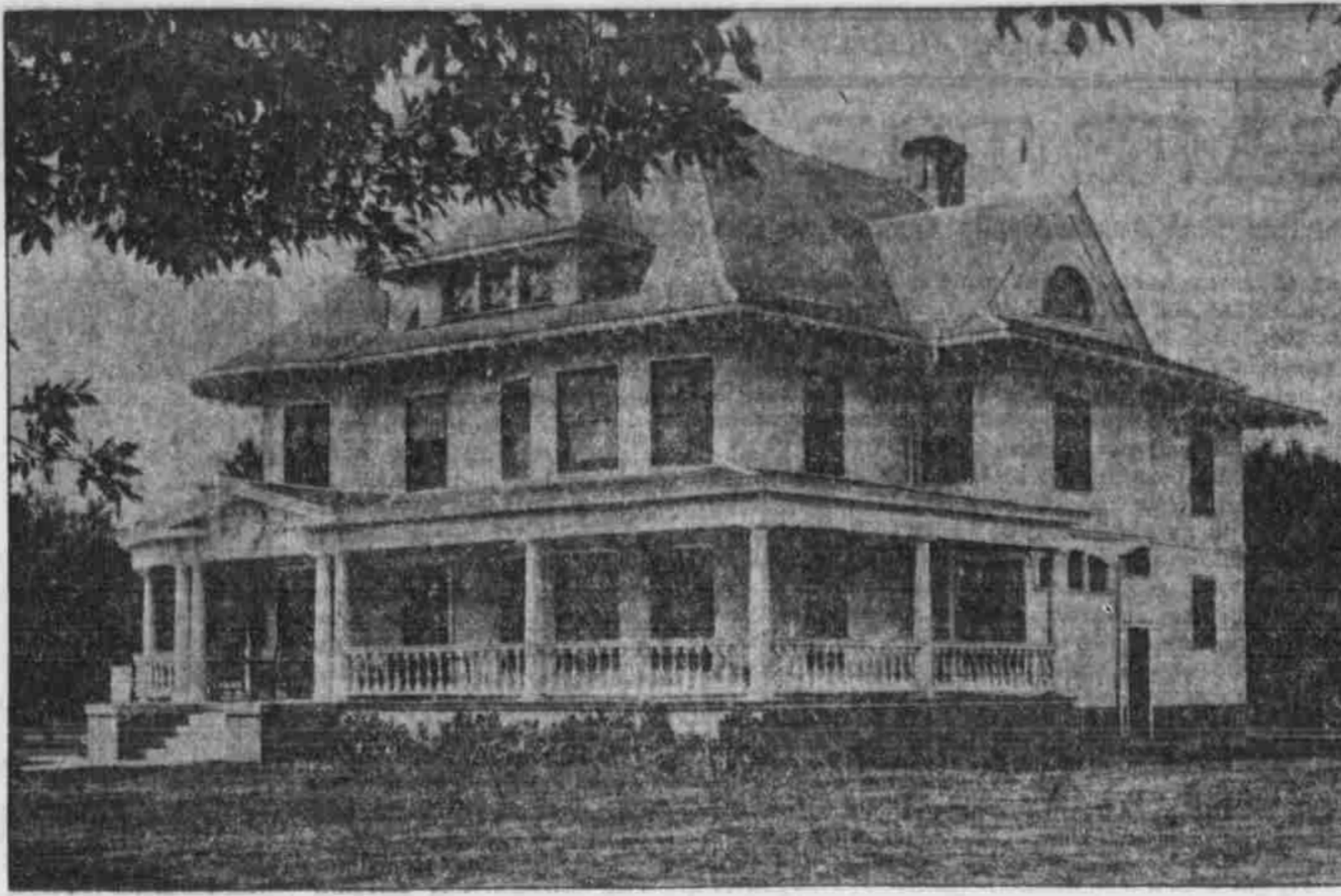


# Hamilton County and Aurora Important to Nebraska's Family Group



ROYAL HIGHLANDERS' OFFICE BUILDING, AURORA.



RESIDENCE OF W. L. FARLEY, AURORA.



HAMILTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

**W**HEN a citizen of Indiana, Ohio or even Michigan, decides to settle in Hamilton county, Nebraska, his neighbors speak of him as going "away off out west." Along with the word they adopt a shadowy notion that western men, manners and morals, are somehow radically distinct from those of other communities.

"The west" has always been something of a vagabond, possessing a name without a local habitation. Originally the "west" meant the primitive wilderness. Nine out of ten eastern folks would find it inconvenient to explain their understanding of where and what the "west" really is. The progressive conquest of the prairie crowded the westward toward the Missouri river, then to the Rocky mountains, then to the shores of the Pacific. Illinois does not like to be called a western state. Iowa is almost as sensitive about it. It is only when you get into Colorado, Wyoming and Montana, that you hear people say with a definite frankness, "yes, we are decidedly western." But if you go on to the Pacific, new confusion awaits you. Oregonians or Californians speak of Denver as east, and to the Denverites Omaha is hopelessly eastern.



WHEAT FIELD SCENE IN HAMILTON COUNTY.

Hamilton county is an agriculture county. If any part of Nebraska is able to show independent of other parts, it will be in industrial independence. If you will look at the matter without prejudice, you will discover that the balance of a law abiding spirit is decidedly in favor of Nebraska.

In proportion to population there is today twice as much crime in Massachusetts as in Nebraska. In proportion to population Nebraska's expenditure for educational purposes is annually twice as great as that of Massachusetts. In Nebraska

the rich valley farming lands and the high table lands are sprinkled with college towns. It seems almost impossible that where massive barns and beautiful farm houses now stand, only a few years ago roamed the vast herds of buffalo, deer and antelope.

In June 1866, Jarvil Chaffee, the first settler in Hamilton county, built his 10x13 "dog out" home and the following year, James Waddle settled on the Blue. In 1870 the county had a population of 130 people, but with the advent of civilization, the buffalo and deer soon disappeared and in 1893, the last great herd left to be seen no more. There are several wide-awake towns in the county—Aurora, Hampton, Glitter, Marquette, Phillips, Stockham and Hordville.

Hamilton county contains 350,000 acres of land. The soil is a rich dark loam from one to four feet in depth and of unsurpassed fertility. This soil is eminently adapted to nearly all varieties of cereals and grasses, especially corn, wheat, oats, blue grass, clover and alfalfa. Fruits, such as apples, peaches, cherries and plums, besides all small fruit adapted to this latitude, are produced to the highest perfection. Hamilton county farms, with their 300,000 acres under cultivation, produced last year over 4,000,000 bushels of corn, over 3,000,000 bushels of wheat, over 1,000,000 bushels of oats and other grain, 70,000 bushels of potatoes, besides their orchards with their immense fruitage from more than 100,000 bearing trees. In a single year Hamilton county farmers marketed 15,000 head of fat cattle, 30,000 head of sheep and over 40,000 head of hogs. Then we found them shipping abroad in a single day 80,000 pounds of butter, 50,000 dozen eggs and over 300,000 pounds of poultry. Little wonder that the land values have been steadily increasing among these splendid farmers, with their record of forty to fifty bushels of wheat and fifty to sixty bushels of corn produced per acre.

But if the reader will go into the very heart of Hamilton county and visit the county seat, the ideal little city of Aurora, you will find the model town of Nebraska. They are building this city about a large public square, in the center of which they have erected of Colorado redstone and pressed brick, one of the best court houses in the west. It is surrounded by substantial business blocks, filled with immense stocks of merchandise and with its merchants all prosperous. Two national banks and a state bank with combined deposits of nearly \$200,000 attest the financial strength of the community. This little city is located upon the main line of the Burlington, with its two branches from this point, making for it good mail and train service, and with all through trains stopping here, trips to the larger cities of Omaha and Lincoln can be made conveniently and at slight expense. Two telephone lines, with adequate service, connect the city with the business and farming community. The city is lighted with electricity, the plant being owned by local business men. All right service and low rates make the lighting system entirely satisfactory to all. The water works belong to the city; its mains reach into every part of town and the water supply of pure water is abundant and never failing, besides under the management of a well equipped hose and ladder company, ample fire protection is assured.

While making no pretensions of a manufacturing point, Aurora already has a brick manufacturing plant which employs during the busy season a large number of men, and Aurora flouring mills, with capacity of 100 barrels per day. Besides these, Aurora has a cigar factory, a broom factory, an artificial stone factory, and the Aurora Washing Machine company.

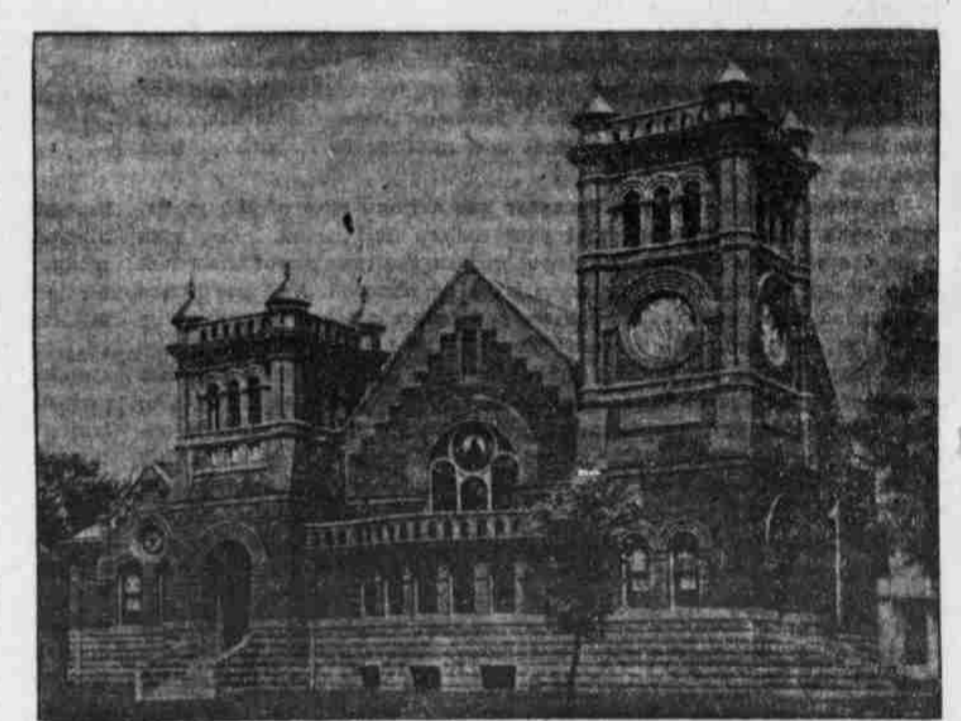
The religious, educational and social features are well represented when we look around and note more than ten churches, a business college and one of the best high schools in the state. There are three fine lodge rooms, where strong fraternal lodges meet; two ladies' clubs, and a strong aggressive commercial club with nearly 150 members.

Aurora is the home of the Royal Highlanders, one of the leading fraternal insurance societies in the United States. Its fine home office building erected on one corner of the public square is one of the



best office buildings in the state. Although this society is only eleven years old, it is now operating in fourteen states and it has paid in benefits to its beneficiaries \$750,000 and has accumulated over \$200,000 of surplus which is invested in first mortgage loans on Nebraska farms.

Aurora received a peculiar impetus through the conditions of its origin which it will always feel. Just as "blinded will tell" through succeeding generations of men. The city is not the result of natural selection. It did not begin, but was started, did not grow, but rose. Before the railroad era God proposed the town site leaving men to dispose as to growth. No important towns are wholly man made. Aurora is a pioneer product of the new origin. Hitherto Aurora has never thoroughly understood itself, and never had been really on its feet. Private hands have done nearly everything that has been done to beautify Aurora. But, henceforth, there will be co-operation, either by the whole city or by volunteer organization. This of course will take some money. But the people of the territory within reach of Aurora hold in their hands five winning cards, and every one of high prize value. They are corn, beef, pork, wheat and alfalfa.



ONE OF THE MANY CHURCHES AT AURORA.

## Selections from the Story Teller's Pack

**M**ISS MARY COLEMAN is a New York lawyer and a suffragette. "A man doesn't need to be benched to support our movement," Miss Coleman said. "It is wronging men to say our male supporters are like—like"—Miss Coleman smiled.

"Like this," she said. "A tall, stout woman seated herself before the haberdashery counter of a department store and said:

"I want to get some collars and neckties for my husband."

"Yes, madam," said the clerk. "What size collars?"

The woman frowned and bit her lip.

"Sugar!" she said. "To save my life I can't remember!"

"Thirteen? Twelve and a half? The clerk suggested."

"Why, yes—twelve and a half," said the woman. "How did you guess it?"

The clerk smiled.

"Gentlemen who let their wives select their ties and collars generally take that size," he said.—"New York Tribune.

came in by the back way. His clothes were wet and his hair was hanging over his eyes in strings.

"John!" exclaimed his wife. "What on earth—"

"It's all right, Mary," he hastened to assure her. "No, I didn't upset. Everything's all right. But when I had been out on the water a couple of hours something went wrong with the motor and—"

"Yes?"

"Well, before I—realized it I was over the side trying to get under the blame thing to fix it."—"Everybody's Magazine.

**The Graftier's Success.**

James B. Dill, whose recent speech on "graft" at Oberlin college attracted so much attention, told recently, apropos of "graft," a story about a swindling tramp.

"This tramp," said Mr. Dill, "had the alert, unscrupulous bold mind that makes grafting successful.

"He was walking in Chicago one day when he saw a little boy stoop and pick up something.

"He crossed over to the boy quickly.

"You have made a find, my lad," said he.

"Yes, sir," said the innocent boy. "I have found a silver ring."

"I thought so," said the tramp. "It's the one I just dropped. Now, ain't it lucky I had my name out in it?"

"What is your name?" asked the boy, suspiciously.

"Sterling, lad."

"Take it, then. It's yours," said the boy, handing over the ring with a disappointed air."—"Judge.

**When the Phenologist Fell.**

Mayor Reburn of Philadelphia, the owner of the record breaking trotter Ed Bryan, told at a dinner a horse story.

"A farmer visited a phenologist," he said. "He had heard that the phenologist thought of buying a horse. He had his head examined and his bumps revealed surprising things.

"Your tastes are the simple, homely and pure tastes of a farmer," said the phenologist, "and a farmer I take you to be. Am I not right? Ah, I thought so. You are unready and flustering in speech; you find it difficult to express the simplest ideas. You are sadly deficient in judgment and have no knowledge of human nature. Your innocent and trustful disposition renders you an easy dupe to designing men, and your perfect honesty prevents you from either suspecting or defrauding any one."

"The phenologist the following week bought a horse from the farmer. The horse was knock-kneed, it was 25 years old, it had a bad temper, and it balked.

Though the farmer had only paid \$5 for the animal, he secured without difficulty \$150 from the phenologist for it.

"It's wonderful," said the farmer to himself, as he hastened toward a bank to deposit the money—it's just wonderful that a man should know so much about men and not know a thing about horses!"—"Detroit Free Press.

**Overdoing It.**

A young Englishman, after he had been in Devil's valley for a couple of months, began to grow thin. Wyoming cooking did not appeal to him. Besides his squeamish appetite there was another thing that the natives held against him—his outlandish custom of taking a bath every morning. One day his landlady was discussing him with a friend.

"I tell ye what, Sal," said the visitor, "he's just a-wastin' away a-gravin' for some bad back chat."

"Natin' of the kind," said the landlady contemptuously. "You mark my words, now—that young feller he's just a-washin' hisself away."—"Everybody's Magazine.

**Dressed for Dinner.**

William Faversham in "The World and His Wife" was listening to a discussion of a well-known actress "cutaway" gown. "English women," contributed Mr. Faversham, "never consider themselves dressed if they are not delectable. The more ceremonious the occasion the lower the gown, and when it's a question of meeting the King—or, is it?"

"An old woman I knew—a nurse—had a very pretty daughter. The girl met a rich brewer, the man proposed and they were married. It was a great match for the girl. A short time after the wedding I saw the mother.

"Molly has done well, hasn't she?" I said.

"She has that, sir," said the old woman. "Her husband is very rich, isn't he?"

"Rich! Have we? Ya should see, sir, Molly's brougham, her coachman and footman, her motor car and her diamonds and pearls! Oh, she lives high! Quite like the nobility and gentry, sir. Why, she strips for dinner!"—"Young's Magazine.

**Strange Result of Political Success.**

President-elect Taft had a few moments to spare the other day and had his secretary telephone to his tailor to come up and remeasure him, as he was afraid that he had "fallen off" within the last few months, and he would like to order some new clothes.

The maker of men hurried posthaste to

Mr. Taft, drew his tape measure and began his task.

"I think you will find me slightly smaller," said Mr. Taft, with a twinkle in his eye.

The man worked on, calling the measurements to Mr. Taft's secretary, who jotted them down.

"How are they running?" asked the president-elect—"smaller?"

"Not very much smaller," disconnectedly answered the tailor. The measurements are about the same as last time."

"About the same, you say?" asked Mr. Taft in some surprise.

"Yes, sir," replied the tape stretcher. "They are about the same, except, sir, your chest is a little lower down."—"Harper's Weekly.

**Horrible Example.**

A certain bishop was famous as being the plainest man of England.

One day, as his holy parson sat in an omnibus, he was amazed by the persistent staring of a fellow-passenger, who finally said:

"Look 'ere, parson, would you mind comin' home with me to see my wife?"

Imagining the wife was sick and needed assistance, the clergyman, at great inconvenience to himself, went. On arriving at the house, the man pointed to the astonished parson, and said, with a grin of delight:

"Look 'e 'ere, Sairy. Yer said this mornin' as I was the ugliest chap in England. Now, just look at this bloke!"

**A Famous Physician.**

Dr. Zaharin, who has just died in Moscow and left a fortune of over \$1,000,000, was one of the most famous as he was also the most eccentric of physicians in Russia. Even when he was summoned to attend Czar Alexander III in his last illness Dr. Zaharin required the same preparation for his visit to the palace as to any one of his patients' homes. That is to say, all dogs had to be kept out of the way, all clocks stopped and every door thrown wide open. Following a process of gradual undressing, he left his furs in the hall, his overcoat in the next room, his galoshes in the third, and, continuing, arrived at the bedside in ordinary indoor costume.

**He Knew.**

They were country people, pure and simple, but they had read the papers and thought they were educated up to all the improvements of a city.

When they went to Washington they went through the Navy department and saw the models of our ships of war. Pointing to a companion ladder hanging over the side of one of the boats, she asked her better half what it was.

"Oh that's the fire escape," replied the husband.—Lippincott's Magazine.

## In the Field of Electrical Experiment

**W**HEN an electrical current is flowing in the trolley wire or electrical lighting circuit there are three factors involved. One of these is the pressure expressed in volts which causes the current to flow; another is the resistance or opposition offered by the circuit to the flow, which is expressed as ohms; the last is the current strength or volume, expressed as amperes, which is maintained in the circuit as a result of the pressure overcoming the resistance.

The unit of electrical pressure or electromotive force is called the volt. The unit of resistance is called the ohm. The unit of electrical power is the volt-ampere, and this is called the watt. Seven hundred and forty-six watts per hour, equal one horse-power. The unit of energy—the product of electrical power and time—is called the joule, but this unit is too small for practical purposes and the kilowatt-hour is used instead. The kilowatt hour is the work done by a thousand watts working for one hour.

These electrical terms are as familiar to electrical engineers as feet and inches are to the average boy; the layman does not understand because he has never been taught, has never had to use the terms, has never read about them.

It is easier to understand these terms if we consider electricity as a fluid and liken it to a current of water flowing through a pipe. The rate of flow of water in the pipe depends upon gravitation and the height of the reservoir or source above the outlet. The greater the height of the source the greater will be the pressure of water and the greater the flow in gallons per minute. It is just the same with electricity. A current flows from a high potential to a low potential whenever the two are joined by a conducting wire. It is merely a difference of level. Watch a stream of water from the nozzle of a garden hose striking a bank of soft earth. Consider it a stream of electricity, which unfortunately cannot be seen, the force of the stream or its pressure represents voltage; the size of the stream or flow the amperage; the wastage the amount of work done in washing away the dirt. Suppose the interior of the nozzle and hose are rough, which offers resistance to the

ready flow of the stream; this friction and resistance is represented by ohms in an electric circuit.

**First Aid for Electric Shock.**

Prompted by the approaching use of electricity as a motive power in its New York terminal, the Pennsylvania has started a school for the instruction of employes, particularly in the line of giving first aid to electrically injured persons.

Quickness is the most desirable factor in the work of rescuing one whom the lightning of the electric rail has hit. Given a sound heart and a good constitution, it does not follow that contact with the rail always kills. It will kill a weak individual, in all probability, at the first shock, but a rescue at the right moment and in the right way will snatch many a victim from the rail as surely as a lifesaver at the sea shore, gathering in the drowning person at the right time, will be able to bring him back to life.

When a man steps on the electric rail and falls prone he is extremely likely to fall right into the jaws of the monster that brought him down. If he can fall away from the rail, and his constitution is sufficiently robust to withstand the first shock, it is probable that he may live to tell how it feels to be hit by lightning. But the chances are that he will drop right across the rail, and in that position will be killed unless some one pulls him off with the least possible delay.

Now, it is not only necessary to rescue the victim with celerity, but in the right way, or there will be two victims instead of one, for recklessly to pull a man from the electric rail or from contact with a live wire gives the would-be rescuer a powerful shock, too. This is known in a general way, and few have the temerity to touch a man who is writhing in the grip of a live wire. Only those who are educated in the method of rescuing such a victim can be depended on to act quickly and with the confidence that is based on absolute knowledge. It is to train such rescuers that the sessions are held at the railroad centers.

The experts who lecture at these sessions explain that it is possible to take hold of a man who is lying across the electric rail by the back of his coat and pull him quickly from the place of danger. These instructors also teach the men how to remove their own coats, place them carefully beneath the body of the man on the rail and raise him from the contact of the electric current. They show how to use a wooden lever to lift the body from the rail and how to utilize the articles that are sure to be lying around in a railroad

yard to effect a quick rescue. One of the most essential things in rescuing a man from contact with a live wire is to remove the wires. This is a dangerous thing to do, and the men are taught how to do it in a simple way. A coat is often the handiest article available. Two coats are necessary as a rule. The men are taught to remove their coats and make a rope of them. Then standing each side of the live wire, holding the coats between them, the two rescuers catch the wire in the rope thus made, and drag the dangling death out of the way of the senseless person on the ground.

Having broken the contact with the wire, the next thing is to endeavor to restore life to the unconscious form. The men are taught the necessary movements to coax the fluttering heart back to action. In the first movement, the patient is placed flat on his back with a folded coat under his shoulders, so as to allow his head to fall back, his clothing being loosened at the neck and waist. Then standing each side of the patient's mouth is examined. If he had a piece of tobacco or gum in his mouth at the time of the accident, or if his false teeth are of the plate variety, it is well to see that he is not choking to death. Ice is then rubbed on the spine and the chest tapped with a wet cloth.

While this is being done the arms are brought in a sweeping motion from the side of the chest to a line straight with the body until they meet over the head. In the next movement the arms are forcibly pulled at the same time that the tongue is pulled out and down over the lower teeth, completing full inspiration. In the next movement the arms are brought down in a straight line to the side of chest walls. In the next movement the arms are firmly pressed over the lower ribs to expel the air drawn in by the previous operations, thus completing the work of restoring respiration.

**Pointed Paragraphs.**

A small boy with his first watch has the time of his life.

Most who own electric plants are satisfied with light harvest.

When a woman pretends to be ignorant she is playing a deep game.

One secret of success is the early discovery that you can't do everything.

Get the habit of saving money before marriage if you would save it after.

Every woman takes it for granted that she would be a queen in society if it wasn't for the fact that she has more sense than beauty.—Chicago News.