

# HAPPY NEW YEAR.

DIXON, The Jeweler.

## A Burlington "Straw".

Local Agent Stroup, of the Payne Investment Co., is in receipt of a letter from Geo. H. Payne, of Omaha, in which he says he has sold the Burlington company the right-of-way through three sections immediately east of Keystone, a station on the Union Pacific's North River branch. These three sections lay between the Burlington grade just east of the Keystone station and a point east up to which the right-of-way had previously been obtained. Mr. Payne also says that the Burlington desires to purchase a strip of land south of the U. P. station at Keystone for yardage and station purposes.

This action on the part of the Burlington is a "straw" indicating that it intends to begin construction work on the Platte valley line this year.

### SCHILLER & CO., Prescription Druggists

First Door North of  
First National Bank

### DR. O. H. CRESSLER, Graduate Dentist

Office over the McDonald  
State Bank.

#### To Aid Sufferers.

Tomorrow evening, in connection with the tuberculosis exhibit, a meeting will be held for the purpose of donating financial aid to the earthquake sufferers of Southern Italy. It is planned to have M. Solcetti, who recently returned from that country, to make an address, telling of the conditions of the people prior to the disaster, and others will deliver short addresses. At the close of the meeting funds will be solicited. It is urged that there be a large attendance at the meeting.

#### The Revival Meetings.

The revival meetings, previously announced in these columns, opened Sunday in charge of Dan Shannon, and the attendance so far has filled the seating capacity of Unitarian hall, which has been provided with 400 chairs.

Mr. Shannon is a plain, forcible speaker, and his remarks are delivered with such earnestness as to go direct to the hearts of his auditors. The singing, under the direction of Mr. Ross, assisted by a choir of twenty five voices, is one of the features of the meetings.

Already a number have announced their intention of leading a new life.

#### Have you got your Dust Pan? See Birge.

##### Joint Installation.

The G. A. R. and W. R. C. held joint installation services at the K. P. hall Saturday evening. T. C. Patterson acted as installing officer for the G. A. R. and the following were inducted into office: Ashley Peters, Commander; W. C. Elder, Senior Vice; J. J. Meyers Junior Vice; J. S. Hoagland, Chaplain; P. H. Ruddy, officer of the Day; A. McMichael, Quartermaster; J. E. Evans, Adjutant; S. Warnock, Guard.

Mrs. Church installed the W. R. C. officers as follows: President Anna Brown; Senior Vice Pres. Mary Friend, Junior Vice Pres. Mary Warnock, Treasurer, Sota McMichael; Secretary, Etta Bonner; Commander, Cora Fuller; Guard, Margaret Knapp; Color Bearers, Addie Robinson, Rhoads Foster and Elizabeth Cruseen.

The warfare which some of the manufacturers of food stuffs are waging against Dr. Wiley, chief chemist of the government, is rather to his credit than discredit. Dr. Wiley is only insisting that foods be made as nearly pure as possible and that colorings, preservatives and adulterants be of such nature as not to be poisonous. The general public will stand with Dr. Wiley in his demand for pure food stuffs.

### Harlow Shoes

FOR MEN

SMALL

The Big Shoe Man.

521 Dewey Street.



Etta Lockhart and some of the Gay Soubrettes in "The Burgomaster" which appears at The Keith Thursday Evening, January 14th.

#### SOCIETY NOTES.

The N. T. E. club will meet Friday evening with Miss Kate Spies.

The Indian Card Club will meet with Mrs. Albert Schatz Wednesday afternoon.

The Club Nedovic will meet Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Ada Lewis. All members are requested to be present, as officers for the ensuing year will be elected.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Dill pleasantly entertained the members of the Lutheran church council and their ladies Friday evening. It was Mr. Dill's birth anniversary, and quite unexpectedly to him, the guests presented him with a fine rocking chair.

Miss Hannah Keliber gave a prettily appointed seven o'clock dinner Saturday to twelve young ladies complimentary to her visiting guest, Miss Josephine Chapman. The table was tastefully decorated in cut flowers and the place cards were of a dainty floral design.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Mooney entertained the McDonald families at a New Year's dinner in honor of the birth anniversary of Charley Reynolds. Mr. and Mrs. Mooney also informally entertained a number of friends in the evening of the same day.

Sixteen young ladies were the guests of Mrs. Geo. Finn Saturday evening at an informal card party. Miss Marie Von Goetz and Tom Watts won the first prizes and the consolations were awarded to Miss Swenson and Rolfe Halligan. At a late hour a very enjoyable lunch was served.

Mrs. A. B. Hoagland entertained about thirty guests Saturday afternoon in favor of Miss Katharine Krickler and Miss Jane Scannell. The amusing feature of the afternoon was a plant guessing contest in which Miss Helen Patterson was successful in winning the prize. At five o'clock a dainty lunch was served.

The Friday evening session of the 500 Club at the Cunningham residence was one of the most enjoyable of the season. The members and guests present numbered twenty-eight. The house was decorated with California peppers, sent by Mrs. Milton Doolittle, a former member of the club. Dancing on the third floor of the house followed the serving of refreshments.

Sixty Elks accompanied by their ladies were present at the reception given at Odd Fellows' hall Saturday evening and the two and one-half hours passed delightfully. The amusement feature was a reproduction of Monte Carlo, a half dozen or more gaming devices being in evidence. "Stage money" was furnished each one and with this the bets were made, the ladies "bucking" the various games with as much intensity as the men. Leo Tobin, Clarence Newton, Keith Neville, Louis Tobin and others officiated as croupiers. The hall was prettily decorated by Florist Pass with palms, ferns, cut flowers and the white and purple colors of the order. A buffet lunch was served in the dining hall, the tables being profusely decorated with roses, carnations and ferns. Misses Alma Waiemath, Irene Hart and Jennie Scannell served, and Harriet Dixon and Oletha Powell presided at the punch bowls. The theatre orchestra furnished music throughout the evening, and the usual eleven o'clock toast was responded to by the members.

One of the very delightful functions of the holiday season was given by the Monday Evening Bridge Club at the home of Miss Irma Clinton on New Year's Day. The receiving hours were from three until six and during that time the young ladies received over sixty of their gentlemen friends. The house was darkened and electric lights helped to make the affair a most brilliant one. The rooms were attractively decorated in the holiday colors, red, carnations, ferns, the conventional red Christmas bells and mistletoe, the latter creating much merriment during

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W. W. BIRGE.

the afternoon. In the dining room the refreshment table with its handsome centerpiece of liberty roses and dainty appointments presented a very pretty sight. Here the guests were served with a buffet lunch, consisting of fruit salad, fancy cakes, coffee, salted nuts and mints. The Misses Hildegard Clinton, Carrie Marti and Virginia Bullard assisted in serving. The young ladies were handsomely gowned and received their callers with a Happy New Year greeting. The out-of-town guests who received with the club ladies were the Misses Cummings, Patterson, Hoy, Greaves and Chapman.

Balm of Gilead—The best Cough Syrup. SCHILLER & Co., Family Druggists.

#### Streitz Meets J. H. McConnell.

In a letter to The Tribune, A. F. Streitz, now visiting in Washington, D. C., writes as follows:

Knowing your interest in and friendship for all former North Platters thought I would tell you of one of our delightful trips.

On Dec. 15th Mr. Stewart took my son and myself on one of the Southern railway's nice line of steamships down the Potomac to Old Point Comfort where we spent the day in a delightful visit with our old friend J. H. McConnell, who was master mechanic at North Platte from 1872 to 1885 and during that time did so much for the town and people. He inquired after the welfare of a large number of our early citizens and was greatly pleased at the progress of the town and its future, remarking that the time he lived at North Platte was one of the most pleasant periods of his life, and expected to make the town a visit during the next year if possible.

He has retired from active business and is going to spend the winter in the south visiting various resorts and taking life easy, going further south as it gets colder and spending the coldest portion in Florida. We rambled through all parts of historic Fortress Monroe, watched their drill and saw them lower the flag at sunset. The battleships Maine and North Carolina were in Hampton Roads under orders to sail for Venezuela. We took a launch and boarded the Maine, spending an hour visiting and inspecting the various parts of that great fighting machine. At seven p. m. we bid Mr. McConnell good bye at the wharf and started up the Potomac and after an all night ride arrived at Washington at eight o'clock. Imagine how disappointed we were on arriving home to find by that "great medium of information" The Tribune that our friend Burton Lambert, a North Platte boy, was aboard the Maine and such is the size of this great ship that we did not happen to meet him.

#### For Rent.

An ideal rooming house with bath, close in. Just what you want. 8 room house suitable for two families \$17.50 per month. Other good houses close in at reasonable rent. See BRATT & GOODMAN.

## Who Won the Wine?

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Montgomery Stout's business often keeps him late at his office, and at times when funds come in after bank hours he carries them home with him. A street car line passes within a few minutes' walk of his house, and in this distance lies the only danger. He carries a revolver, but what use is a weapon when one is dropped by a rap on the back of his head?

Stout was one of a younger set of men in his suburb who were together a great deal and constantly joking one another. He talked to them about his nocturnal trips home, his fear of footpads and what he hoped to accomplish in case of attack. One night when he was passing a dimly lighted place between the street car line and his house he was seized from behind by both arms, a hand was thrust in his pocket and \$500 in bills taken, together with his revolver, so that when the robbers ran away he had no weapon with which to pursue them.

On reaching his house he found several of his friends, whom he excitedly told of his adventure and his loss. They sympathized with him deeply, and while doing so two others of the set, Mark Hamlin and Ben Turner, walked in. Stout was somewhat surprised to find callers so late at night—it was 11 o'clock—but, after all, there was nothing remarkable in their visit. After listening to his account of the robbery and asking many questions, Mark Hamlin handed him the pocket-book of which he had been robbed and confessed himself the robber. Then there was a general jollification. Stout brought out drinkables and cigars, and all agreed that a very amusing and practical joke had been played.

Some months after this Stout was again on his way home at night, this time with \$1,000 in his pocket that had come in late, when at the very same spot as before he heard the order: "Hands up!"

At the same time he felt the cold muzzle of a gun near his ear and hands relieving him of everything he possessed. Then the man with the gun said to him:

"You walk around the block before you go home and remember that you're watched. Any attempt to use a telephone for the next half hour will result in a hole in you."

Now, the threat was lost on Mr. Stout, for he knew it had only been made as a bluff. The robbers would not be likely to wait to see that he completed his walk. Besides, the voice that gave the order was very like that of Mark Hamlin.

"Just wait a bit, my fine fellow," thought Stout, "and we'll see whom the joke is on this time."

He was within a stone's throw of his house. Darting to it, he went in, got a revolver—the robbers had taken the one he carried—ran back on tiptoe to find them dividing the spoil under a gas light.

"Hands up!" he yelled in a stentorian voice. There were but two men, and both raised their hands.

"Leave the things on the sidewalk," cried Stout, "and, mind, no lowering of hands."

Stout said this to gain time to think. The men remained motionless.

"Now turn your backs and go on down the street." The men hesitated, then after a word with each other did as they were told. Stout followed till he came to his property, picked up every article, then fired his revolver.

At the shot the robbers took to their heels, and Stout went home and to bed chuckling at the way he had got even with his practical joking friends.

The next morning he telephoned "the gang" that Hamlin would break a bottle of wine at noon at a popular restaurant, telephoning Hamlin also to be there. At half past 12 all had arrived except Hamlin, who came a few minutes later.

"My friends," said Stout, "this practical joking has gone far enough. I drove off two of you last night and recovered the property you had taken. One of the two I know. Mark Hamlin, you owe me and this party the wine."

"If the wine? What do you mean?" "I mean this: When you played your game on me some time ago and I found the boys at my house, you and Bill Turner coming in later with my pocketbook, I took the joke good naturedly and opened my larder. Last night I turned the tables, drove you away and recovered my property. You owe the wine."

Hamlin stood gaping at his friend in astonishment.

"Do you mean to say I robbed you last night?" "Come; no bluffing! I made you and your pal, whoever he was, drop the swag. I got it and fired a shot after you to scare you, at which you took to your heels."

Hamlin continued to gape, but the others told him to own up like a man and pay the wine. He made another offer at a denial, but being met with the cry of "Shame!" pushed the button and ordered in champagne. For an hour there was a merry party—all except Hamlin, who never opened his mouth, hearing the chaff of his friends without irritation. At the end of the feast he said:

"I give you all my word of honor that I had no connection whatever with this robbery."

Then the party looked at one another. "For heaven's sake," exclaimed Stout, "did I get the better of a pair of real robbers?"

And there was an explosion of laughter.

T. DE WITT BOWMAN.

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