

# The Plattsmouth Journal.

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No. 67.

## HISTORY OF PLATTSMOUTH HOME GUARDS

AS CHRONICLED BY TOP SERGEANT J. W. HOLMES AND READ LAST NIGHT.

### RIGHT FROM THE VERY START

Of the Organization to Its Windup at the Banquet—Interesting for Future Reference.

From Friday's Daily.  
During August and September, 1917, the citizens here and there would talk of the need of a Home Guard company in Plattsmouth. A meeting was called for September 29, 1917, to be held in the basement of the Riley hotel. At this meeting attended by about 25 citizens, thirty signed the Muster Roll.

Mr. Rawls was present and advised that to make the organization effective certain rules and regulations would be necessary. The chairman appointed a committee of three to draw up same, this committee being composed of C. A. Rawls, Elmer Frans and Harry Thomas.  
Meeting adjourned to meet October 5, 1917. At this meeting about forty were present. C. A. Rawls, chairman of the Committee on Rules and Regulations submitted report of the committee, that was, with some few changes, adopted, some thirty-five taking the oath.

The newly organized company then proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted as follows: C. A. Rawls, Captain; E. C. Hill, First Lieutenant and Richard Avard, Second Lieutenant. Meeting adjourned subject to call of captain.

The company was called to meet October 23 at the G. A. R. rooms at the court house. Captain Rawls complimented the members and spoke on their promptness, punctuality and time of meetings, place to drill, the necessary equipment, etc., and then lined up the company.

Under and by virtue of the power and authority vested in him, he appointed Andrew Moore First Sergeant and James H. Carter Second Sergeant and Elmer Frans, Harry Thomas, Philip Rhin and Dr. C. S. Sandin, Corporals.

Regular meetings were then held three times weekly in the G. A. R. rooms at the court house, the attendance holding good and new members being added from time to time. As there were very few who had had any previous military training, it was necessary to commence at the bottom—the position of a soldier, facings, etc. These meetings continued all winter in the court house, and the progress of the company was marvelous. They were taught the squad movements—squads right and left, and squads right and left about, as well as left and right turn, flank movements, intervals, distance and all close order drill movement.

On March 28, 1918, the company purchased wooden guns and took up the manual of arms.

On April 18th, Andy Moore offered his resignation at top sergeant, and the same was accepted. On April 25th, having confidence in the patriotism, character and ability of the men, the following non-commissioned officers were appointed by Captain Rawls, the appointments being concurred in by the Lieutenants: First sergeant, J. W. Holmes, 2nd Sergeant, J. H. Carter; 3rd Sergeant, E. H. Felix, 4th Sergeant, C. L. Wiles; 5th Sergeant, F. J. Libershal; Quartermaster or Supply Sergeant, F. M. Bestor; Corporals McElwain, Warg, Frans, Whitaker, Manners and Hatt. The condition of the weather was such that the company was forced to drill on paved streets.

May 2nd the company marched to the ball park and drilled there from then on, with the consent of Manager C. S. Johnson.

Finance arrangements were made for equipment and on May 16th the members were all measured for uniforms, 68 being ordered from Jandel Bros., Chicago, on May 21. The 75 rifles were ordered about the middle of May and were received May

21st, June 6th the rifles were assigned.

In the meantime Corporal Frans had entered the service and Corporals Sandin and Manners had resigned. Private Snyder had also been made a corporal.

From squads divisions were formed, and from divisions platoons were formed, the platoons going to make up to entire company. Squad movements were practiced in company formation.

On June 7th, order No. 5 was issued making Thursday evening of each week regular company meeting, Monday and Friday evenings the commissioned and non-commissioned officers held school. Several evenings were used by the officers going to the ball park and taking up the extended order, and then the entire company took up extended order, and advanced rapidly, using the ball park and Tom Parmelee's pasture near Chicago avenue for practice.

On request of the Board of Old Settlers' Picnic at Union, Nebr., the company put on an exhibition drill Saturday, August 18, 1918, in the pasture just west of the depot at Union, the program being manual of arms, formations and movements in close order and extended order, rapid advances, downs, firing, etc. Notwithstanding the fact that this pasture was one mile from the Old Settlers' grounds, the public highway was jammed with cars filled with people for nearly one-half mile, to see the exhibition. At the close of the exhibition, which lasted for 1 1/2 hours, the crowd went wild with cheering. Many compliments were given the company and the people were surprised at the advanced work done by the men in this exhibition.

At another time four squads went to Murray and drilled on the streets there, the exhibition being enjoyed by the Murray people.

In September the company took up patrol work, going into the woods and hills two miles north of town for practice. Often they did not return until after eleven o'clock. All sorts of patrols were done.

On November 7th the company was called out to participate in celebrating the signing of the armistice. Everybody celebrated. On the evening of November 7th, the Mayor of the city, feeling the opportunity might be taken by some to do personal injury or property damage to certain citizens asked the Captain to patrol the town from 6 p. m. until 12 m. The Captain detailed two squads and the First Sergeant, and with himself in command and on the job patrolled the business part of the city from 6 to 12 midnight. After completing the work the eighteen went to the restaurant of Lou Russell, who served them with supper free of charge.

The signing of the armistice on this date proved to be false. But on November 11th the armistice was signed and the company was ordered out and done its part in celebrating.

On November 17th the company went to the government rifle range north of the city for practice. While the weather conditions were bad, a strong wind, rain and very chilly, there were some good records made and all enjoyed the practice. Again on November 24th the company went to the rifle range, where better shooting was done, conditions being better. Although clear it was cold. Both days, the men took lunch. Hot weiners and coffee were served.

Company A is made up of lawyers, county officials, clerks, grocers, butchers, clothiers, real estate men, hardware men, monument dealers, blacksmiths, auto dealers, farmers, insurance men, laundry man, telephone men, foremen, mechanics, car builders, carpenters, and in fact men of nearly every occupation in life. As the captain once said when addressing the company: "This company can build and operate a rail road." And they can do it, too.

On December 19th all members turned over the equipment in their possession to Captain Rawls, and the same was put in the vault at the court house in charge of Quartermaster Sergeant Bestor, January 16, 1919 the members were called together to be discharged. They had purchased a tablet of Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Speech and upon this occasion presented the same to Captain Rawls in appreciation of the work done by him. There being sufficient money on hand it was decided to have a banquet, smoker and

picture show and turn the balance to Armenian relief.  
In accordance with General Order No. 4 from the Adjutant General, Captain Rawls dismissed the company and here we are.

## IS WITH THE U. S. ARMY OF OCCUPATION

RAYMOND LARSON IS STATIONED AT VILLA BAUR, BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOME

### TELLS OF THE COUNTRY THERE

Trees Planted to Replace All That are Cut for Lumber—Apple Trees on All Roads.

From Friday's Daily.  
Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Larson are in receipt of a letter from their son, Raymond, in which he states that he is now stationed at Villa Baur, Laufenbacherhof, Germany, and that they will probably remain there for several days. He says the company is billeted in two villas and one house. The place is situated near a crossroads in one of the many valleys that eventually end up at the Rhine. A small stream flows down the center of the valley, deviating from one side to the other. The floor of the valley is about two hundred yards in width and the stream is about thirty feet wide and six feet deep. The hills on either side are quite high and steep and are thickly wooded. Pine, fir, beech and scrub oak trees are the most common. He says there seems to be plenty of game and some of the boys have tried their luck at deer hunting. He says Germany took great care in the conservation of her forests. No trees are cut for fire wood except those that are bent or crooked and would prove useless as lumber. All underground and dead limbs are collected for wood. Whenever trees are cut down for lumber, new trees are immediately planted to take their places, these new trees being planted in straight regular rows. One traveling through the country would pass by wood after wood of tall straight pines, each one being at least sixty feet in height and so straight as to call for comment. Along all first class roads and some second class apple trees have been planted at intervals of about twenty-five feet. He says he has marched for miles on roads on either side of which would be these apple trees. He says a peculiar system is used in regard to farm lands. One never sees large fields, as the country is all cut up into small plots with ditches between them. There are very few fences. In plowing, the farmers seem to plow in accordance with the lay of the land. One sees many piles of earth with tufts of straw protruding at intervals along the top. These contain vegetables, mostly turnips and potatoes, that have been covered first with straw and then with dirt, to keep them from freezing.

This place, Laufenbacherhof, is a sort of hunting lodge. Villa Baur is a fine house, three stories high, with basement and attic. In the dining room there are all kinds of hunting trophies, a piano, a regular old country stove, besides the other tables and chairs. Raymond is with Co. A, 11th M. G. Bn., 4th Division, which is a part of the army of occupation.

MARRIED.

From Friday's Daily.  
Yesterday afternoon Miss Marie Nutzman of Avoca, and Mr. Fred Koester of Weeping Water came to this city. They procured a marriage license and then wended their way to the home of Rev. A. V. Hunter, pastor of the M. E. Church of this city. Rev. Hunter being an old friend of the contracting parties. The marriage lines were read by Rev. Hunter at an appointed hour. The happy young couple were attended by the groom's sister, Miss Sophia Koester of Weeping Water and Mr. Paul Gerard of Weeping Water. Congratulations and best picture show and turn the balance to Armenian relief.

Lost—Last winter, when Mrs. Agnew's household goods were packed at Sixth and Vine, a box of bedding. Reward for information. 211 So. 33rd St., Omaha, Nebr.

wishes were showered on the happy young couple after the marriage ceremony. Miss Nutzman is a daughter of Mr. Ernest Nutzman of near Avoca and is a very accomplished young lady and has a large circle of friends, whose best wishes will ever attend them in her new home. Mr. Koester is a son of Deirich Koester of near Weeping Water and is a prosperous young farmer of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Koester departed for the east on No. 2 over the Burlington last evening, where they will visit relatives and friends at various points for a few days.

## WELCOME THE BOYS COMING BACK HOME

WILL ANDREWS WRITES TO HIS MOTHER TELLING HOW HE IS GETTING ALONG.

### GIVE THEM HEARTY GREETING

The Letter Written This Year, Expressing Hope He Will Soon Be Able To Be Home.

From Friday's Daily.  
Moiron, France, Jan. 3, 1919.  
Dear Home Folks:

I will write you a few lines to let you know I am well and most truly hope you are the same. How is everybody over there by this time. Well, this big war is over now, and the next thing is to get home. Now I don't know just when that time is to come. It is hard to tell, but I don't think it is going to be very long from now. We are going to move from this place in 2 or 3 days anyway. How long did Ethel stay up home and what is Jim doing now and where do they live now? Do they live down in Langdon yet? Has Sis gone to work yet? I got a letter from her and Laura the other day, and also got a letter from Edna and all to and they said that they was all well and I have got to answer her letter tonight yet. I hope we will get to come home before long, so I can get back to work. I don't know whether I will go back on the truck or go out on the farm. If Yes needs anybody I think I will go out and work for him, but if I can get that oil station Benson promised me, I will take it and go back to work for John D. that is much easier than farming. I got your box all O. K. Was that all the one you sent me or not. From the way Sis wrote I have got another one on the road. She said she sent three cartons of cigarettes but I only got 2 cartons and 3 handkerchiefs. Where is Sis working at now. How is Grandma getting along by this time. Is she able to be up and around yet. This is sure some country over here, seems like it rains all the time over here. It is clear one minute and the next it is raining. We are down pretty well in the southern part of France now, and still going south. We are not doing much now. Just a little drilling and lectures. Well I guess I have wrote about all the news I can think of now, so I will say good night. With lots of love to you all. So answer soon, hoping to see you all within the next 2 months, from  
PVT. WM. ANDREWS,  
Address: 6th Sant. Train 6th Div. Field Hospital Co. 40. Amer. Exped. Forces, Via N. Y.

### MOTOR OVER FROM LINCOLN

From Friday's Daily.  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hall, of Lincoln, motored to this city yesterday to attend to some important business matters. Mr. Hall is agent for the Buick cars in Lincoln. They returned home yesterday afternoon, being accompanied by Mrs. D. C. Morgan and Miss Catherine Schrach, who will visit Mr. and Mrs. Hallum and family. Miss Catherine will return home Saturday, while Mrs. Morgan will make a more extended visit.

Lost—Last winter, when Mrs. Agnew's household goods were packed at Sixth and Vine, a box of bedding. Reward for information. 211 So. 33rd St., Omaha, Nebr.

## WRITES HOME FROM SERVICE ACROSS SEA

SHOW THEM YOU ARE GLAD OF THEIR RETURN, THEY ARE GLAD TO BE HOME AND YOU

### MAKES INQUIRIES OF FRIENDS

Express To Them The Gladness We Feel That the War Was Won By Them.

Some of the boys have arrived in the city during our absence of a few days, and perhaps we have not had an opportunity to notice them, but we have noticed Geo. Conis, who has returned and will take up his business here again. Mr. Conis is a fine young man as is also his brother Samuel Conis. George went to the service, and when his services are not needed, he returns to take up his business again of which he has made a success. Last evening we changed cars at Kansas City, and had several hours to wait. We could not help but observe the soldier boys, as they came pouring in from Camp Funston for their departure for their homes over the country. All a healthy, strong set of young manhood. The absolute pep of these red blood young Americans, made one glad that is an American himself. They came trooping in to the big station with the abandon, and care free manner of the youth of this company, in groups, with the boys whom they had served with, and knowing that at the parting which was in so many instances, was to take place, there would be their last meeting for years, and many forever. They had been thrown into each others company, and as they are likable young people, it is no wonder they did not like to part from each other. True in many instances the friendships will be kept up, and they will see each other again, but in many instances they will not. As they shook hands, we could see that it was with much reluctance they parted, not infrequently was the tremor of the voice as they said good bye a token of the feeling which would come to the service. We watched the boy jump from the train at his home town, and with what affection he was greeted by the home folks, and the casual friend, at the station, and if no one was there, how straight he went for the home and the loved ones. A sad part was thought when a portion of them came with one hand or one foot gone and perhaps an eye gone. They have done their duty, and did it well and may well feel happy in being able to get home after their excellent service. Do not forget to go take the young man by the hand and with a real interest in him and a thankfulness for what he has done for this country or yours or ours and of his, tell him you appreciated his return, his going and the sacrifice which he made for us all. He is a human being and will appreciate the expressions of gratitude and friendliness from you. The giving of these expressions will only make us the richer.

### ARE DISCHARGED FROM THE ARMY

From Saturday's Daily.  
Yesterday Harvey Burke, Charles Wince, and Charles Hadraha, arrived in the city from Camp Dodge, where they had been mustered out of the service a few days since. They have been in the army for many months, and heretofore been located at Camp Custer, Michigan and from there came to Camp Dodge for their final papers.  
The boys while there was any prospect for their services, were anxious to do their part, were as they say "rearing to go", but with the war over they are glad to get back to civil life, and will take up the work again, and do their best on the battle of life just as they did in the training camps.

Box paper from 25c to \$5.00 at the Journal office.

### SUSTAINS FRACTURE OF LEG.

From Friday's Daily.  
While riding on a delivery wagon a few days since, Woodrow Wilson York, had the misfortune to be shook off the wagon, which ran over him fracturing one of the bones of his leg. The fracture was reduced, and young Woodrow is feeling better, though still causing much suffering.

### YES THEY SHOWED US.

From Friday's Daily.  
A few days since the reporter of this paper and his good wife journeyed down into Missouri, where the inhabitants "Showed Us", that is, they showed us around over the country, in an endeavor to sell us some of the land of their state. They did it, thank you. But were not without appreciation to the friendliness of the citizens of that state, and to the mildness and salubrity of the climate, and productiveness

and geniality of the soil. Both in southern Missouri and Kansas, at both of which places we were, they were farming yesterday. As we came through a little town in southwest Missouri, Bois d'Arc, the people had their ferns and geraniums and other kinds of plants put on the walk and sprinkling them. Seemed like summer, even if it was still in January.

### RECEIVES DISCHARGE FROM NAVY

From Friday's Daily.  
Will Neuman received his discharge from the navy a few days since, and expects to be at home by the end of the week. Will, after the armistice had been signed, did not care to remain in the service, as most of the boys are the same way, and as he would have been transferred to some place else in a short time made application for a discharge and had same granted. Will will return to Plattsmouth, and engage in some occupation here. In the case of the request for a discharge the government does not pay for the home coming, and on that account the funds for his transportation had to be forwarded to him before he could come home.

### INJURES HAND WHILE AT HIS WORK FEW DAYS AGO

Henry Born Has End of His Finger Caught in Sausage Mill and Lacerates It Badly.

From Saturday's Daily.  
A couple of days ago, while in the act of making sausage, Henry Born, living west of the city, was feeding the sausage machine, pressing the meat down with his fingers, when one of the fingers went into the mill with the result that it was lacerated badly by the knives of the machine, which had a tendency to draw the finger, and in fact the whole hand, into the machine. Mr. Born is suffering greatly from the effect of the injury, and was indeed fortunate in that the whole hand was not drawn into the machine.

The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Dovey, but on account of the illness of Mr. Dovey, it was conducted very quietly, thus adding to the solemnity of the occasion, which is very sad.

### THEIR DAUGHTER HAS ARRIVED

From Saturday's Daily.  
This morning the young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Petersen Jr., weighing just nine pounds, arrived and will make her home with the happy parents who are overjoyed to have young Miss Petersen with them.  
We do not smoke, but a very good cigar was pressed upon us, as an expression of the happy father, who is just now thinking more of the joy at the home than of the picture business of which he is a past master. The mother and little one are feeling pretty well, thank you.

Mrs. H. A. Roessler departed this morning for Omaha, where she will visit with friends for the day.

## LAI D TO REST YESTERDAY AFTERNOON

MRS. T. B. SALMON, FORMERLY MISS EVA FOX, SLEEPS IN OAK HILL CEMETERY.

### FUNERAL AT H. N. DOVEY HOME

Remains Accompanied from Home on the Pacific Coast by Husband of the Deceased Lady.

From Saturday's Daily.  
Thursday night T. B. Salmon arrived in the city, accompanying the remains of his wife, Mrs. Eva Fox-Salmon, who died at her home in the west some little time ago. At the time of her death, all the remaining members of the family were so sick it was impossible for them to come here for the burial. Accordingly, the remains were held until Mr. Salmon should become sufficiently recovered to permit of making the trip.

The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Dovey, but on account of the illness of Mr. Dovey, it was conducted very quietly, thus adding to the solemnity of the occasion, which is very sad.

Miss Eva Fox was born in this city and lived here during her girlhood. She had a host of friends in Plattsmouth who mourn her departure. The sorrow of the husband and father of their young son was deep, and grief is felt for the young son thus left without the advice and guidance of a mother.

Rev. H. G. McCluskey conducted the ceremonies and the body was consigned to the tomb by the loving hands of friends, there to repose until the sounding of the trumpet on the last great judgment day, when the joyous meeting of long parted friends shall come.

## A SERVICE MESSAGE

### 100% Banking Connection

THE man who does all of his banking business with one bank receives more benefits and better service than the man who splits his accounts among several.

—By centralizing your business you deal with only one set of officers; the confidential details of your affairs are known to the fewest number of persons.

—Further, by centralizing your business you establish a credit rating—an invaluable asset—which will be unknown if your resources are scattered.

—A 100% connection with a 100% bank is a paying proposition. We consider this a 100% bank.

## First National Bank

Plattsmouth, Nebraska