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PLATTSMOUTH IS TO HAVE BIG FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Improved Order of Red Men Take Hold of the Matter and Will Make It a Howling Success.

From Friday's Daily.

Plattsmouth is to have some Fourth of July after all. This much was determined upon last night at the meeting of the Improved Order of Redmen. This organization, which is strictly patriotic in its principles, and which is American to the core, decided that it would not do to have the natal day of the nation go by unobserved. To this end it was determined to have a celebration which would compare with any ever given in the city. The full scope of the affair was not determined upon at this meeting, but there was a live committee appointed to get busy and organize the occasion. This committee will have powers in every way, and will go ahead and make the Fourth in this city a hummer.

If it is possible there will be a large number of excellent attractions secured. There will be all the clean high grade shows which can be gotten put into activity, and there will be free attractions galore. Although the members of the committee realize that the time is short now until the celebration must be made, they are determined to utilize every moment and they started to work last night. Music was spoken for and this was done hurriedly to prevent it being snapped by some other city which wants the goods.

The meeting last night which started the ball rolling was enthusiastic and it was largely attended. Realizing that patriotism is one of the things which lies in the foundation of the observation of this day, there was a determination to arrange for a celebration which would stir up the city and make its people rejoice in the fact they were Americans. To this end the Redmen, who comprise the real live wires of this city, decided to go ahead and give a celebration which would leave no room for doubt at success. They intend to make Plattsmouth succeed and start July 4, 1910.

The determination of the Red Men to hold the celebration resulted materially in altering the plans of the M. W. A. band which had been figuring with several other cities on playing for their celebration on that day. They promptly suspended negotiations pending the arrangement of the local celebration and doubtless will play here on that day. This insures the celebration good music and plenty of it.

All told the indications now are that Plattsmouth will be itself on July 4th, and that the good people of Cass county and western Iowa can

come here and be satisfied with a grand, good time. The matter is in competent and able hands and with the Red Men behind to give it a helping shove it is bound to go through with a whoop. Let everyone in the city add their mite to make the affair a grand and glorious one and Plattsmouth will show everyone how it does succeed. With the big membership of the Red Men assisted by the local merchants and boosters there ought to be some lively doings and it ought to advertise the liveliest town in Nebraska far and wide. Do your part and do it now and help the great, big celebration for it helps you and yours.

In addition to the usual sports incident to such celebrations, such as base ball with games morning and afternoon, wrestling matches, running races, fire exhibitions, free athletic stunts, turner exhibitions and the like, there will be a program of speeches by prominent speakers. The Red Men are peculiarly liberty-loving people—they will secure speakers in harmony with their ideas who will extol the freedom of the great nation; who will speak highly of the rights of the great common people and who will stand for all that uplifts and ennobles humanity and which has bulwarked this country to its present proud position of leader among the nations of the earth.

With all this the half is not said. Fourth of July will be celebrated here as not before for many years. Plattsmouth two years ago did itself proud in celebrating and this year it is hoped to rival, if not excel that splendid exhibition. Whether or not a great parade will be had remains to be determined. The lack of time is urged as one reason for abandoning the parade for this year as one would not be held unless there was an assurance that it would be a success and many were inclined to think the time and expense incident to arranging one would not be well invested.

Of course, the matter is in a nebulous state yet, but it will clear up shortly as the committee is already well on its way and has a plan mapped out which will insure a hummer. The character of the committee is such that it cannot fail to be a success as the liveliest members of the order are members. These are J. E. McDaniel, Councilman William Gravett, Fire Chief Anton H. Koubek, William Egenberger and William Hinrichsen. If they can't make a celebration worth having then no one can. It is the intention of the committee to meet tonight and formulate plans for the celebration.

Lincoln Parties Married.

The relatives of Dr. H. J. Lehnhoff received word yesterday telling them of his marriage on May 22 to Miss Rae Challis, also of this city. Dr. Lehnhoff has been in Europe for some months, and he was met at Vienna by Mr. and Mrs. C. C. McPherson, Miss Carrie Akesson and Miss Challis, who left Lincoln a few weeks ago. The marriage took place at 4 o'clock in the afternoon of May 22, in an Evangelical church, with only the Lincoln party as witnesses. After traveling through European countries, all will return to Lincoln about July 1. Dr. and Mrs. Lehnhoff will reside at 1945 E street.

Mrs. Lehnhoff is a graduate of the voice department of the university school of music, and for some time has been an instructor in private classes of music in the city. She is a member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Challis reside at Westmoreland, Kas. Mr. Lehnhoff is a graduate of the Nebraska state university and of the Northwestern university at Chicago. He is a member of the Delta Chi fraternity.—State Journal.

Dr. Lehnhoff is well known in this city, being a nephew of Mrs. F. D. Lehnhoff, and has many friends here who extend their heartiest congratulations.

Judge H. D. Travis and Court Reporter Enri Travis, returned this morning from Nebraska City, where they had been engaged in holding court for several days.

Has Disposed of His Business.

From Friday's Daily.

William J. Stadelman, wife and baby, and Lou Spayer, a sister of Mrs. Stadelman, came in yesterday for a brief visit with friends, and this morning drove down to the home of Mark White for a short visit before leaving for Los Angeles, Cal. Mr. Stadelman has sold his telephone interests at Norfolk, Neb., and is moving to Los Angeles, where he intends to make his future home, and where he will enter into the telephone business on an extensive scale, with the independent interests of that city. Mr. Stadelman has made a marked success in this line of work and is one of the big telephone men of the country now. He has devoted several years to the upbuilding and improvement of the independent telephone systems in this country, and few men are better informed as to this line of work than he. He has a great many friends in this city who will be sorry to learn of his determination to make a change of base in operations, but who wish him the greatest success in his new field. He expects to leave for Los Angeles tomorrow.

Jake Denson of Council Bluffs, a former Plattsmouth boy, after spending several days in the city with relatives, departed yesterday for Weeping Water where he will visit with a sister before returning home. It is several years since he was in this city and his many friends were very glad to meet him.

TELLS OF PIONEER NEBRASKANS

Abraham Towner Pays Visit to Old Friends Here.

The Journal yesterday afternoon enjoyed a visit from one of Cass county's earliest settlers, now located near Surprise, Butter county. This gentleman was Abraham Towner who is making a visit of several days with the families of W. T. Adams, Wm. Gilmour and a large number of relatives. This is his first call to this section for an extended stay for some time. Mr. Towner has now reached the age of seventy-three years but he has surprised his many friends by seeming to have developed the secret of perpetual youth and to have drank of the waters of the spring of life for his years rest very, very lightly on his shoulders. To one who is not acquainted with his age the statement of it comes as a most pleasant surprise.

Mr. Towner is a son of Abraham Towner who was county judge of this county in its early history, serving for several years in that capacity. Judge Towner as he was always known during his stay here was one of the most popular men of his day and will be readily recalled by all the real pioneers of the county. He moved here from Iowa with his family in the fall of 1854, landing at the point where the ferry is now operated below the Burlington bridge. The family moved down to a claim just north and west of Rock Bluffs, then the flourishing metropolis of Cass county. They arrived at this location on October 29, and the next day young Towner with his father made a pilgrimage to the town of Kenosha to get lumber to build a house with. Mr. Towner distinctly remembers this trip as that night a great sleet and snow storm came on which painfully impressed itself upon him.

At this time Kenosha was quite a village, having one store presided over by Dealle White who was assisted in his labor by A. B. Smith, who recently died, Smith being his clerk. Kenosha was the first town laid out in this county, its birth antedating that of Rock Bluffs which came next on the list, both dating their birth from the year 1854.

Previous to the location of the elder Towner and his family here, the young man had visited this part of the country and had ferried across the Missouri during the spring at the point where the Plattsmouth ferry now plies. This work he abandoned, however, upon the movement of the family to this section.

Mr. Towner is full of interesting reminiscences of early Cass county, recalling many of the strange and unusual things which took place at that time as is quite natural to a young man just entering upon his manhood and leaving his teens. He recollects the camping of the Ojot Indians during the fall and winter of 1854, at the place then called Gibbs Springs, just south of this city and since long known as the Doom farm. The Indians as he recalls them were peaceable and docile and kind and affectionate to those who treated them right and he and his friends never found them to be hard to get along with. But things were different with those who abused them. They made the invariable practice of stealing anything they could get their hands on from those who ill-treated them. And many who lived in that neighborhood were guilty of this and suffered from their depredations. It was this class Mr. Towner avers who complained so persistently of the nature of the Indians.

Mr. Towner recalls well the laying out of the townsite of Liberty, which it was hoped would sap the vitality of Kenosha. This was in the fall of 1855, the village being laid out by Joshua Brown who opened a general store there with M. B. Cutler, afterwards sheriff of the county as his clerk. The new town was about two and a half miles south of Kenosha. Like many another ambitious project Liberty has long since passed away and nothing remains of it but history. The same is true of Kenosha and Rock Bluffs is almost a memory, while Plattsmouth has forged steadily ahead, although when Mr. Towner came to this country it was a settlement of but two stores, one of which he thinks was run by Tom Hanna, while the other was presided over by

the late E. G. Dovey, father of the Dovey boys of this city. Of course, there were no towns through this country then but what had their saloons. They existed in Plattsmouth, Rock Bluffs, Kenosha, Liberty and wherever a general store was in being. These saloons were not run on the quiet, orderly principles of the present day but seem to have been what could be aptly called "grog shops." It was in one of these that a killing occurred at Liberty during the stay of young Towner in this section. Jack Rakes, who, according to Towner, was somewhat overbearing and dictatorial, entered a saloon kept by a little Irishman there and proceeded to start in to run the place. The Irishman objected and enforced his objections by drawing a revolver and shooting Rakes. The saloon keeper then fled, crossing the Missouri in a boat and coming up the river to this place and then disappearing, never to again be heard of. A mob formed and made a feint at hunting him but they considered him in the right and did not try hard to get him. At this time Tommy Thompson, then ferryman at Kenosha, was coroner and he impaneled a jury with young Towner as one of its members. The jury found as Rakes' father, Carter Rakes, came to Kenosha when he heard of the death of his son and proceeded to raise merry hades. He loaded up on bad liquor and started in to clean out the town and everyone in it. In so doing he insulted the wife of one of the prominent citizens of the town and the latter seized a shotgun and chased Carter out of town. That ended that episode.

Mr. Towner was early acquainted with William W. Wiley who has been in such poor health for some time past and who now lives near Murray. He recalls when Mr. Wiley settled upon his homestead about two miles from the Towner farm and when he opened the first blacksmith shop in this county, it being located at what was then known as Ashley springs and now called the Churchill farm. The two men became intimate friends and Mr. Towner well recalls the time when they stayed together in the woods while all their companions were gone back into the older states. He describes that time very graphically with its lonesomeness and the stormy, windy nights in the unbroken forest which lay about their neighborhood. Always in those days, the best friend or two men together had was the trusty rifle and this lay close at hand to repel unknown and unexpected dangers. This was the case with Towner and Wiley during their sojourn together that winter and they were always prepared for danger of any sort.

The first meeting of Mr. Towner and James A. Walker, the well known Murray citizen, is vivid in his mind, it taking place at a point called Hay Springs, near Scotts Bluff. This occurred shortly after the close of the civil war when Mr. Walker was engaged in hauling hay for General Crow who had a contract with the government for 500 tons to be delivered at Fort Laramie. This hay would be cut and then under command of Crow soaked in water before delivery to make it weigh. Frequently one wagon carried two (?) tons to the post. So it would appear the gentle art of grafting is not so recent as it might seem. Mr. Towner states it was not the drivers who were responsible for this but the contractor who held it to be part of the business. Mr. Walker and Thos. Patterson were among those working for Crow at that time who afterwards came back to this section.

The gold excitement of 1859 resulted in inflaming Mr. Towner with a wild desire to get rich quick and he decided to go across the plains to Pike's Peak. To do this he and another pioneer secured a spring wagon from John Gilmore, father of Dr. George H. Gilmore of Murray, who was then located near Cedar Creek in the wagon and blacksmith business, and they prepared for the trip. They fitted the wagon up for living quarters and always kept in mind the invariable rifle, man's constant friend and companion, and started west. They proceeded as far as Kearney where they met hordes of returning emigrants who denounced the entire affair a fake and humbug of the first water and wanted Towner and his companion to return. This they would not do, however, but they changed their plans and went clear through to California.

It was in the year 1866 that Mr.

Towner left this county for good, he then going west and locating near what is now the town of Surprise. He has since done well in that locality and is an enthusiast over that part of the country.

There could be column after column of Mr. Towner's delightful recollections printed as he is a clear and lucid talker with a splendid recollection of men and events in early Nebraska, but space forbids it. He will be here until tomorrow (Saturday) when he expects to depart for his home. He is a fine man and it is to be hoped that he can be able to later add even more to the contributions which he has made to early Cass county and Nebraska history.

A NEW RAILROAD ORGANIZATION

Representatives of the Order in the City Today.

From Friday's Daily.

The Journal today was in receipt of a pleasant call from Messrs. Geo. Brophy of Omaha and J. D. Pennington of Wymore, who are in the city looking after the organization of a branch of the American Railroad Employees and Investors association in this city. The gentlemen spent the day interviewing various railroad men and others and lining things up for a meeting to be held in the future. Mr. Brophy is a former railroad man, having been employed for many years on the Union Pacific and other lines, while Mr. Pennington is an old Burlington employe. Both men are excellent gentlemen and good business men. Mr. Brophy was a candidate before the Democratic primaries two years ago this fall for the nomination for railroad commissioner and came very close to receiving it. He is in every way qualified and would have made an excellent official.

The organization which they represent in this city was established two years ago and its declaration of principles state it to be an organization to cultivate and maintain between its members a spirit of mutual interest and concern for the welfare and prosperity of American railroads and to promote their successful and profitable operation and maintenance for the benefit of the employes, investors and the public. It is also aimed to promote a friendly feeling for the railroads on the part of the public and to obtain consideration and hearing for the railroads from legislative bodies and commissions which may enact laws, rules and the like governing them. To insure a fair return on the investment to labor and capital of the roads with due regard to efficient service, fair treatment and safety to the public. The association provides that it shall not be used for partisan purposes and that it shall not interfere in any manner in controversies between the railroads and their employes. The declaration of principles is a strong and sensible one and if lived up to, would promote the interests of the entire country without doubt.

The organization during its less than two years of life has been very largely recruited from the ranks of the railroad employes, investors and the like class of people and its membership now is very large throughout the country. It is being extended in every direction and the prospects are that by the end of this year it will be a powerful and influential body throughout the entire country. At the present time particular interest is attracted to it and its operation by the state of the railroad stock and bond market. With the injunction against the roads to prevent them raising freight rates and several recent supreme court decisions affecting them, conditions in railroad circles are very unsettled and uncertain.

Blunt Still in Jail.

Grant Blunt who is in jail held for grand larceny, has not yet been arraigned but he probably will be this afternoon or tomorrow some time. The local officials of the Missouri Pacific are still trying to get word to Special Agent Kendrick to arrive here and fix the time when he can come County Attorney Ramsey intends to start the ball rolling.

W. H. Hell and son of Pleasant View farm near Cedar Creek, were in the city yesterday afternoon attending to business.

NEW ROAD CAUSES SOME TROUBLE

Residents Near the Big Island Disposed to Raise Protest.

The proposed new road from this city to Rock Bluffs which was to have been built along the bank of the Missouri river seems likely to run up against some obstacles before it comes to a happy end. There seems to be no opposition to its building until the big island below the bridge and this side of Rock Bluffs is reached, but at that point there is a sharp diversity of opinion concerning the matter. As proposed the road would run down the west bank of the river to the head of the island where it would continue on down the west side of the slough between the mainland and the island and on down to Rock Bluffs. It is along the west bank of the slough that the trouble has arisen. Property owners at this point insist that the road be swung across to the island at its head, a dike being put in across the slough at that point and also at the lower point. There is a dike at the upper end now but this would have to be widened and strengthened against high water or overflows while there is no dike at the lower end. The property owners along the west shore of the slough maintain that this must be done or they want damages. Those whose land extends across the slough are willing to have a road through it down the island without damages being assessed. So far claims have been filed for damages in case the road is built along the west side of the slough. These are Ben Decker for \$150, Mrs. Ben Decker \$450, Hiram Sheldon \$150 and J. W. Dixon \$100. Whether or not a remonstrance against the proposed road along the west side of the slough will be filed or not is uncertain, although one was circulated and signed by residents of that neighborhood several days since.

Elect Officers.

The meeting of the Red Men last evening was largely attended and harmonious and considerable business was done in addition to the semi-annual election of officers. A number of candidates were present and took the obligation and the membership of the order is steadily climbing up grade. It is now perhaps the largest single lodge in the city with prospects of soon being much larger. The election of officers resulted in the election of the following, most of whom were re-elected:

John Cory—Sachem.
J. C. York, Prophet.
A. H. Koubek, Senior Sagamore.
Wm. Hinrichsen, Junior Sagamore.
Keeper of Records—Emil Walters
and Keeper of Wampum, Thomas Walling, held over. In another column appears the statement of the work of the meeting toward a Fourth of July celebration which will be held.

Bad Luck in Returning.

Messrs. D. O. Dwyer, J. W. Johnson and Dr. J. S. Livingston yesterday made a trip out near Murdock to appraise the farm of the late John Bauer, returning in the evening. The party had a disastrous experience when some twenty miles from the city on their way home. Mr. Dwyer's car in which they were making the trip became rebellious and refused to come back home, and all the coaxing the gentlemen would do would not entice it. They had to wait until a car could be sent from here to relieve them, the telephone being called into action for obtaining it. They were some tired and more or less peeved over the misadventure.

A Good Man.

County Superintendent King of Otoe county, came up Wednesday from Nebraska City for a conference with the members of the board of education of this city regarding the superintendency of the city schools here. Prof. King is an excellent man and a fine educator and the city schools would profit largely by securing such a man as head of them. He stands very high in Otoe county and has been successful in holding the position of county superintendent that no opposition to him materialized for some time.

A. Bach, the grocer, is a business visitor today in Omaha, going up to that city this morning.