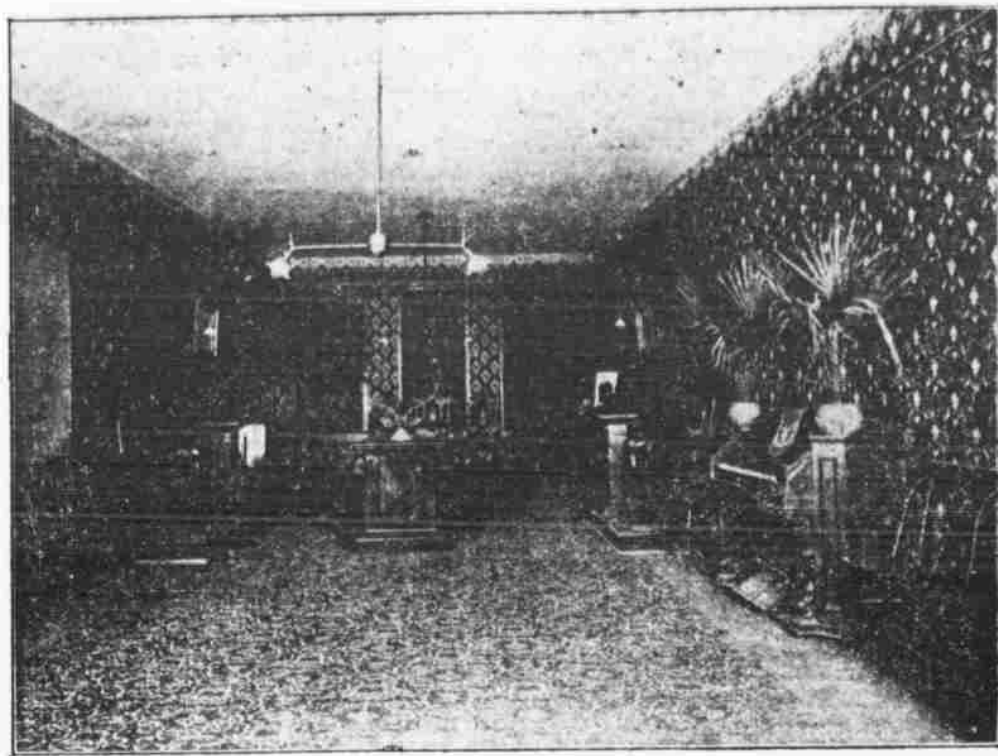


Plattsmouth Elks' Lodge and Club Rooms



LODGE ROOM OF THE PLATTSMOUTH ELKS.—Photo by Soper.

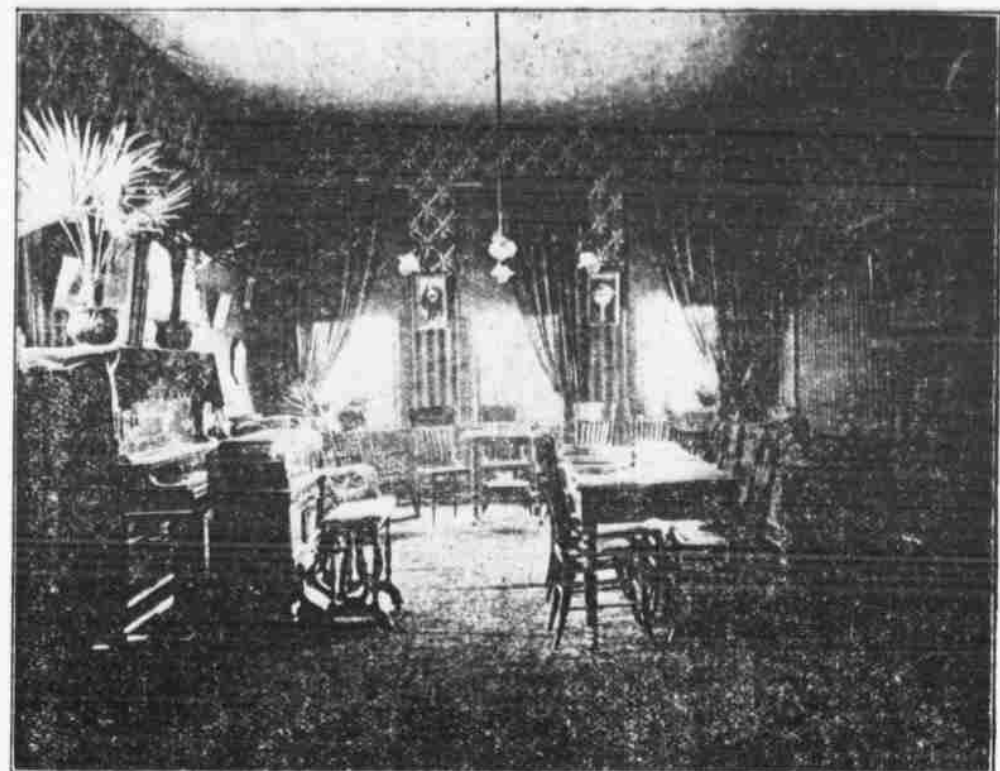
PLATTSMOUTH lodge No. 733, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, is now in its third year of its existence, and its growth and achievements are a matter of pride and gratification to every member and a credit to its home city.

The lodge was instituted in November, 1901, with fifty-six charter members, and during its two and one-half years of existence has more than doubled its membership. At the present time it is in a very flourishing condition, with spacious club and lodge rooms, elegantly furnished and practically without any indebtedness. The lodge was instituted by Omaha lodge No. 29, which emphasizes the fact that the institution was thorough and complete in every respect, and was impressed upon the memory of every participant in a vivid and lasting manner. Dr. J. S. Livingston and W. J. Straight have successively filled the chair of exalted ruler, and the present incumbent is Henry A. Schneider. The first two years the lodge was domiciled in the rooms in the Rockwood block, but owing to its growth and prosperity it was found incumbent to seek larger quarters, with better club facilities, and on New Year's day the present home was formally opened with a grand public reception and ball.

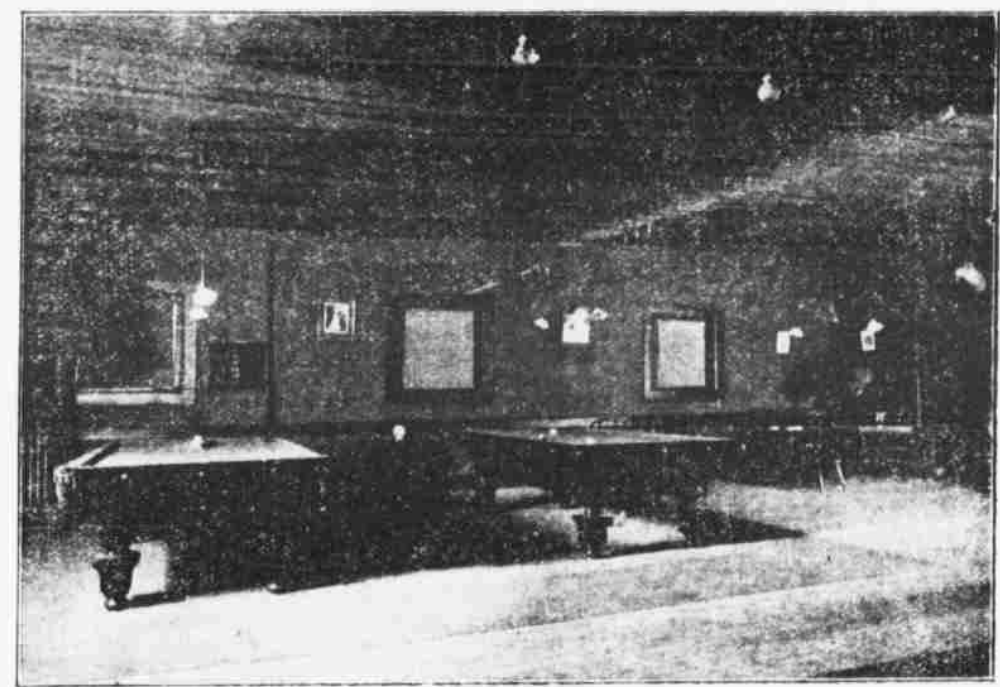
The new rooms are located on the third floor of the Coates block, and are arranged in accordance with the plans designed by Herman Kessler and are admirably adapted to the requirements of the lodge, being contiguous to the assembly hall, and cover the entire floor of the building. The regular entrance is up the main stairway, but a private entrance connects with the rotunda on the second floor.

The new quarters comprise a commodious lodge room, fronting on Main street, a

reception room with an east and south view and a billiard room with a floor space of over 1,000 square feet, dressing and toilet rooms and a paraphernalia room fitted with cupboards and closets. From the main entrance one enters an inclosed vestibule, opening immediately into the billiard room. This room is handsomely decorated with a clever color effect and the walls are papered in a dark red, with a Flemish oak chair-line, finished out with an artistic dado of oriental design. The ceiling and floor is of southern pine of hard finish, and the wood carvings are of Flemish oak. This room is furnished with a billiard and pool table, card tables and chairs and a large writing table, divided by an archway draped with tapestry portiere. The reception room opens out from the billiard room and presents a most pleasing effect to the eyes. From six windows daylight streams into this room, softened and diffused by rosy glow curtains and shades. The color effect of this room has been cleverly attained by the harmonizing of the tints combination and reflex shading, and the result is particularly gratifying to the senses. From the beauty of the more sombre tints of the larger room, one experiences an exhilarating effect as the eye drinks in the lighter and airier shades of the reception room. The thick Brussels carpet catches and absorbs the footfall, and luxurious couches and lounges seductively beckon the intruder. Potted palms spread their cool, green foliage into the light and peep out from gauzy drapery. A handsome new piano gives a finish to the room and the player insures music at any hour of the day, while the valuable pictures that adorn the walls give an exquisite air of luxury and refinement.



READING AND MUSIC ROOMS.—Photo by Soper.



BILLIARD AND CARD ROOMS.—Photo by Soper.

Adjoining these rooms on the west is the lodge room, commodious and comfortable. The altar and the stations are of golden oak, the chairs being upholstered in leather. This room has large folding doors leading into the billiard room and is also directly connected with the private entrance. Across the hall at the main entrance is the assembly hall, with a floor space of 55x45 feet. This room is exceedingly attractive and has been the scene

of many balls and hops during the past season. It is richly decorated in red and chrome yellow, and a balcony that runs around three sides gives an artistic and substantial finish to the room. Adjoining are the reception and dressing rooms, dining room and kitchen, with all the apparatus necessary for banqueting. It comprises a most complete arrangement and one that has been thoroughly appreciated by the Elks and citizens in general.

Uncle Sam's Soldier

(Continued from Page Eight.)

mand of the two companies of the constabulary now at St. Louis, has not had a case of drunkenness in his command for months.

"To be sure, they drink," said Captain Kettley, "but they don't try to get away with all the liquor in sight, as do many waste soldiers on payday, with the result that they find themselves in the guard house when they wake up next morning. They are temperate without being teetotalers, and I have yet to see a member of the constabulary even approaching the state of intoxication."

Then, too, like the Jap, the Filipino is neither a shirker nor a grumbler, for which relief his officers are duly thankful.

When the four companies of scouts arrived in St. Louis they were detailed to erect a lot of native Filipino huts, to be occupied later on not by themselves, but by others of their countrymen. They did this work in addition to the duties incident to the regular camp routine, with the result that for several weeks the men worked steadily from reveille until "taps" at 10 o'clock. The soldiers knew that it was stretching things a point to detail them to build the dwellings and the work was hard, but no kicks were made to the officers, and the "noncoms," who are natives, reported no dissatisfaction.

"But if we'd had some of our regulars on the detail they'd have kicked as hard as the proverbial army mule," said Major William H. Johnston, commanding the scouts, "and many would have tried their level best to get on the sick roll. My men have had plenty of opportunity to shirk, but during the last week only two men were in the hospital, and they were the only two who applied to be sent there. There are

40 men in my command. We always count on one-twentieth of a command being incapacitated for duty. In this case one-twentieth would be twenty-two, so you get some idea both of the pluck and the physical stamina of the Filipino soldiers. So far as I have been able to determine the sick list is invariably smaller among them than among Americans.

"I have had a good deal of experience with soldiers during my service in the regular army," continued Major Johnston, "but I must say, in justice to these Filipinos, that I've never commanded better soldiers. They are models of what the ideal soldier should be—amenable to discipline on the instant, free of the petty vices usually associated with the enlisted man, equipped with a keen mentality that enables them to grasp the full significance of a command as soon as issued, and, I believe, intensely loyal to the government.

"Take the case of the company of Tagalogs here. The Tagalogs were always against the Spaniards and they fought us as well. The company is practically made up of former insurgents under Aguinaldo. Yet every mother's son of them would knock the hat off the head of a countryman who did not uncover when the 'Star Spangled Banner' was played as readily as would any of the men in the Macartney's company, who have invariably supported the recognized form of government, whether Spanish or American.

"I have seen more than one scout do this trick in the Philippines, and I have also seen many a brown-skinned civilian engaged in the same task. The average Filipino is far more observant of these small things that bespeak patriotism than the American. Let a band strike up the national anthem in Manila, where it is now well known, and the crowd uncovers. In America he who uncovers, except in war time, is the hundredth man. Indeed, the Filipino thinks so much of the Star Spangled

Banner that it has been declared a part of the Filipino's church mass by the ecclesiastical authorities, and when it is played the congregation rises to its feet and remains standing until the last notes die away."

The Filipino soldier not only takes a keen interest in keeping his camp faultlessly policed, his tent ever ready for inspection, and his accoutrements shining; the moment he dons Uncle Sam's uniform he begins an earnest struggle to master the English language. He finds this task a good deal harder than that of handling a gun American fashion. Nevertheless, in a few months' time he has a fairly good working knowledge of the language.

The chaplains assigned to the scouts and to the constabulary are the soldiers' solace and comfort when the new tongue becomes too much for them. Besides giving aid to all individuals who apply, it has been customary for each chaplain to organize a "noncom's" school and ground its members in the fundamental principles of the language. Attendance is optional, but whenever the school for the scouts now in this country meets every "noncom" not on duty is in attendance.

The "noncoms" in turn instruct the privates of an evening; and so whenever any one masters a new word or phrase, by next morning the whole camp has become acquainted with it, and for the next day or two uses it on every conceivable occasion in order to keep possession of it.

Thus again the Filipino soldier is like his Jap cousin—he is a student.

"But can he fight as well?" Major Johnston was asked.

"Well," was the reply, "he's every bit as wily as the Japs. He has superb nerve and the true Oriental disregard of death. No soldier could be keener to equip himself for the emergency of war, and you must remember that when he was ill-fed, poorly clothed, miserably led and drilled

not at all, he frequently gave our regulars a good deal of trouble during the recent insurrection.

"One thing is certain, however. The Filipino was enlisted as an experiment, both in the regular army as a scout and in the constabulary, which constitutes the insular forces. He has proved in both services to be a decided success; and the soldier who gives such a good account of himself in peace is pretty sure to make a still better record for himself when war really comes." FRANK M. STEWART.

Straight Road to Success

"Now, Tom," said the general manager when the new boy reported for duty, "let me impress upon you that this is a critical period in your career."

"Yes, sir."

"You can climb to the top," said the general manager, wheeling around in his chair, "or you can fall to the lowest depths. All depends on yourself. Do you understand me, Tom?"

"Yes, sir."

"If you are honest, smart, truthful, tidy, diligent and pleasant to everybody you are certain to go onward and upward. You may not stop short of congress. You may even—ah, let me see—where were you born?"

"Jane street, sir."

"Is that in Brooklyn?" asked the manager with some apprehension.

"No, sir; New York."

"Yes, yes. Very good. Well, Tom, you may even become president of the United States. Do you understand me?"

"Yes, sir," replied Tom, beginning to whimper "but this is my first job."

"Don't cry here," said the sympathetic general manager. "Your wages are \$2 a week. Go into the cellar and learn to peel onions. We use barrels of 'em in the pickling business."—New York Press.