

G. A. LUKART IS DEAD

The Injured Banker Lapses Into Death's Sleep.

THE END CAME AT 2 O'CLOCK

News That Brings Sadness to Norfolk Is Given Out Shortly After Death Takes Place—Has Been Dying Since Yesterday Afternoon.

[From Saturday's Daily.] Mr. G. A. Lukart passed away at 2 o'clock this afternoon, the sad news being given out from his bedside soon after the last signs of life had gone.

With the entire family around him, and with doctors and nurses ready to do anything in their power to delay the final summons, he passed away.

The sad news was received by the people with ineffable sorrow, and the entire city mourns with the grief-stricken family.

At 11 o'clock this morning, G. A. Lukart, lying in a comatose condition, was just barely alive at his home, 1401 Norfolk avenue. At that time it was not known just how long the spark of life which remained, might last but its going out would not have been unexpected at any moment.

At that time his finger nails were taking on the blue color which invariably comes in such cases and his pulse action quickened very intensely. It was stated by attending physicians at that time that while death might come at almost any time, the patient might still linger for several hours. Dr. Jonas of Omaha, who arrived last night for consultation with the surgeons in charge, Dr. F. G. Walters and Dr. P. H. Salter concurred absolutely in detail with the Norfolk doctors, stating that the skull was fractured at the base of the brain.

After having very feebly rallied yesterday afternoon, just enough to ask for nourishment, the wounded banker lapsed back into his state of stupor and began quietly, peacefully and without the slightest consciousness or pain from his fearful injuries, sinking farther and farther away from life.

All night long the physicians and surgeons and nurse watched constantly over the dying man, doing everything within the power of conscience to comfort him or to revive, but knowing their efforts were practically in vain and only awaiting the inevitable end which they knew must surely come as a result of the abscess that had formed near the fracture of the skull.

The family of the dying banker, heartbroken by the tragic accident which had so suddenly deprived them of a husband and father, were all at home during the final hours of his life. They are: Mrs. Lukart, E. H. Lukart of Tilden; Misses Lillian, Stella, Cora; and Roy, Ralph and Carl.

It was just one week ago this afternoon that Mr. Lukart was hurt. Having left the Citizens National bank, whose presidency he has held for a long time, he walked down Norfolk avenue on business. Little did he think when he closed the door of his office behind him that it would be the last time he should ever see the place.

Crossing the thoroughfare between Third and Fourth streets at about dusk, he came upon two teams which were driving east. He stepped behind one of them to let it pass and to gain headway. As he emerged from behind the wagon which it drew and started forward to pass in front of the second team, another horse, trotting from the east, came upon him and in an instant he was down.

The horse, driven by August Schultz, was a young animal filled with vim and spirit. It passed over the prostrate man before the reins had curbed its speed. Then, feeling the fierce jerk at its bit, the animal reared back and with its hind hoofs stepped upon Mr. Lukart's head. Frightened at the object between its feet, it lifted its sharp steel shoes, which had only been newly set the day before, and several times struck heavily into his face.

Quite unconscious from the vicious blows that had been dealt him, Mr. Lukart was picked up by strong men who had rushed to his aid and carried into a pharmacy near by. Terribly mangled and gashed, his wounds were sewed up by Dr. Walters, who was first summoned, and Dr. Salter who was later called. An hour later, with his head bandaged completely, he was carried home in a cab.

By Monday morning the injured man had in a measure recovered consciousness but at no time has he been absolutely clear in mind since the accident. The fracture of the skull, which resulted at the base of the brain from outward pressure, was not considered necessarily dangerous and had Mr. Lukart possessed a vigorous constitution and strong vitality it has been thought that his system might have thrown off the abscess which formed at the fracture. Of a nervous temperament, however, and a man who had worked strenuously during long hours for a constant period without rest or recreation, he was in no condition physically to receive the torture that he experienced and he was not rigorous enough to throw off the poison which accumulated at the point of fracture.

Last Sad Farewell.

[From Monday's Daily.]

It was with impressive ceremony that the mortal remains of G. A. Lukart

were given sepulcher this afternoon in Prospect Hill cemetery. The vast concourse of people who attended at the church and the great procession of friends that followed to the last resting place, the beautiful flowers, the impressive remarks, the Masonic ceremonial, and the touching music but slightly told of the love and the esteem and the sympathy for the stricken family felt for him in the community where he has lived for the past ten years, but where he has been known and venerated for twice that length of time. Other communities that have known him vied with the home people in showing their tender regard for a man among men, of one whom they have known but to respect and honor.

Never in the city's history has there been a more impressive ceremony; never have the people as a whole been more unanimous in their attempts to show the sadness that affected them all; never has there been an occasion when the loss of one person has been taken as a more genuine calamity. In the prime of life when he was in the highest esteem of his fellow citizens was Mr. Lukart cut down. And his fellow citizens, his friends and his intimate companions were not prepared to give him up, but the summons was sent and they must bow with what grace they may to the inevitable will. It is difficult to believe that it was for the best, but all must submit to the decree which they cannot overrule.

Preparations for the funeral have been making since the announcement of Mr. Lukart's death Saturday afternoon. It was a fraternal funeral in every sense. At the request of the Tilden lodge of Masons of which the deceased was a member, the Norfolk lodge took charge of the ceremonies. This order met at their hall last evening and made arrangements for the last rites. C. E. Burnham of Tilden, deputy grand master of the state, was invited to take charge of the ceremony, while Rev. J. F. Poucher, pastor of the Methodist church was asked to officiate, other officers of the lodge assisting these members. The lodge went to the church and to the cemetery in a body, Damascus commandery No. 20, Knights Templar, forming the escort. Many visiting Masons were present, Tilden lodge especially being represented with a large delegation.

Norfolk lodge No. 653, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, met Saturday night. A committee of four, Messrs. W. M. Robertson, J. N. Boudick, C. D. Jenkins and J. C. Stitt, was dispatched to the house to offer their services and the services of the order if there was anything they could do and reported at a meeting held yesterday afternoon. The order met at their hall at 1:30 this afternoon and marched in a body to the church, a number of them also proceeding to the cemetery.

The Odd Fellows also held a meeting and decided to attend the funeral in a body, meeting at their hall at 1:30.

Other orders of which Mr. Lukart was a member, also attended the funeral in a body, and some were represented by delegations and committees. All contributed magnificent floral pieces to the splendid bank of flowers that was piled high about the casket. These came from many and widely separated sources, and the Norfolk florists, as well as those of nearby cities were fairly buried with orders, from friends, business associates, political admirers, and others who sought to thus show their regard for the deceased.

The pall bearers selected by the Knights Templar were: W. H. Bucholz, Joseph Allberry, D. C. O'Connor, S. G. Dean, E. J. Rix and J. B. Barnes.

Every business house in the city was closed from 2 o'clock until 4 in honor of the memory of the departed citizen.

Twenty-five of his former business associates at Tilden and his old-time friends came down to attend the funeral. About a dozen Battle Creek people arrived on the noon train to take part in the obsequies. Quite a number came over from Madison, and other towns were well represented by prominent citizens.

Although the temperature remained during the afternoon at a point several degrees below zero and a bitterly cold wind came down from the northwest making it exceedingly uncomfortable for the people to be out, the church was crowded to capacity, and a long procession followed the hearse to the cemetery.

Rev. J. F. Poucher gave a brief sketch of the career of the deceased and paid a touching tribute to his memory as a citizen, a friend and a husband and father.

Obituary.

Gottlieb A. Lukart was born at Sulzburg, a small town near Stuttgart, in the province of Wurtemberg, South Germany, October 12, 1852. Early in life, like most German children, he was expected to make his own way, choose his own environment and establish himself in life. With other young men of his age the possibilities of America for making a start and winning success appealed to him strongly, and when but seventeen years of age he cut loose from family, kindred and boyhood friends and crossed to the new and undeveloped empire that was attracting so many of the ambitious young people of Europe.

He first located in Illinois, making his home at Galesburg for eight years, and it was there that he met and won for his wife Miss Anna Kistler, who

survives him. The marriage ceremony took place at Galesburg on June 17, 1876.

His next move was to Clinton, Iowa, where he engaged in the lard oil and soap business for about three years, his factory being situated near a packing plant that was owned by T. F. Memminger, in partnership with another man. It was here that an acquaintance was formed that has since continued. Mr. Lukart and Mr. Memminger were not intimately acquainted, however, until 1884, when their establishments were burned, and they determined to come west together. Mr. Memminger had already written the late Congressman Robinson, declaring his intention of coming west and inviting Mr. Robinson to accompany him, and thus was formed a trio of Madison county citizens whose names have since become familiar to the state and country.

Mr. Robinson located in Madison for the practice of his profession, while Messrs. Lukart and Memminger proceeded to Tilden where they formed a co-partnership in the banking business in about August 1884. The business was continued under this firm name until the Tilden State bank was formed, Mr. Lukart accepting the presidency and Mr. Memminger the cashiership. In 1888 Mr. Memminger was elected county treasurer, and on severing his connection with the Tilden bank, a state bank was incorporated, Mr. Lukart being elected president, and A. J. Dunlevy was elected cashier.

Mr. Lukart continued in Tilden until September 22, 1894, when he was elected president of the Citizens National bank of this place, which position he held at the time of his death. He continued as president of the Tilden bank also up to the time of his death, and in addition was president of the Meadow Grove State bank, president of a bank at Crestone, Col., and director in the Battle Creek Valley bank. He was also president of the Norfolk Fuel and Light company at the time of his demise.

He was not what would be called a wealthy man, but was in very comfortable circumstances and had it in mind to retire from business when he felt assured that the income from his investments would amount to what he desired for the support of his family. One of his old intimate friends has expressed the thought that in his ambition to attain this end he had undertaken too much and that the worry of the several business enterprises he endeavored to manage undermined his strength and left him a ready prey to accident or disease.

Home Life Was Ideal.

Mr. Lukart's home life was ideal. There was perfect domesticity in his home and he has expressed himself that he would not be at home than any place else he knew of. An indulgent and loving father and a sympathetic husband, it is not to be wondered at that members of his family are prostrate with the deep grief that fills their hearts and souls.

Besides his wife, three daughters and four sons, mourn the loss of their loved one. Edwin H., the oldest son, has followed his father's footsteps in the banking business. For several years he served an apprenticeship in the bank at Tilden as bookkeeper and assistant cashier, then for a couple of terms he was state bank examiner, so that he is well fitted by experience to hold the position of responsibility as cashier of the Tilden State bank, assuming the burdens that were his father's. He was recently married to the daughter of W. H. Hogrefe at Stella and has established a home of his own at Tilden. He and his wife were summoned to the bedside of the stricken father soon after the accident and were with him when the end came, together with other members of the family. The other sons are Roy, Ralph and Carl, all of whom are attending the Norfolk public schools and fitting themselves for life's work.

The daughters are Misses Lillian, Stella and Cora. Misses Lillian and Cora have been teaching in the public schools. Lillian taught for some time in the Norfolk public schools and a term in the schools at Sedro-Wooley, Washington, having just recently returned from the west. Cora has a school at Battle Creek. Stella has remained at home. She was so completely prostrated by the realization that her father was dead that for a time her condition occasioned grave anxiety and she was removed to the home of Mrs. Desmond for the sake of quiet. She is some better today.

The only member of Mr. Lukart's immediate family in this country is a sister, Mrs. Witzgman, whose home is at Dyersville, Iowa. She and her son John, who formerly clerked in the bank here, have arrived to attend the funeral. Another son, W. A. Witzgman, is cashier of the Meadow Grove State bank.

Mr. Benjamin Kistler, a brother of Mrs. Lukart, is here from Galesburg, Illinois, to be present at the funeral obsequies. Mr. W. H. Hogrefe, father of Mrs. E. H. Lukart is also here from Stella.

In Public Enterprise.

In addition to his business interests, Mr. Lukart was always at the forefront in any movement tending toward the upbuilding of the community in which he resided. He was not the one to sit back and wait for others to take the lead but took the initiative himself and his influence was a powerful factor in bringing about improvements. He was president of the Norfolk commercial club at the time of his death, was also a member

of the committee that worked to secure the appropriation for the fine United States court house in the course of completion here, also a member of the committee that urged the appropriation for the rebuilding of the Norfolk hospital for the insane and in many other similar enterprises he was a strong factor.

He was likewise a leader in charitable work. He was a member of the committee that solicited contributions for the Galveston flood sufferers, also those of the Kansas disaster, and took an active part in soliciting aid for the cyclone sufferers at Herman, this state, besides contributing generously from his own pocket, and in a number of other charitable movements he contributed generously, both of his time and money.

Mr. Lukart was warm hearted and charitable. He could see no distress that money would relieve that would not call for a contribution. His private charity work was done unostentatiously, and there are none but those he has helped who can give an account of the benefactions he has bestowed. In the year of drouth, hard times and hail storm at Tilden, when many families were without the necessities of life, he did a generous share toward the relief of the suffering, and exerted himself to provide the farmers with the seed corn that they lacked. An incident of recent occurrence will serve to illustrate: Learning that a certain family in town was destitute he paid the home a personal visit and finding the children ill clad to withstand the cold weather, he lined them up and took them to a clothing store where they were fitted out with comfortable wearing apparel, and departed with joy and contentment on their faces, but it is doubtful if they felt better because of the deed than did their benefactor, who was never appealed to in vain for help in real distress.

A Factor in Politics.

Mr. Lukart was a politician of considerable influence. He was a democrat of the new school, being a friend and admirer of William Jennings Bryan, and supporting him energetically in his various campaigns. In 1892 he was a member of the legislature as representative from Madison county and his voice and influence contributed toward the election of Wm. V. Allen to the United States senate.

In the state campaign of 1894 he was a candidate for the office of state treasurer in opposition to Jos. S. Bartley who was trying for a second term, but there was a hopeless republican majority and his opponent was returned. He was a candidate for the nomination for state treasurer in a later campaign, but met with opposition and was defeated in convention.

Perhaps the nearest he ever came to receiving honors at the hands of his party was during the last term of the Cleveland administration when he was slated and practically appointed as consul to Stuttgart, in his old home state of Wurtemberg, Germany. Just before the appointment was announced, J. Sterling Morton, at that time secretary of agriculture, heard of it and entered a violent protest. T. F. Memminger who was in Washington at that time went to Mr. Morton and endeavored to have him withdraw his opposition but Morton was firm, giving as his reason that Mr. Lukart had not voted for him when his name was before the legislature for the United States senatorship. Mr. Lukart was not opposed to Mr. Morton strongly, but did not like the way he had been approached, and this was what cost him the consulship.

Mr. Lukart, however, was not a hidebound partisan. When W. M. Robertson of this city was a candidate for the republican nomination for governor he had Mr. Lukart's active support, and would no doubt have been helped by him to an election had he received the nomination. As it was he made a couple of trips to Omaha to quiet some opposition that was manifesting itself among his friends in the metropolis, and was successful.

At each time John S. Robinson was a candidate for congress Mr. Lukart supported him enthusiastically by personal work and any other manner in his power. He also supported his old friend T. F. Memminger with all his strength for representative to the last legislature. In the interest of other friends who were candidates for office he was as energetic.

A Fraternalist.

Mr. Lukart was a member of numerous fraternities and took a deep interest in lodge work. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, continuing his membership in the Tilden lodge up to the time of his death. He had advanced in the order to some of the higher branches, being a member of Damascus commandery No. 20, Knights Templar. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, held membership in the A. O. U. W. at Tilden, and belonged to the following orders: Sons of Herman, Woodmen of the World, Royal Highlanders, Knights of the Maccabees, and perhaps other orders.

G. A. Lukart.

The following beautiful tribute to the memory of G. A. Lukart was written by the editor of the Omaha World-Herald, R. L. Metcalf, an old time friend of Mr. Lukart: "Men can counsel and speak comfort to that grief which they themselves do not feel; and if this poor pen shall fail in counsel or in comfort

to those nearest and dearest to the late G. A. Lukart, then the fault may be attributed to the fact that the scars made by the death of this man are not confined to the hearts of his loved ones.

On some occasions men bestow lavish praise upon the conspicuous dead. Sometimes these tributes are deserved, frequently they are exaggerated, and often they are wholly unwarranted. But the tributes that will be paid to Mr. Lukart's memory will come from those who knew him well and honored him for his goodness as a man and his virtues as a citizen.

Earth became poorer and heaven became richer when G. A. Lukart passed to the great unknown. The people of Norfolk will miss him; the people of Nebraska generally will miss him; for he was an enterprising worker for his town and his state, and was ever ready to contribute his time and his money for the advancement of Nebraska's best interests. The democrats of this state—those who knew the fidelity Mr. Lukart showed for democratic principles, the valuable counsel he gave in party affairs, and the earnest work he always did for party success—the democrats will miss him. But there are others—aside from the good wife and children—who will grieve sincerely because of this man's death. These are they who had an intimate personal acquaintance with Mr. Lukart, and who learned to entertain for him genuine affection. His was one of the most stalwart characters that stand the test of long acquaintance, and nothing can better attest the truth of this claim than the great sorrow which prevails today in the hearts of everyone who had the privilege of a personal acquaintance with him. Those who enjoyed this privilege may not doubt that "when God was hewing out the pillars for his temple," the material of which the Lukart character was formed was not rejected.

If it be true that "the noblest contribution which any man can make for the benefit of posterity is that of a good character," if it be true that "the best bequest which any man can leave to the youth of his land is that of a good example," then Mr. Lukart made to posterity a generous contribution, and gave to the youth of his state a priceless bequest.

Epitaphs do not always tell the truth. But it may be said that among those who knew G. A. Lukart well, there would be none to question the accuracy of the tribute if, upon the marble slab that adorned this man's grave it were written in paraphrase of Chalmers: "He lived for something. He did good and left a monument of virtue that the storms of time can never destroy. He wrote his name in kindness, love and mercy on the hearts of hundreds with whom he came in contact year by year. At least, in the memory of those who, knowing him well, loved him sincerely, his good name and his noble deeds will shine as the stars of heaven."

Card of Thanks.

Our heartfelt appreciation is hereby expressed to the many friends and the members of the fraternities for their expressions of sympathy in our deep bereavement.

Mrs. G. A. Lukart and Family.

WILL SOON CHOOSE SUCCESSOR

An Election of President of Citizens National Bank Was Impossible Last Evening.

[From Tuesday's Daily.] A meeting of the directors of the Citizens National bank was held last night but no successor to the late G. A. Lukart as president was selected. Mr. McGivern, president of the Commercial National bank of Fremont, and T. F. Memminger of Madison, were present but owing to the absence of representatives of several of the other large interests, an election was impossible. Another meeting will be held in the near future at which time a new president will be chosen. Meanwhile, C. S. Bridge, vice president, and T. F. Memminger, manager of the Madison State bank, have been appointed as an advisory board and will be consulted in matters of importance.

Mr. Lukart's policy in every detail will be pursued by the officers.

WARNERVILLE.

H. J. Morris is shipping baled hay to St. Paul, Minn.

Milton Webb moved onto the John Conley farm last week.

John Homan and David Walmsley have gone to Oklohoma.

W. P. Rowlett and son returned Tuesday from a visit with relatives at Shelby.

Mrs. J. B. Glenn is recovering from a severe attack of rheumatism.

The lodge of Modern Woodmen will give a dance in their lodge room Friday evening, February 12.

Ralph and Milo Cuplin have enlisted in the regular army and are now at Fort Niobrara.

Ed. Bovy has leased a farm three miles south of town and will take possession next week.

The ladies of the Warnerville church will hold a social at the residence of Mrs. Laura Squirrel Friday evening, February 12.

The New Northwest, a paper published at Naper, Neb., is devoted to the development of that section. Any one wishing information or desiring to invest in that section should subscribe for the paper. It will tell you all about the Rosebud reservation.

MR. BUCHOLZ LEAVES CITY

Resigns Presidency of the Norfolk National Bank.

C. E. BURNHAM WILL SUCCEED

A Magnificent Offer From Oakland, Cal., as Cashier of the Central Bank, Has Been Accepted by Banker, Who Leaves in March.

W. H. Bucholz, who for years has been connected with the Norfolk National bank of this city, has resigned his position to accept a magnificent offer which comes from Oakland, Cal., as cashier of the Central bank of Oakland. His resignation was accepted by the directors at a meeting held yesterday afternoon and C. E. Burnham, at present cashier and manager of the Elkhorn Valley bank of Tilden, was elected as successor to Mr. Bucholz.

The change will take place on March 1. Mr. Burnham will move his family to Norfolk at about that time. Mr. Bucholz will leave for his new location about the middle of the month.

It was through the efforts of F. G. Palmateer, formerly of Neligh but now vice president of the Central bank of Oakland, that Mr. Bucholz was induced to give up the presidency of the Norfolk bank and to take the position on the Pacific coast. A large number of applications for the position were made by prominent men from all over the country and the friends of Mr. Bucholz in this section of Nebraska have just cause to feel proud of the compliment which has been paid to his ability as a manager and a financier through this entirely unsought proffer of an office which carries with it increased responsibility and a salary more than twice as great as a Norfolk institution can afford to pay.

W. H. Bucholz, as yet a young man, has grown up in Norfolk. Without friends to start him out in life he has made his own way and the place which he will leave Norfolk in March to fill, amply bespeaks his success in the world of affairs. From clerk and bookkeeper in the Norfolk National bank, he has rapidly been advanced through all departments of the institution until, having reached the top, greater things from the outside have reached in and drawn him from his alma mater.

Highly popular with his fellowmen, a leader always in undertakings of a public nature, Mr. Bucholz has hundreds of friends who will regret his taking leave of Norfolk and Nebraska, but who will give him their sincerest wishes for success in his new sphere. Mr. and Mrs. Bucholz having been leaders in a social way, their loss will be keenly felt in Norfolk.

The New President.

The new president, Mr. Burnham, scarcely needs an introduction to Norfolk. Having been at the head of the management of the Elkhorn Valley bank in Tilden for years, well known throughout Nebraska, a financier of keenest insight and a hearty good fellow withal, he has been called by the directors of the Norfolk National bank to fill one of the most important positions in northern Nebraska anywhere, which fact alone stamps the mark upon him of the man that he is.

Ever enterprising and public spirited, Mr. Burnham has been a strong factor at Tilden and he will be missed by the people of that community. Since entering the bank there the institution has built a fine brick structure to replace a frame home. He has a rare and enviable faculty of getting close to people with whom he comes in contact. He is at present deputy grand master of the Masonic fraternity and has conducted public ceremonies in Norfolk for the order. He was at one time a member of the finance committee of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of the Nebraska jurisdiction.

Mrs. Stuart Buys Stock.

The stock which is being taken in the bank is bought by Mrs. L. A. Stuart of Lincoln, well known in North Nebraska, and Mr. Burnham. The Stuart estate is considered to be one of the wealthiest in this part of the country, Mrs. Stuart being at present president of the Elkhorn Valley bank at Tilden and of the Madison State bank at Madison.

The successor of Mr. Burnham in the Tilden bank has not yet been announced.

Among outsiders who were here to attend the meeting of directors were F. J. Hale of Battle Creek; F. P. Hanlon, Omaha; William Zutz, Hoskins.

HE WILL RETURN TO JAPAN.

Protege of W. J. Bryan Will Devote His Life to Study of Politics.

Yamashita Yashchuro, a Japanese student at the university, is to return to Japan some time during the summer. He will graduate and will get a master's degree at the mid-winter commencement of the university, and soon thereafter will go to St. Louis, where he will spend considerable time at the exposition. Yamashita Yashchuro is the protege of W. J. Bryan, with whom he has resided since coming to the university. In anticipation of his departure from Lincoln Yashchuro has addressed a letter to the faculty and students, in which he expresses his intention of devoting his life to a study of the politics of his own country, to assist in the betterment of the condition of his people—Lincoln Star.