

**Baptists Hold Annual Meeting**  
The annual meeting of the Baptist church was held Wednesday evening at the church and is reported the most successful yet held by that church. Rev. H. J. Walker of Kearney delivered an address on the subject "The Mission of a Church" and special music was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Leininger and a trio. A fine supper was served by the ladies of the church in the early evening.

Rev. Walker gave a fine address on his subject with the three principal points as follows: "The church must hold the truth, the church must intensify the truth, and the church must scatter the truth abroad."

The annual report shows that the church has collected over two thousand dollars in the past year for the carrying on of the work in this city. Everything is in good shape and they are prepared to make this next year the best in the history of the church. A plan was adopted at this meeting to double the membership of both the church and Sunday school within the next year and the Sunday school here will enter into a contest with the Kearney Sunday school in a plan to increase the membership. The contest will continue for a period of three months or until one side gets 13,000 points. The losing side will present the winning Sunday school with a fine silken banner.

Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: Trustees, Lemuel Tool and Wesley Rose; treasurer, N. E. Louden; financial secretary, Ray McCann; clerk, Hilda Anderson; Sunday school superintendent, Eli Hansen; assistant superintendent, Mrs. Robert Owens; Sunday school organist, Mrs. S. Ralston; Sunday school secretary, Gustav Dahlstrom; assistant, Clifford Dahlstrom; chorister, Marjorie Campbell; superintendent primary department, Mrs. A. C. Howard; cradle roll, Mrs. Ralph Tyler; beginners, Mrs. N. E. Louden; home department,

Miss Cora Brockett. The financial committee, the missionary committee, the vigilance committee and the sick committee were also elected.

**Fourth Number of the Lecture Course.**  
The fourth number of the lecture course will be given Friday evening, January 15th at the Presbyterian church and will be one of the best numbers on the course. Miss M. Beryl M. Buckley, reader, will give the evening's entertainment and she will offer a rare treat in the way of reading Harold Bell Wright's "Shepherd of the Hills."

Miss Buckley spent one summer in the Ozark country to get material for this reading and is well prepared. She prepared her reading while in the home of "Mat and Ann Molly" who are mentioned in the story.

**Two Overcoats Stolen**  
The local officers are on the lookout for a stranger, who is described as being of medium height and build, for stealing two fur overcoats from the North Side barn. The man was seen hanging around the barn for several days and finally disappeared. Shortly after his disappearance two fur coats were missed. Other officers in nearby towns have been notified in an effort to apprehend the supposed thief.

The ladies' auxiliary of the Baptist church are now preparing a missionary pageant which will be presented in the near future. It will be in the nature of the reproduction of Ellis Island and will give a conception of the coming of the immigrants. This will be something that will be of interest to every American and should be well supported. Full announcement will be made later.

We desire to express our sincere thanks to our friends and neighbors for their kind assistance during the illness and at the funeral of our mother, the late Mrs. Mary Ell, and for the beautiful floral tributes.  
MR. and MRS. CHAS. ELL.

H. H. Beltner of Overton is in the city to attend the poultry show. Mr. Beltner is a chicken fancier and has a fine pen of birds on exhibit.

## WESTERN UNION.

NIGHT LETTER

Theo. N. Vall, President.

RECEIVED AT 32 OM CN 73 NL 3 extra dont count QNS

Omaha Nebr Jan 5th 1915.

R A Garman, Mgr Keith theatre

North Platte Nebr

The sensational drama "Today" was presented at the Brandies theatre last night before the largest audience of the season and our theatre goers were unanimous in declaring it the most thrilling play they had seen in years with the greatest acting company that has ever visited Omaha. You can go the limit in your praise of this attraction for it will be many a day before another such comes your way.

CLINTON ROY SUPHEN,

Mgr Brandies Theatre.  
915 pm

### CITY AND COUNTY NEWS

George Guthard of Paxton was visiting in the city yesterday with friends.

The Indian card club will meet tomorrow afternoon with Mrs. Fred Waltemath, west Third street.

Attorney W. V. Hoagland left this morning for Sidney to attend the irrigation meeting that is being held there this week.

C. W. Braham of Harvard is in the city for a few days judging the exhibits at the poultry and pet stock show. He is a specialist in that line.

Miss Marie McCabe and Arthur McCabe left the early part of the week for their respective schools, the former for Notre Dame, Ind., and the latter for St. Marys, Kan.

We issue today a "short story" edition, which we have found in the past to be very much appreciated by readers of fiction. You will also notice that this issue consists of fourteen pages.

E. Stone, a former North Platte railroad man and a brother of our former citizen, Norman Stone, visited friends here the early part of this week. He is now employed as engineer on an Oregon road.

Christian Science Society Sunday, 11:00 a. m. Subject "Sacrament," Sunday school 12 m. Wednesday evening meetings every week at 8:00 o'clock Building & Loan building, room 25.

The ladies' Rowena circle of the Yeoman lodge will meet Tuesday afternoon, January 12th, with Mrs. J. A. Salisbury. All members are requested to be present and bring a friend.

District Store Keeper D. W. Roberts and Division Store Keeper W. S. Wilmoth left yesterday for Julesburg, Col. The old coal chutes at that place are being torn down and these men went to look after saving the usable parts of them.

Mrs. Ed Dedrick very pleasantly entertained the Et-A-Virp club Tuesday afternoon at Kensington. At the close of the afternoon nice refreshments were served by the hostess. The club will meet January 19th with Mrs. John Dick.

Attorney P. R. Halligan Paul G. Meyer, Hershey S. Welch and Conrad Walker leave today for Lexington to attend the suit of the Kratz-Craig Co. vs the City of Cozad. The case is the result of a controversy over the payment of money for the construction of a city water plant which was recently built by the plaintiffs for the City of Cozad.

**To Hold Joint Installation**  
Joint installation will be held Monday evening at the K. of P. hall by the local lodge of A. O. U. W. and the Degree of Honor. All members of both lodges are urged to be present. The members of the A. O. U. W. are asked to bring their wives and if they have no wives they can bring lady friends. Each member of the Degree of Honor can bring a friend.

**Odd Fellows Install Officers.**  
A large number attended the installation of officers which was held last evening by the Odd Fellows at their hall. District Deputy John E. Evans had charge of the work and installed the officers.

The following officers were installed: Noble grand, J. H. McKale; vice grand, F. G. Rejor; secretary J. Guy Swope; treasurer, E. S. Davis; R. S. N. G., J. S. Hoagland; L. S. N. G., S. M. Souder; R. S. V. G. E. W. Wright; L. S. V. G., Fred Wendeborn; warden, A. S. Allen; inside guardian, Jas. A. Becker; outside guardian, Fred C. Peterson; chaplain, Dean J. J. Bowker; R. S. S., W. H. Ingles; L. S. S., J. G. Palmer.

**Strayed Animal Taken Up.**  
Taken up December 25, 1914, one black mare colt, star in forehead, had cut on left hind leg. Owner call for same and pay for this notice.  
GEORGE BRADY,  
802 west 12th St.

### Items from Sutherland Free Lance

John Frye, for nearly thirty years a resident of this neighborhood, passed away Wednesday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. S. Coker, in Sutherland, at the age of 82 years. For several months his health had been failing steadily.

C. E. Peterson has purchased the drug store of A. F. Wakeman at Paxton and is now in charge of the business.

Mr. and Mrs. Rolland Cockle of North Platte have been visiting with home folks this week. Mrs. Cockle was formerly Miss Ruby Collins who resided here several years ago, and they were married in Kansas City January first.

W. H. Shuler informs us that it is his intention to depart within a few days for Los Angeles with the expectation of finding a permanent location.

Misses MacKay and Huffman of North Platte delighted their hearers with their recital here Friday evening. The young ladies gave a good entertainment and were deserving of a much larger audience.

Down at North Platte a Greek who chases a woman around town is given a fine of ten plunks. Down south if an American nigger cuts any dices around a white woman his fine is paid on the other side of Jordan if at all.

**FUR DISCOUNT.**  
Collarets 50 Per Cent  
Sets 33 1-3 Per Cent  
HATS 25%

**FIVE MONTHS OF WAR**  
COST 6,000,000 MEN

Statisticians have estimated that five months of the greatest war of history have cost the nations involved 6,000,000 men (killed, wounded and captured) and \$7,000,000,000. These figures are subdivided as follows.

**Losses:**  
Great Britain—Eight hundred officers killed, 4,000 wounded; 15,000 men killed, 50,000 wounded, 25,000 missing.  
France—Total casualties, 1,100,000, of whom 180,000 have been killed.  
Russia—Total casualties, 1,800,000, of whom 220,000 have been killed.  
Belgium—Thirty thousand killed, 55,000 wounded, 35,000 captured.  
Serbia—Total casualties 170,000; said by Austria to have been captured 80,000.  
Germany—250,000 killed, 850,000 wounded, 400,000 missing.  
Austria—Total casualties, 1,500,000 of whom 160,000 have been killed.

**Expenses:**  
Great Britain—Two hundred and twenty-five million dollars a month, a total of \$1,225,000,444 at the end of the year.

France—Three hundred million dollars a month, a total of \$1,500,000,000.  
Russia—Three hundred and fifty million dollars a month, a total of \$1,750,000,000.

Germany Three hundred million dollars a month, a total of \$1,500,000,000 in addition to paying the expenses of her ally, Turkey.

Austria—Estimated to total \$1,000,000,000.  
In addition, all the warring nations are said to have lost perhaps as much as they have spent by the paralyzation of commerce and industry.

A girl was born Wednesday to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jeffries.

Attorney J. G. Beeler left yesterday morning for Sidney where he is scheduled to speak at the irrigation meeting which is being held by western Nebraska irrigators.

Elbert Hankins, of Keith county, was transacting business at the court house Wednesday. He remained here for a visit of a few days with friends.

Niek Adamy of the Stapleton vicinity was visiting friends in the city today. He formerly operated the bowling alleys here.

Weather forecast for North Platte and vicinity: Fair tonight and Saturday, warmer tonight. Highest temperature yesterday 35, a year ago 59. Lowest temperature last night 10, a year ago 31.

## Getting at A Secret

By DWIGHT NORWOOD

Jim Hathaway and I were not only chums, but occupied rooms in the same bachelor apartment house. Jim was a secretive chap and especially fond of making a mystery of what was an ordinary happening. I poked fun at him for doing so, but this seemed to have no effect in stopping him from continually trying to impress me with his ability to do things without my having any knowledge of them. Then when the denouement came he would assume an air of superiority as much as to say, "I don't go about blabbing of my affairs."

There came a time when I believed that Jim had an affair on hand with a girl. The reason why I came to this conclusion was that he began to show a contempt for women. "The best thing a fellow can do with a girl," he would say, "is to let her alone. By doing so he avoids the expense of theater tickets and flowers, only to find out later that she's encouraging some other fellow." I was not interested in Jim's love affairs, but I saw no reason why he should take pains to deceive me in the matter. However, it did not trouble me that he thought proper to do so. I was very fond of him and considered his blisyncrasy of no real importance, not doubting but that I had others myself just as absurd.

Jim and I occupied a common living room, and one evening when we were about to go out to dinner together Jim picked up an envelope that had been left by the postman during the day, unopened, and took out a booklet advertising some kind of goods. I noticed him looking at it, or some part of it, with apparent interest; then he tossed it in the wastebasket.

The next morning I happened to go to that same wastebasket to recover a bit of paper I had thrown in it containing an address. I stumbled on the envelope containing the advertisement and noticed that it was addressed in a feminine hand. I thought nothing of this, since girls are usually employed to address advertising matter, and was hunting on for my paper when I raked up the advertisement. It gave a list of articles that would alone interest a woman. This set me to thinking why it should have been addressed to a man. While meditating on this I noticed some lead pencil marks on the booklet. They were 8 16 7 1/2.

Now, had it not been for what I have said about Jim and his mysteries it would not have occurred to me that these figures were not merely something put there by some unknown person for some very ordinary purpose, but intended for a cipher. First, advertisements of especial interest to women are not usually mailed to men. This suggested that the booklet had been received by a woman and had been used for cipher purposes by the recipient. What better method for communication could there be? Whether the figures had a meaning or not, I resolved that if I ever got a girl whose parents would not permit me to visit her I would use this plan of communication.

I tried hard not to pry into Jim's affairs, but the puzzle was too fascinating for me to let alone. Besides, there was the temptation to beat Jim at his own game. What 8 16 7 1/2 meant haunted me till I hit upon the fact that the present month was August, the eighth month in the year. The present day was the 16th. Did not the figures contain an appointment? If so, it was for Aug. 16 at half past 7 (probably in the evening).

I could not quite bring myself to shadow my friend on that evening, but during the next month or so I noticed that he received a number of advertisements on which there were lead pencil marks. I did not try to decipher any of them. Indeed, I had not deliberately tried to decipher the first one. I had come upon it by accident, it had got into my head and I couldn't get it out till I had solved it. What I did was to buy a wedding present and leave it where Jim could see it. He was above asking me what it was for, so I told him that it was for a friend who was about to be married, adding that I could not name the person since the engagement was a secret.

The reason why I counted on Jim's coming marriage was that it is difficult if not impossible for two men to live together one of whom is engaged with out the other knowing it. Jim never told me of his engagement till a couple of weeks before the wedding. There had been no reason what ever for the secrecy attending the affair except such as influences young couples in similar cases and Jim's idiosyncrasy. The girl's parents were much pleased with the match, and Jim's parents were not living. Jim probably would have kept the secret from me longer, but he wished me to be his best man, and it was proper that he should give me timely notice.

The evening before the wedding I carried the wedding gift I had procured to the bride's home. Jim was there, and when I opened the box in which it was contained Jim started as if he had been shot. I laughed, explained the joke to the bride, and we all laughed together. But I kept them wondering for many months before I told them how I had got on to their secret.

That cured my friend of making mysteries out of very small things. Ever afterward he was frankness to perfection. As for his wife, I doubt if she had ever been so troubled.

## ...A... CAREER

By DONALD CHAMBERLIN

Edward Wilkins was a farmer boy who when he was but seven years old showed signs of a towering ambition. Even at that tender age he discerned that while there were a number of sources of power, the one that covered the widest field was wealth. At any rate, he saw persons living in fine houses and driving about in style, and he not only envied them, but resolved that as soon as he was able to accumulate money it should be the object of his life.

When Edward was fourteen he said goodby to his father and mother and went to the city to begin a career. Being bright and ready at all times for work, he found a situation and not only kept it, but advanced rapidly. As he grew older there was no desire in him for money in itself, but for the power and prominence it would give him. Except for the first few years he spent in the city, he did not accumulate by saving. The fortune that came to him was the result rather of daring operations, for which he seemed to have a genius.

After a while Edward Wilkins had accumulated so much money that it seemed impossible he should ever be poor. His safety lay in having so much capital that he could carry through any scheme he undertook. If he wished to buy all the corn in the country and hold it at his own price he was able to do so. Did he choose to buy a railway he could first depress the stock, then purchase it and hold it at his own valuation.

Wilkins had no desire to exercise the power his wealth gave him. He was content with knowing that he possessed it. He did not care for political preferment; he took no interest in influencing the course of the government.

When the great financier was forty years of age he had reached the summit of his ambition. He had acquired enormous power through his wealth, but since the exercise of that power would give him no enjoyment he had come to the end of his desire. He was like Alexander, who complained because there were no more kingdoms to conquer.

When an active brain tires of what has occupied and fed it there comes a craving for something to take its place. One such person will spend years building a sumptuous residence, which is more likely to be a sepulcher than a home. Another will turn author, taking comfort in giving to the world theories for which it has no use. Wilkins, now that he had reached his goal in half a lifetime, began to wonder what would be the end of the other half. After a continued rise to the summit would he descend again to end his career in the valley?

One thing he had lived long enough to recognize. Life appeared to him a constant shifting. Nothing seemed to endure unless it was inanimate, and even that, though slowly, was continually changing its form. There were mountains where there had been valleys and valleys where there had been mountains. Cities had been buried for centuries, forgotten, then uncovered to serve as curiosities. Whole sections of land had slid down into the sea and passed out of sight.

What would become of his great fortune? He knew that after his death it would pass back into the great ocean of wealth. But would he retain it for the rest of his life? Now that he had achieved it he no longer valued it and cared not so much what was to become of it as what was to become of him. Enough to give him the ordinary comforts essential to old age was all he desired. But that much was of great moment to him.

One night he dreamed a vivid dream. He dreamed that he returned to the farm and was a boy again. Yet he possessed all the experience he had acquired. His ambition was gone. He said to himself: "Here I am, and here I wish to remain. My body is not as it was, full of life. It is tired. All I desire is rest."

It was a strange dream, this old spirit in a young body. It made a marked impression on him at the time, but gradually passed out of his mind with other forgotten things. When Wilkins found that he had attained his desire he bethought himself what he could do to replace the object he had lost. Like many other rich men under similar circumstances, he decided to build himself a magnificent residence. He had long owned the farm on which he had been born. His father and mother had died there, and he had no use for the place. So the house was shut up and the land left untilled, though he gave orders that the house and fences should be kept in repair. The farm marked his beginning; the palace he was about to build would mark his end.

He spent a year on designs for his residence, then began to build. Four years passed, and it was not finished. Indeed, he did not wish it finished. He clung to building it for something to occupy him. When it was complete and he moved in he seemed lost in it. It was big enough for a hundred families, and there was only himself to use it.

One day when he felt ill and tired and lonely he concluded to go to the farm. He had not been there in many years. The view in front of the house he had always loved, and he sat down on the little porch to look at it.

Then he remembered his dream. He never left this place of his birth. In a few weeks he died.



### Where Did Money Go a Month Ago?

You people without a checking account—can you tell from memory where last month's money went?

Your neighbor with a checking account can look at his check book stubs and tell accurately his every expenditure of importance.

If it is a perplexing thing to remember where you paid out money in the past, try a Platte Valley State Bank Checking Account. This will give you a record of today's payments a month from now—or as much longer as you care to keep the check stubs for reference.

### The Platte Valley State Bank

North Platte, Nebraska.

### OUR PRICES TELL A TALE

But when you examine our goods you will be more surprised than ever. We sell the best harness made. All hand made in our own shop and positively guaranteed. Our prices the most reasonable you can find.

### DOES YOUR HARNESS NEED REPAIRING?

Here's the place. We give satisfaction. First class work done on Shoe Repairing.

### FORSTEDT & SHEEDY,

Headquarters for Horses' Wearing Apparel

512 Locust Street.

North Platte, Nebraska.

### Eat Alfalfa Queen Butter

It is Always Fresh and Sweet

Can be Bought Anywhere in North Platte.

Made by the

### North Platte Creamery

We also sell Good Clean Buttermilk Phone 62.