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## ADJUTANT GENERAL HARTIGAN MAKES A BRIEF VISIT TO PLATTSMOUTH

In an Attempt to Organize a Company of the State Militia in This City, and Will Visit Here Again.

Adjutant General John C. Hartigan came in this morning from Lincoln and spent the morning in interviewing a number of the citizens regarding the formation of a company of the state militia at this point. General Hartigan who is a native of this city, is quite solicitous about the matter and in the interviews which he held with some of the prominent men such as E. H. Wescott, secretary of the commercial club, County Attorney Ramsey and others, expressed himself as hoping that a company could be organized. The present opportunity for a company here is given by the passing out of existence of some of the companies heretofore located in the western part of the state.

It is probable General Hartigan will visit the city again in the near future when he will address a public meeting upon the subject of the national guard and explain in detail what the duties of the guard are and what its benefits and privileges are. He states that he is laboring hard to make the guard something more effective than a political machine and means if his tenure of office holds long enough to make it a really active and vigorous part of the state machinery.

In conversation with a Journal reporter this morning, General Hartigan expressed himself as hoping that there would be a company recruited here. He is in favor of organizing these companies in the more densely settled parts of the state and believes that that is the only way in which the guard can be made efficient. The companies which have been organized in the west do not keep up their membership owing to the sparsely settled territory in which they are organized. Again he states there is usually not so much need for the militia in the thinly settled parts of the state as in the larger towns and cities. The constantly renewing population of the larger cities affords good material on hand at all times for keeping the companies up.

General Hartigan expressed himself as surprised since he had taken the adjutant's office at the ignorance which he found existing as to that office and its duties and the duties pertaining to the national guard.

The adjutant's office has more employees than any state office, save the auditor and the land commissioner. It has charge of more property than any office save the treasurer. In fact, it is among the most important offices in the state. The general said, with a laugh, that he believed that he obtained the place owing largely to the public ignorance of the importance of it.

Speaking of the duties of the national guard and the companies comprising it, General Hartigan stated that he would be glad to address a public meeting here on the subject. He would tell the shopmen here exactly what would be expected of them in the event of a strike here. There

could be no objection to the men going on a strike and the guard would be called for guard duty here but companies from other points would be brought here and the local company sent elsewhere. He states that experience has shown that the labor organizations of the country do not object to their members joining the militia but, in fact, urge it. The walking delegate who profits by the strike is the one who objects to the guard. Speaking further of the duty during riot and strike disorders, General Hartigan said that he did not propose to have the militia looked on as tin soldiers and when they were called out under him, they would be supplied with powder and bullets and expected to shoot to kill. Blank cartridges will not be given them. The department has a gatling gun which the general finds most efficient in subduing rioters and he believes its muzzle pointed down a street has a subduing influence upon the most disorderly crowd.

It is in time of great calamity such as fire or flood, that the best side of the national guard is shown, in his judgment. He cites the fire in Fairbury when a portion of the town was swept away, and states that the merchants were greatly relieved when they saw the militia turn out and take charge of their goods stored in the street. The militia are the best means of protecting property that he knows of. In time when lynchings are threatened, the presence of a company of the guard often saves the sacrifice of life and keeps the stain of such a disgrace from the city or county.

These are only a few of the reasons which he deems necessary to call to public attention, to enable all to see why there should be a company of the guard in the larger cities and towns.

It is probable a meeting will be arranged at an early date when General Hartigan will be asked to come here and present to the public his reasons for wanting a guard established at this point. A number of citizens who were seen on the subject were in favor of it, some for the reason that it is considered by them a good thing for the city and some, as they said, because it would afford an opportunity to stick on some high sounding titles to some of the citizens of the town. General Hartigan departed for his office at Lincoln this afternoon.

A conference of those interested in promoting the movement for a militia company, will be had within a few days, this being determined upon this afternoon by those with whom General Hartigan talked the matter over with. If they find conditions favorable and indications good for organizing a company a public meeting will be called and General Hartigan invited to come down and address it.

**A New Cab.**  
The new livery and hack firm of Wehrlein & Parmele this morning received a brand new cab which they will put into immediate service. It is a modern one, especially constructed for easy riding, being rubber tired and nicely upholstered. It is handsomely finished and one which is a credit to the city. It is the intention of Messrs Wehrlein & Parmele to give the people of Plattsmouth and the traveling public the very best of service and with this end in view they will add to their stock from time to time such conveyances as will maintain the high standard which they have set. In addition to a fine line of cabs, carriages and buggies they intend to keep the best horses for either single or double driving and to make the livery business one of the prime features of their business. Their efforts should receive a hearty welcome from the Plattsmouth public.

## MEMPHIS BANK ROBBED OF \$2,600

Little Doubt That it is Work of Same Gang That Robbed the Manley Bank.

The gang of cracksmen who have been making their headquarters in either Omaha or somewhere along the Platte river for a number of years and who repeatedly broke into the Manley bank in this county, seem to have turned their attention to banks in other country towns. Yesterday, (Thursday) morning the bank at the little town of Memphis, seven miles northwest of Ashland was burglarized, the safe was blown open and looted and money to the amount of about \$2,600 secured.

From the similarity between the methods used to get into the bank and to open the safe there seems little doubt but the men perpetrating the deed were the same ones who have several times raided the Manley bank and got away with the goods.

According to all reports, there were four or five men in the crowd, no one knowing the exact number. They opened the Burlington section house at Memphis and took out tools which they used later to enter the bank building with. They forced the front door of the building open with a crowbar and then blew the safe open with dynamite or some other high explosive. The resemblance between the work on the safe and the job at Manley is most marked. In both cases the explosive used was powerful and the safe was nearly demolished. Several charges were used in both cases and the interior of both buildings was a mass of debris when the explosion was over.

A man named Charles Deck living across the street from the bank heard the reports but states he was detained by his wife from giving an alarm. He reported the matter to the cashier of the bank when morning came and they investigated the matter, finding as above set out. A number of mutilated bills were found later in the day by Burlington section foreman lying along the track where the burglars had thrown them. They were thrown away for fear of detection should they try to pass them.

Memphis is a small town and has no town marshal or night police, another thing which strongly resembles Manley. The robbers took their time to the job and did a good one. After lighting the fuse which exploded the charges in the safe door, they went outside and waited until the job was over when they gathered up the wealth and departed.

There are the usual number of wild-eyed stories afloat as to who did the job including the one which always comes out of the three mysterious men who came out to cut ice for Armour & Co., and who sat on a dry goods box across the street from the bank and eyed the door for a long time. Afterwards it becomes a suspicious circumstance. As a matter of fact there seems no clue and the probability is that the same men who cracked the Manley bank did this job.

The rumor current when the Manley bank affair took place that it was done by some men employed in rock quarries some where about the towns and who were familiar with the use of dynamite, looks very reasonable and might yield results if investigated closely enough.

## THE NORTHERN POTATO CROP

The Burlington Now Engaged in Transporting Many Cars From Minnesota to the South

As illustrating the various sources of railroad traffic, the Burlington is now handling immense quantities of potatoes from the Minnesota fields to Kansas City and southern points. This morning two trains passed through the city within a few moments of each other carrying "spuds" to the southern markets. In one train there were 15 cars while the other had 25 or a total of 40 cars of the Irish product in the two trains. Railroad men say that this is a regular occurrence now and has been for some time and every day witnesses solid trains of Minnesota potatoes finding their way south. The daily traffic through this city of this product is said to be around 40 cars a day, some days exceeding this considerably and on other days falling slightly below it.

The potatoes are all raised in Minnesota and are hauled into Sioux City over the Great Northern road, being turned over at that point to the Burlington and coming by way of Fremont and Ashland through this city to Pacific Junction where the K. C. takes the traffic for Kansas City. From Kansas City the spuds find their way to the Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas markets, competing with the native product.

The reverse movement of potatoes takes place in the spring when new potatoes from the Texas and Louisiana fields find their way north.

This source of income has built up largely since the Hill roads secured an outlet from the Minnesota fields to the south over their own rails, they getting the long end of the freight charges and making particular efforts to build up the traffic. While the route is rather longer than a route through Sioux City and Omaha is, it makes practically as good time owing to the superior grade which was secured when the Sioux City-Ashland line was built.

The northern grown potatoes are more than holding the southern market as they are good keepers and stand the shipment from the north well. They are carried in refrigerator cars for which there is a steady demand all winter. The demand for this class of cars, in fact, exceeds the supply and there is a constant cry to unload and hurry home refrigerator cars for use in this traffic. Railroad men who are posted on the matter assert that the traffic would be much heavier than it is if there were more refrigerator cars to be handled and loaded.

**Moving to This City.**

Mention was made in the Journal yesterday of the arrival of A. W. Smith and family in this city from Carson, Iowa, to make their future home on the Hohlschuh property west of the city. This morning they commenced the work of moving their household goods from the cars at the Burlington station to their home and one of their teams proceeded to start something in the shape of a runaway. The animals were hitched to a wagon loaded with farming machinery when they took fright at a passing engine and started to run away. In the excitement the wagon was overturned and some of the machinery spilled out. However, the team was stopped before any great damage was done, help being fortunate at hand at the time.

**Will Go to Texas.**

A party of some half dozen land seekers are preparing to depart from this city next Tuesday for Texas, accompanying W. E. Rosencrans to that country with a view of buying. The party will visit numerous towns along the gulf coast including Houston, San Antonio, Galveston and various other points of interest and landing at Falfurrias, 75 miles southwest of Corpus Christa, where Mr. Rosencrans has a great lot of extra fine lands for sale. This will be a most pleasant trip, and can be made at a nominal cost, the railroad fare for the entire journey is only \$27.50. "Rosey" says he still has room for many more should there be any one who wishes to join the party.

John Schoeman is among those in the city attending to his duties as a jurymen.

## WILLIAM GRIFFITH GROWS TIRED OF LIFE AND ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

Family Troubles and Drinking Leads to His Trying to End His Earthly Career by Cutting His Throat.

This week has been one of suicide and near suicide in this locality, yesterday adding another attempt at self destruction, this time in this city. Family troubles and drink are said to be responsible for the attempt which failed only through an accident.

W. A. Griffin living on Lincoln avenue near the shops and who formerly lived on the Hohlschuh place just west of the city, was the one who sought to shorten his life and hurry himself before his maker. According to authentic information Griffin had been drinking rather heavily for some days and yesterday he had gone to his home where he and his wife had some words over the matter. It is said that words had passed on other occasions than this and that domestic difficulties had been at the bottom of his drinking.

The words which passed between them seemed to drive the young man into a frenzy and he drew from his pocket a common pocket-knife with which he endeavored to cut his own throat. He made a slash for his

throat but did not succeed in gashing it. Instead he cut a long stripe down the left side of his jaw. His wife at once summoned a surgeon who hurried to the home where he found Griffin looking considerably like a stuck pig but not dangerously hurt. He was some gory spectacle but several stitches repaired the damage he had done himself.

After trying to shuffle off this mortal coil and making such a dismal failure of the job, Griffin seemed to regret exceedingly his act. He was quite contrite and seemed to feel mighty good over the fact that his aim had been so poor. His injuries are not at all dangerous and he will be able to be out and about very shortly. Griffin is a man with a wife and two children and has been a resident of this vicinity for only a short time. He is a brother of S. C. Griffin of Havelock who recently married Frances Hospelntal in this city. He is a young man who has always stood high in the estimation of all who know him and his friends are surprised at his having attempted to commit so rash a deed.

## WOODMEN ARE MUCH STIRRED UP

Camps at St. Louis Missouri, are Demanding an Investigation

Local Woodmen circles are stirred up over an upheaval in the ranks of the order started by the camps of St. Louis and St. Louis county, Mo. These camps are demanding an investigation into the national offices of the order at Rock Island, Ill. For the purpose of the investigation an association has been formed known as the True Woodmen's association of Missouri. Officers have been chosen, R. J. Palmer of St. Louis, Mo., being the secretary, and an effort is being made to recruit membership from every lodge in that state. Officers have been opened at 629 Rialto building, St. Louis. The Missouri lodges contain 100,000 members and 10,000 of these are in St. Louis.

One of the principal objects of the investigation is the salary and expense accounts of the national board of directors and the national board of auditors. The claim is made that the five members of the directors board turned in last year claims for salaries and expenses amounting to \$40,800, an excessive amount according to the members familiar with the work. The order allows \$15 per day and expenses for each day's actual work and it is claimed the directors wanted pay for every day including holidays while some of them were actually engaged in other work. The salary of Heal Counsel A. R. Talbot of Lincoln, Neb., is \$10,000, which is also claimed to be excessive. The members of the national board of directors who are attacked are A. N. Bort, Chairman, of Beloit, Wis.; R. R. Smith of Brookfield, Mo.; E. E. Murphy of Leavenworth, Kan.; J. C. Burns of Ishpeming, Mich.; and J. A. Rutledge of Elgin, Ill. It is charged that Chairman Bort is a member of the Wisconsin legislature and while acting in that capacity, he also drew \$15 per day from the Woodmen for his services as a member of the board. Smith and Murphy are alleged to be part owners of the Woodmen Casualty company and while looking after the affair of that company they have charged the Woodmen with work as members of the board.

Another object of the investigation is to determine how it came that the contract for bonding the clerks and bankers of the organization came to be let to the National Surety company for a sum of \$15,000 greater than another company offered to take the bonds for.

The entire row promises to stir a mess in Woodmen circles and possibly will result in a complete upheaval of the national officers of the organization with an injection of new blood and a reform in the financial methods of the order. The Modern

Woodmen which is the Woodmen organization referred to above is one of the largest and most powerful orders in the country, having a membership considerably in excess of one million in number and located in practically every state and every county in the country. The rates for insurance carried in the order range all the way from 25 cents on a \$500 policy to \$2.70 on a \$3,000 policy payable monthly. It has an income in excess of \$1,600,000 a month and since its organization in 1883, it has paid out over \$73,000,000 in claims.

## TRADE FROM CEDAR CREEK

The Merchants of Plattsmouth Should Feel Grateful to the People in That Vicinity.

Plattsmouth merchants certainly owe a lot to the good people of Cullom and Cedar Creek. Today witnessed a large influx of these people who came in to do their shopping and trading in the city and they will help out a whole lot on the day's returns. The Schuyler train this morning had many of them and they all came here when they might just as well have gone elsewhere. The point which they make on coming to this city to trade is that they do as well or better than they can do elsewhere and in addition, they have the guarantee of the Plattsmouth merchants back of their purchase. Plattsmouth people who are eternally finding it convenient to go elsewhere to do their trading should think a moment and realize that if it pays people from Cullom and Cedar Creek to come here to trade, it certainly pays the people of the city to do the same thing. The prime feature of trading with your home merchants is that you can always take back any article which does not come up to the standard and have it exchanged or get your money back. The people of Cullom and Cedar Creek have found this out and to their credit, it can be said, they prefer trusting the home merchants to foreign concerns. Plattsmouth people ought to realize that the people from up the Burlington really are better patrons of their merchants than they are themselves and they should learn that a bargain for Cullom and Cedar Creek is a bargain for Plattsmouth.

**Growth Removed.**

R. H. Frans returned Wednesday from Omaha where he spent several days in the Methodist hospital, having undergone an operation for a growth on his lip. The operation was performed by Dr. Jonas, and we are glad to report that Mr. Frans is getting along nicely since he returned home.—Union Ledger.

## Auto Season Almost Here.

The automobile business in this city seems destined to open up this spring with a rush, judging by the start which it is taking. The Crabb-Cummins Automobile company this morning received a shipment of a carload of the celebrated Ford machines which they are handling, the car holding three fine machines. The Ford is climbing still further to the front in the line of high grade machines and it is proving one of the best sellers. The machine is the lowest price high class machine in the market, a machine which is guaranteed to stand the wear and tear along with the machines costing considerably more. In addition the machine is symmetrically built and is of handsome design. All the improvements which other makes have for the coming season are also to be found on the Ford and the aim of the manufacturers to keep up-to-date in the construction of the machines, is being carried out. These machines have all been contracted for and when they are out and running the Crabb-Cummins people do not have any doubt but what orders for more will pour in on them.

## Glad to see Friends.

Tom Smith who has been living at Lincoln, Ill., for some time past, came in this morning for a visit of several days with his folks living near Rock Bluffs. Tom is looking fine and hearty and the air in his new home certainly seems to agree with him. He was glad to get back to Plattsmouth and meet the large number of good friends who happened to be in the city.

Tom is engaged in farming near Lincoln, Ill., and is doing well. He states that that section is one of the most fertile in the United States and that as a rule always has good crops, his year being no exception. The location and everything suits him first rate and he does not feel as if he would ever want to make a change. He expects to make a visit with his folks at Rock Bluffs and with friends and relatives in this city for probably three weeks before he turns homeward. Tom is a popular fellow here and his friends will all be glad to hear of his doing so well and trust that he will continue to have his share of the good things on the earth.