollars.

The grass and debris should be raked up and taken to a place of safety to be burned, the chief states, taken away from the surroundings where the blaze might have the wind to help it and burn over buildings and then fire carefully watched that it did not damage.

For the past two weeks there has been a very large number of calls for the department from all parts of the city and fortunately in most cases the damage has been slight. In the one case of the burning of the T. J. hall the loss was one of the heaviest in the past few years in a single fire. The grass, leaves and debris that have accumulated around the city in the winter season, is now as dry as tinder and with any wind at all the blaze travels very rapidly through the grass and before one is hardly aware of the fact, the blaze has gotten beyond control and menaces the property over the city.

In starting the grass fires see that the dried grass and debris is taken to a point away from all danger of spreading and thereby save a loss of property, is the urge of the fire chief to the residents of the community.

## FURNISH ENTERTAINMENT

From Friday's Daily—  
This morning at the convocation period at the high school the sophomore class had the program and which was made for fun purposes only, the class being assisted by their sponsor, Mr. Kvasnicka.

The chief feature of the entertainment was the bout for the "heavy-weight" championship. Edward Eberhart, seeing as the announcer, Leland Shanholz as judge, John Becker as referee and James Nowacek as the timekeeper. Henry Donat appeared as the defending champion and was presented with his seconds, Robert Warren and Harold Blodgett. Parnelle Dovey was introduced as "primo Carnera" with his seconds, William Henriksen and Keith Snyder. After four rounds of furious fighting Primo scored a clean knockout, the defending champ hearing the birds sing early in the round.

The second part of the entertainment was a scene in the studio with Otto Stodola in the role of the photographer of various celebrities and in this Henry Donat was also featured.

## CAR AND HAY BURNS

From Saturday's Daily—  
Last evening Renner Spidell and Tom Stava motored to the Sullivan farm, formerly farmed by the Spidell family, where they were to assist C. L. Spidell in loading up some hay. The car, a business coupe, started to smoke as the young men reached the farm and soon was blazing away despite the attempts of Renner who remained in the car and attempted to extinguish the flames and he was almost overcome by smoke when dragged from the car by Mr. Stava. The blaze spread to the hay nearby and resulted in the complete loss of the hay as well as the car. It is thought the fire was due to a short in the wiring of the car.

## Memorial Trees Suggested to Mark Highway

Woman's Club Would Have Tree for Each Man Serving in World War from County.

The Plattsmouth Woman's club is planning on taking up the matter of having placed along highway No. 75 leading into this city trees that will be a memorial to the men of Cass county who served in the world war, making some 300 to 350 trees that will stand as a living memorial to the men who went forth some twelve years ago to serve their country in the greatest of all wars.

The locations that have been looked over have decided the members of the committee in favor of that section of roadway that leads through the new road formed on the Wiles land south of the city as this stretch would handle very nicely the number of trees necessary, making a row on each side of the highway and which would tell to the world in the majesty of the green trees the fact that this county had sent a large number of her sons to serve, many of whom had paid the supreme sacrifice in service on battle field of camp.

The trees would be marked as the veterans one by one slip into the last long rest and would silently represent their memory in the hearts of the community of which they were a part.

The matter will be taken up at once by the club ladies with the federal road authorities and with the state to secure the necessary permission for the placing of the trees and with the state department of forestry for the securing of the required number of trees necessary to lay out the memorial highway.

## DEATH BRINGS GREAT SORROW

From Saturday's Daily—  
Yesterday afternoon a great sorrow came to the community west of this city when Dolores, thirteen-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Keffenberger, passed away at the family home, following an attack of measles and complications of pneumonia. The little one was suffering several days and her condition grew worse until yesterday afternoon when the coming of the death messenger brought her a blessed relief from the days of struggle.

The little one was a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kaffenberger of this city and Mr. and Mrs. Chris Tschirren, residing a few miles west of Plattsmouth on the Louisville road. She leaves to mourn her loss the parents, three brothers and a large number of aunts, uncles and cousins.

In their sorrow the deepest sympathy of the host of friends will be extended to the sorrowing relatives in their untimely taking away of this loved little girl and whose passing will make very desolate the home.

## PLAN BETTER HOMES

Mrs. F. G. Coryell, the local chairman of the Better Homes committee, has received a number of suggestions relative to the advancement of the city in a number of lines which has been prepared by the county chairman, Miss Jessie Baldwin.

Ask the ministers to co-operate by asking them to us for their text Sunday, April 27, "The spiritual significance of the home and character building thru the churches." A street contest for each town, by offering prizes to the two best streets running from one extreme to the other extreme of those streets. Then two prizes to the two best side streets.

Attractiveness of streets, lawns, and back yards, create a feeling of pride and pleasure to the home-makers, increases property values, and builds community self respect and civic interest.

Exhibits (in store windows) well arranged and carefully explained by workers are very educational and attract a great deal of attention.

Publicity in news papers calling attention to the campaign and to the different points which we hope to stress.

## ENTERTAINS FOR GUESTS

From Saturday's Daily—  
Yesterday afternoon Mrs. John A. Griffin entertained most delightfully at an afternoon bridge in honor of Mrs. L. C. Griffin, mother of Dr. Griffin and Mrs. M. Doty, an aunt, who have for the past week been guests at the Griffin home.

## CASE IS AFFIRMED

The state supreme court in the case of Lee Carter vs. the Union Bridge & Construction Co., appealed from the Cass county district court affirmed the lower court.

This case was one in which the plaintiff sued the defendant company for an alleged breach of contract and in which the plaintiff claimed he had come here to work on the Missouri river bridge for the defendant as a carpenter and was later discharged, for which he asked damages. In the trial of the case here the plaintiff recovered judgment for \$53.28, and from which decision the plaintiff took appeal to the state high court.

## Hearing on Road Case Before Jury Today

The Hearing of the Appeal on the Award in the Location of Highway Near This City

From Friday's Daily—  
The hearing of the matter of the re-location of highway No. 75 just at the south outskirts of this city, was taken up this morning the district court before Judge James T. Begley and the jury.

The action growing out of the state and federal highway departments re-locating highway No. 75 through the farm of Elbert Wiles and to which Mr. Wiles objected. Action was taken according to law and the county court appointed a board of appraisers who after appraising the land gave an award of \$8,000 to Mr. Wiles as the price due for the damage done to the farm and injury to the selling value of the farm.

The state filed an appeal from the award of the appraisers as being excessive and not warranted under the present trial to determine what amount should be given Mr. Wiles. The highway has been constructed through the farm and is now awaiting the paving of the road.

This afternoon the jury was taken out to view the land in question and to see for themselves the location and estimate what damage if any, had been done to the farm.

Ross Newkirk, assistant attorney general, is conducting the case for the state with County Attorney assisting in the jury examination of the defendant in the hands of Attorney A. L. Tidd.

## CAUGHT TAKING LIGHT

From Saturday's Daily—  
Early this morning, so early that the silence in the main part of the city was painful, the last night hawks having wended their way homeward, the night police were surprised to see a figure come slipping up the main street and to pause at the Fifth and Main street intersection for a second and then grab one of the red lanterns that have been used there to warn of street construction work. The figure struck with the swiftness of an adder (not machine) and started northward with the red lantern. The police gave the command to halt and the lantern was returned to the place where it was being used. The party taking the lantern was much surprised to find the police so near the scene of action and so quickly. With the advice of go and sin no more the matter was dropped.

## CONDITION VERY SERIOUS

From Thursday's Daily—  
The reports from Nebraska City are to the effect that Edward Fullerton, formerly of this city, is in very grave condition and his passing seems but the matter of a very short time. The patient has fallen very rapidly since his return from the Fitzsimmons hospital at Denver where he was cared for for several months, suffering from tuberculosis.

Mr. Fullerton has had a very severe case of this malady and was taken ill in November and has gradually grown worse until all hope of his recovery has been abandoned.

## BUS BREAKS DOWN

From Saturday's Daily—  
Last evening while Clarence Cotner was en route to Omaha with his passenger bus, leaving this city at 6 o'clock, the bus had a breakdown in this city and which made necessary Mr. Cotner making a hurried call for re-inforcement to carry his passengers on into Omaha. The rear portion of the bus was quite badly damaged and will place it out of commission for some time.

## MISSOURI RIVER CUTTING

The Missouri river is doing some cutting away of the land on the Nebraska side of the stream in the low lands near Rock Bluff and considerable land has been swept away in the waters of this turbulent stream in the past few weeks. The land in that locality is formed from the deposits of the river in part years and which the mighty river is now taking back.

## River Improvement is Covered in Fine Talk

Frank D. Tomson of Woods Brothers Tells of Plans for Future Development of River

From Friday's Daily—  
Last evening at the American Legion community auditorium the residents of this section had the opportunity of hearing a very fine talk on the development of the navigation on the Missouri river and its advantages in transportation to the middle west, which was illustrated by several reels showing the reclamation work that was being carried out at points along the course of the river, especially from Kansas City north.

An interesting meeting was made possible through the aid of the Woods Bros. of Lincoln, who have been very active in the work of river improvement and have developed large sections in and near Kansas City which are to be used as industrial centers.

The address of Mr. Tomson was followed very closely and a number of the residents in the territory along the river were present, many coming from distant points to the south to hear the remarks.

"Our inland waterways," said Mr. Tomson, "carried 47,000,000 tons of freight in 1928, according to the official report of the federal war department. This total is 47,000,000 tons more than moved in and out thru our Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf ports, a fact that will surprise anyone who has not given study to the movement and volume of water-borne traffic. But here is a more striking fact: the tonnage of the rivers, canals and connecting channels for that year was 227,000,000 tons plus, 50% more than that of the Great Lakes.

The movement of traffic on the rivers shows steady increase from year to year as the channel improvements are completed. The volume for 1928 was more than double that of six years before, and the volume of six years ago and for several years preceding was the largest that had ever moved on the inland rivers.

The present advantage to Nebraska by shipping grain by rail to St. Louis and via the river southward to New Orleans is 3c per cwt. When the large service moves up the Missouri to Kansas City, to St. Joseph, to Plattsmouth and points northward, this saving will be relatively increased. It should be understood," continued Mr. Tomson, "that the Interstate Commerce Commission has put into effect joint rail and water rates that carry back to the inland shipper," however, removal from the river, the saving that is made whatever distance his shipment moves on the water route. Coffee shipments are now being brought into Nebraska using the Mississippi boats upstream to Clinton, Iowa, and by rail from there to Nebraska with a saving of \$50 or thereabout per carload. As soon as the connecting link between the inland rivers and the Great Lakes is made ready for navigation at Chicago, we of the middle-west will be in a much more advantageous position because iron ore from the Minnesota and points north will be delivered to any point along our inland rivers at such reduced shipping rates as to encourage profitable manufacturing here in our country and will at the same time provide a cheaper transportation service for the products of our region."

## RECEIVES BOOSTER BUTTON

Herman L. Thomas, local agent of the Missouri Pacific railroad, enjoys the distinction of being the winner of the gold booster button on the Omaha division of the railroad for the month of March. This distinction extends from Omaha to Falls City and the honor is the largest number of "traffic tips" and other business getters for the railroad. Mr. Thomas, who is always on the alert for any aid for his company, was not aware of the distinction that had been given him until Thursday when he received the prized button as well as a letter from President Baldwin congratulating him on the success of his work.

## SCHOOL NURSE HERE

There have been a great many cases of chicken pox and measles in the city in the past two weeks and in order to help stamp these maladies out in as rapid a time as possible, the city schools have secured the services of Miss Ruth Taylor, trained nurse. The nurse will examine all of the younger children in the city schools as to these two diseases and other physical ailments and which it is hoped will make short work of the epidemic of disease.

## COLLECTED MUCH TAX

County Treasurer John T. Turner was checking up on the amounts of delinquent tax that had been collected in his first year of service and which covered tax due prior to 1926, some \$41,000 in back taxes having been gathered in to help largely fund the taxes being largely personal.