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RIVER GIVES UP ITS DEAD

Mystery of the Disappearance of John A. Johnson, Who Disappeared About Three Months Ago Is Solved.

FOUND IN RIVER AT NEBRASKA CITY

Money and Papers are Found Intact—Body Has Been in Water a Long Time and Badly Decomposed—Undoubted Suicide

From Wednesday's Daily.
The rushing muddy waters of the old Missouri, which in the years that it has been pouring its flood toward the oceans, has claimed many as its victims, has yielded up another of those who have sought forgetfulness in death in its mighty waters and with it the worst fears of the friends of John A. Johnson of this city, who disappeared some three months ago, has proven true.

This morning at an early hour parties at Nebraska City fishing and working along the bank of the river noticed what seemed to be a human form floating down the stream, and putting out in a boat discovered the body of a man, badly decomposed, which they towed to shore, and at once notified the sheriff of Otoe county of their ghastly find. On the person of the man was found \$22 in money and papers and a check book that proved him to be John Johnson of this city, for whom a thorough search had been made by his friends in this place. The Otoe county authorities at once notified Sheriff Quinton and this official, with E. C. Hill of the Burlington storehouse, where Mr. Johnson had been employed, departed this afternoon on No. 2 for Nebraska City to look after the body.

The disappearance of Mr. Johnson has been one shrouded in mystery, as he dropped completely out of sight, leaving no message as to his intentions to his friends with whom he had been spending a social time on the night of December 13, 1913. He left the room where he was enjoying himself with the friends, leaving his overcoat in the room and promising to return in a short time, but since that time no word or trace of him was found until the discovery of the body was made at Nebraska City this morning. A few days before his disappearance Mr. Johnson was promoted from the clerkship he held in the local store department of the Burlington to be the chief clerk at Alliance, Neb., in the same department of the railroad, but he did not seem pleased at the prospect of leaving this city and his friends, but being of a very quiet nature did not say much on the subject to anyone, but it was apparent that he was grieving over the matter and it was preying on his mind to such an extent that he decided to end his life. He was practically alone in the world, as his mother died a few months previous to his disappearance.

Storkkeeper E. C. Hill of the Burlington store department returned this morning from Nebraska City, where he, in company with Sheriff Quinton, were called there by the finding of the body of John A. Johnson in the river near there.

There is no doubt of the body being that of Mr. Johnson, as the papers found on the body served to identify him without doubt. The body was discovered about eighteen miles below Nebraska City, near Peru, by Charles Bascome, one of the farmers in that

locality, who, hearing some shooting near the river, went over to investigate the cause and noticed the body floating out on the current of the river, and putting out in a skiff which was tied nearby, secured the body and towed it to shore, where it was held until the authorities could be notified of the find. Mr. Hill and the sheriff made arrangements for the care of the body and its shipment to this city, where it will arrive this afternoon at 4:40 over the Missouri Pacific, and will be taken to the undertaking establishment of Streight & Streight, where the funeral will be held tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

On the body of Mr. Johnson when found was a gold watch, a deposit slip for \$6.25 and \$22.01 in money, as well as a number of documents that gave his name, as well as the fact that he was in the employ of the Burlington in this city. The body was badly crushed by the ice and had undoubtedly been caught and held by the ice until the river opened up for spring, and the rise in the river which has been on for the past two weeks had evidently started the body on its journey down the river.

The death of Mr. Johnson is a very sad blow to all who knew him here, as he was a most pleasant and kindly gentleman in his dealings with all whom he came in contact, and his untimely end is felt very much by those who knew him best. There is no doubt that he made away with himself, as there were no evidences of foul play on the body when it was taken from the river, and although the grief of his friends will be intense it is a relief for them to know what had become of him, as they made every effort to get some word of his whereabouts, not knowing whether he was dead or alive.

SMALL SIZED RUNAWAY OCCURED LAST EVENING

From Wednesday's Daily.
The delivery team of August Bach, the grocer, last evening furnished quite a little excitement on Main street about 6 o'clock, when they started to run away, and for a few seconds it looked as if they might do considerable damage, but parties ran out into the street and succeeded in stopping the team before they had been able to run more than half a block. The team, which is a very spirited one, evidently became frightened at something and started out suddenly, throwing the driver, Earl Hyde, out onto the pavement, together with a number of boxes which were in the wagon. The young man was not injured seriously, escaping with a few bruises, and after the team was stopped mounted the seat and drove back to the store on lower Main street. A horse that was tied on the rear of the wagon is supposed to have caused the team to become scared.

The Journal advertisers are doing the business.

MISSING BOY FOUND BOUND AND GAGGED

Found Bound and Gagged Near the Bridge at Marble Street and Chicago Avenue.

From Wednesday's Daily.
The mystery that surrounded the disappearance of Otto Pilney of this city was solved last evening, when, about 8:30, B. J. Halstead, clerk at the Thomas' meat market, who was returning home from town, discovered the boy bound and gagged, lying alongside the walk near the bridge on Marble street and Chicago avenue. Mr. Halstead was walking along at a leisurely gait smoking, and as he passed along saw what he thought at first was a log, but as he drew near saw it was apparently a person, and stopped and asked him what he was doing there, but received no reply, and made a closer examination and noticed that the boy was bound with ropes. The discovery of the bound condition of the boy naturally startled Mr. Halstead and he hastened to the home of W. J. Bookmeyer nearby, where a lantern was procured, and in company with Mr. Bookmeyer, he hastened back to the boy, and by this time several others had come up and the boy was gotten up and the ropes, which were tied around his arms above the elbows, removed. The legs of the boy were fastened with a piece of heavy wire, but this was not drawn up tightly and the gag in his mouth was a small handkerchief.

As soon as he was unfastened he was taken to the home of Mr. Bookmeyer, where medical assistance was summoned, as it was thought at first that he might have been injured in some way, as when picked up he had placed his hand to his head, as if he was injured, but he refused to say anything in regard to it. A telephone message was sent to the home of Sheriff Quinton, where the father of the boy and Anton Peterson were in consultation with the sheriff in regard to making a search for the boy, and they at once hastened to the Bookmeyer home, where the boy was resting.

Otto refused to give any satisfactory answers to the questions put to him by his father and the sheriff, stating that he had been crossing the Waga pasture, near his home, Monday afternoon, just after he had left the house, and did not remember anything further until he was picked up on the avenue, and he stuck to this story, despite the questioning.

From the manner in which he was bound and his vague answers to the questions it is thought that the boy had put on the ropes, wire and gag himself in order to avoid receiving punishment for his having run away from school and home Monday. He had evidently not been lying where he was found very long, as parties passed there about fifteen minutes before the discovery was made and there was no sign of anyone there at that time, and this lends strength to the theory that the "stunt" of binding and gagging was the work of the young man himself.

He was down on the street this morning, and when questioned by a representative of the Journal stated that he did not remember a thing of anything that occurred after he was in the pasture and didn't even know of anyone tying him up. When asked as to whether he was gagged or not he said he did not know, but the parties who had found him had told him that he was gagged when found.

The boy, when confronted by the county attorney and sheriff at the court house, broke down and came across with the story of his trouble. He stated to the authorities that he had some trouble over the losing of a sum of money belonging to his paper route and had been scolded by his parents about the matter and de-

cided to make his getaway, and walked down the Missouri Pacific tracks to Union, where he caught a freight train for Nebraska City and remained in that city over night, returning home yesterday afternoon on a freight train over the Missouri Pacific, and securing the wire and rope tied himself up in order to lessen the force of the punishment he expected would be meted out to him at home. He was allowed to go with a warning to be more careful in the future and not try to put on any more such "stunts."

THE W. C. T. U. ENJOY MOST DELIGHTFUL MEETING WITH MRS. KERR

From Tuesday's Daily.
The W. C. T. U. held a most delightful meeting yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. S. E. Kerr, and the occasion was one filled with a great deal of pleasure to all the ladies in attendance. A very interesting program of papers on the subject of "Children and Mothers" was given by the different members and the subjects were handled in a very able manner by the ladies and filled with much profit to those who were present. A very tempting and delicious luncheon was served by the hostess at an appropriate hour, which added greatly to the pleasures of the afternoon and brought to a close one of the most pleasing meetings the W. C. T. U. has held for some time. One of the features of the afternoon that greatly pleased the ladies was the announcement that Miss Roena Shaner of Missouri, one of the organizers of the W. C. T. U. work and a prominent worker along the lines of the advancement of the women, would be in the city on Monday evening, March 23, and would give a lecture at the First Methodist church, to which the members of the society and the general public is cordially invited. Miss Shaner is one of the ablest speakers in her state and her visit here is being looked forward to with much pleasure.

CLARENCE WHELAN IS RELEASED FROM THE INSANE ASYLUM

From Wednesday's Daily.
The following special from Hastings, Neb., will be of interest to the residents of this city, as the young man mentioned in the item was stricken while he was employed here in the Burlington shops, being overcome with the heat, and was taken to Hastings by his father:

Clarence Whelan, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Whelan, formerly of this city, who now live at Bladen, has been released from the Ingleside hospital, having entirely recovered according to Superintendent Baxter. He is now at Bladen. While working in the railroad shops at Plattsmouth last summer Whelan became violently insane after being overcome with heat.

High Price for Hogs.

The following, taken from the South Omaha Drovers' Journal of last Saturday, will certainly demonstrate that there has not been a great decline in the hog market up to the present. It also shows that Cass county is still at the top in raising fine stock: "R. H. Ingwerson of Nehawka was at the yards today with a load of hogs of his own raising and feeding that averaged 333 pounds and sold at \$8.70, the top price. They were Durocs of very good quality as shown by the price. This was Mr. Ingwerson's first shipment to this market."

For Sale.

One 160-acre farm three and one-half miles southeast of Greenwood, Neb. Call on or write, A. D. Welton, or Farmers' State Bank, Greenwood, Neb.

DELIGHTFUL TIME AT THE OLIVER HOME

Mrs. Kate Oliver Celebrates Her Seventy-fifth Birthday at Her Home.

From Wednesday's Daily.
St. Patrick's Day is always an event that is looked forward to with pleasure in the family of Mrs. Kate Oliver of this city, as the day is not only the anniversary of the patron saint of old Ireland, but is also the birthday of this estimable lady, and each year the members of the family gather at the old home to assist in celebrating the event.

Yesterday was the passing of the seventy-fifth milestone in the life of Mrs. Oliver, and in honor of the occasion her handsome home on North Third street was the scene of a most delightful gathering of the relatives and a few old-time friends. The home was very prettily arranged for the occasion, as there was a lavish display of flowers throughout the rooms, sweet peas and tulips being used for this feature of the decoration, while throughout the rooms the prevailing note was of St. Patrick's Day, green forming the chief feature of the decorations. The dining table, where the company sat down at noon to a thoroughly enjoyable repast, was arranged in a very artistic manner that made a very beautiful setting for the happy event. The places were designated by tiny Irish flags, while the shamrock occupied a prominent place in the decoration of the table, but the main feature of this part of the decorations was the large birthday cake with its seventy-five candles, and which bore the legend "1939-1914," in green and white, and some real Irish shamrocks from the "old sod."

These birthday anniversaries have always been great events in the Oliver home, and the one this year was particularly celebrated from the fact that the mother has only just recovered from a very serious time with her arm, having suffered a fracture of that member a few weeks ago, and there was no limit to the enjoyment derived in the occasion by this worthy lady and her family.

Those who were present from out of the city to take part in the celebration were: Mrs. D. P. Aylsworth, Kansas City; Mrs. Charles Eads and daughter, Mrs. W. W. Ward, and little son, South Omaha; Mrs. A. W. Hallam and son, Oliver, Omaha; Mrs. Anna Miller, a sister of Mrs. Oliver, and son, Roy Miller, and wife, and daughter, Miss Kate Miller, Fort Crook; James W. Mitchell, secretary of the Council Bluffs Commercial club, and wife.

After the delights of the dinner the company spent the time in visiting with each other, and a photograph of the mother and daughter was taken to remind them of the pleasures of the day in the years to come.

Called to Chicago by Death.

From Tuesday's Daily.
Last evening Mrs. M. Archer departed on No. 2 for Chicago, where she was summoned by a message announcing the death of a sister in that city. The message announcing the death was received at noon and Mrs. Archer at once began preparations to journey to the Illinois city to be present at the funeral, which will occur this afternoon at Chicago. The death was a great shock to Mrs. Archer, as she was not aware of the serious illness of her sister, and in her loss she will receive the sympathy of her many friends.

Eggs for hatching from S. C. Rhode Island Reds, \$1.00 per 15; \$5.00 per 100. Extra choice matings, \$2.00 and \$3.00 per 15.

A. O. Range.

Letter files at the Journal office.

Draws Ten Days in Jail.

From Tuesday's Daily.
The case of the State vs. Jesse Miller and George Zachary came up for hearing this morning in Justice Archer's court, and the two young men were found guilty of having stolen some brass and copper from J. W. Meeker of Greenwood on last Monday. The two men were given a sentence of ten days in jail and to pay the costs of the prosecution, and will be guests at the Hotel de Man-speak until the amount of the sentence is served out.

PETITION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER FILED IN THE DISTRICT COURT

From Tuesday's Daily.
A petition for a temporary restraining order was filed in the district court this afternoon entitled William Nickels vs. Charles W. Tigner. The petition of the plaintiff gives that he has had a tract of some fifty acres of land east of Murray which was subject to the life interest of Gertrude M. Wiley, who has since died, and since her death the plaintiff has been in full possession of the land. The fifty acres was leased by the plaintiff to Arthur Copenhaver and Guy Stokes for the season of 1914, and on the 16th day of March the defendant, Tigner, broke and destroyed fences surrounding the land and committed damage to the extent of \$700. The hearing on making the temporary restraining order to prevent Tigner from doing further damage will be heard on March 25th. All the parties to the suit are well known residents of the Murray neighborhood, and the hearing of the case will doubtless attract much attention from the residents of that section.

PRESBYTERIAN LADIES HAVE DELIGHTFUL TIME

From Wednesday's Daily.
A large number of the members and friends of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Presbyterian church were very pleasantly entertained by Mesdames F. B. Shopp, Will Waga, J. M. Roberts and Miss Margaret Hodzert, at the home of Mrs. Roberts yesterday afternoon, this being their regular meeting. The regular business session was held, after which a short program consisting of a piano selection by Miss Anna Heisel, vocal solo by Miss Mathilde Vallery and reading by Miss Vesta Douglass, was given. This program was a very pleasing feature of the afternoon's entertainment. Following the program the ladies indulged in sewing, social conversation and other amusements, which made the hours pass all too quickly. Delightful refreshments were provided by the hostesses, which materially aided in the pleasures. In deference to the season each guest was presented with little green flags as a souvenir of the occasion. There were some sixty-four in attendance, who, on their departure, declared Mesdames Shopp, Waga, Roberts and Miss Hodzert as being splendid entertainers.

Bert Cooper Visits City.

This morning Bert Cooper, a former Plattsmouth young man, and wife arrived in the city to spend a few hours visiting with the old friends of Mr. Cooper. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper are returning to their home at Seattle, Washington, after a visit in New York with the brother of Mr. Cooper, Lem Cooper, and also at different eastern cities along their route. The many friends of the young man were very much pleased to see him and to meet his charming wife, although regretting that they could not make a longer stay here with them. Mr. Cooper was a son of Henry Cooper and wife, who were among the early residents of the city, and he was reared to manhood here.

See our assortment of 3c handkerchiefs in ladies', children's and gents'. Zuckweiler & Lutz.

CELEBRATES HIS SIXTY-THIRD BIRTHDAY

A Large Number of Friends of Harry Johnson Assist in Making It a Pleasant Event.

From Tuesday's Daily.
Last evening Harry Johnson received a most delightful surprise from a number of his friends on his sixty-third birthday anniversary, and the event will long be remembered most pleasantly by the guest of honor of the evening, as the surprise was a most complete one. Mr. Johnson was induced by one of his friends to attend lodge meeting, and as soon as he was safely out of the way the guests, who had been advised of the event by Mrs. Johnson, arrived and at once proceeded to enjoy themselves for a time, awaiting the return of the "victim" of the evening.

As Mr. Johnson returned home he stepped in the parlor and was greeted by his friends and for a few minutes was almost speechless from the surprise of the occasion, but quickly recovering from the effects of the shock responded gracefully to the well wishes of his friends. After the guest of honor had recovered sufficiently the evening was spent most delightfully in playing cards until a late hour, when Mrs. Johnson, assisted by her daughter, Miss Ruth, served a very delicious two-course luncheon that was enjoyed to the utmost by the company and it was a late hour when the jolly crowd wended their way homeward, wishing Mr. Johnson many happy returns of the day and trusting that he would be able to celebrate with them the passing of sixty-three more years of life. The occasion was thoroughly enjoyed by all the company, some fourteen in number, and the delightful hospitality afforded them will be most pleasantly remembered by them.

FORMER PLATTSMOUTH BOY TIRES OF SINGLE LIFE AND IS TO MARRY

From Tuesday's Daily.
The many friends in this city of Frederick A. Crites, a prominent young attorney of Chadron, Neb., and a former Plattsmouth young man, will be pleased to learn of the announcement of his engagement to Miss Marion Hart of Kansas City. The wedding is to take place in April in Kansas City. The parents of Mr. Crites resided in this city for a number of years and the young man is a nephew of Mrs. B. S. Ramsey of this city. Both Mr. Crites and Miss Hart graduated from the Nebraska State university in 1909. Miss Hart is a member of Alpha Omicron Pi, and Mr. Crites of Sigma Nu fraternity. Since leaving school he has been engaged in the practice of law at Chadron in partnership with his brother, Edwin Crites, who is county attorney.

To Attend Meeting of D. A. R.

From Tuesday's Daily.
This morning Mrs. E. H. Westcott and Miss Ellen Pollock departed for Fairbury, Neb., where they will attend the meeting of the state grand chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which is to meet in that city this week. These ladies will represent Funtanille Chapter of this city at the meeting, Mrs. Westcott being the regent of the local chapter, and Miss Pollock the delegate from the society.

Motorcycle for Sale.

In excellent condition, good as new. Big, powerful 2-cylinder, developing 7-10 H. P. Need the money. Must sell at once. See Ed Steinhilber at Journal office.