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LOUP CITY.

Historical, Descriptive and Commercial Review of the City.

SKETCHES OF SOME OF HER INDUSTRIES ADVANTAGES, REPRESENTATIVE BUSINESS MEN AND CITIZENS.

(By SIMON ISAACSTEIN PARADISE.)

The greatest desire of the human heart is to own a home, and as there are thousands of people in the densely crowded east and other portions of the country who are desirous of learning of the advantages afforded them in other parts, and are seeking homes in the west, we will, in the following briefly note the splendid opportunities which Loup City and Sherman county affords.

Laborers, mechanics, tradesmen, etc., can no doubt better their condition by moving to a more favorable locality where the opportunities are greater and competition in their respective lines are less, and to a land where peace and plenty reign supreme. To a country of sunshine where nature smiles upon the industrious and wealth crowns the efforts of all those who labor. All over the eastern and central states people are looking for broader fields and greater opportunities. To those we call attention to

SHERMAN COUNTY.

It is located near the center of the state of Nebraska and covers an area of 575 square miles. The topography varies from the fertile valleys to the gentle undulating and more elevated table lands. The climate is mild, the air pure and invigorating. The soil is a dark loam underlaid with a porous subsoil, and is very productive with sufficient moisture. Practically the whole of the county is adapted to farming, being but little watered land. The county is well watered, being traversed by the North and Middle forks of the Loup rivers and their tributaries. The rain fall in this part of the state is sufficient, most years, to mature crops of all kinds. Corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, potatoes and tame grasses are the principle crop and do well. While a new country it has been demonstrated that fruit of all kinds common to this latitude thrive and are of the finest flavor. Sheet water underlies the whole of the county, and of excellent quality at a depth varying from 5 to 100 feet, according to the topography of the country.

Irrigation is being resorted to as a precaution against failure of rain fall at the proper time to insure fall crop. A canal with a capacity for irrigating 25,000 acres of land is already constructed and has been operated with good results to the farmers. The wisdom of this precaution has been demonstrated to the entire satisfaction of all. This irrigating canal is fourteen miles long. It runs along the foot hills at the edge of the Middle Loup valley and is substantially built. It is necessary, however, to get it into the hands of capitalists to have it successfully operated, and right here let us say that no capitalist could place his means to better advantage. At a point just east and overlooking the county seat, where the canal empties into a large ravine a splendid water power may be obtained and manufacturing industries of all kinds could be successfully carried on.

In speaking of manufacturing industries we think that a beet sugar factory could be established with much profit in the Loup valley, as practical experience has demon-

strated that the sugar beet grows here to perfection.

The live stock industries is a most profitable avocation. Its rich and succulent native grasses afford splendid range for both winter and summer. There will be more stock fed in Sherman county the coming winter than ever before. The native grasses is ample to supply the demand for hay, and considerable has been shipped to market.

Both the Union Pacific and the B. & M. railroads pass through the county. There are 98 miles of railroad within its borders.

The population of Sherman county is between 7,000 and 8,000 but we have territory for at least 25,000. Besides Loup City, the county seat it has several other towns, namely Litchfield, Ashton, Rockville and Hazard.

LOUP CITY

is the county seat and the metropolis of Sherman county. The county was created by legislative enactment in 1872 and Loup City was platted soon after and the history of the town from that date has been one of steady and permanent growth. Loup City has a population of 1,000 prosperous, enterprising and progressive people, surrounded by the conveniences and comforts of life. The city has many natural resources and draws trade from a large area. The town has a good system of water works and a telephone line. Her streets are dotted with cozy cottages and handsome homes which form the border of substantial business blocks, and the town has a general appearance of solidity and commercial activity. Vigorous and strong its future growth is assured. Two newspapers, the NORTHWESTERN and Times-Independent sing the praise of the city and county to a liberal list of readers. Civic and fraternal societies are well represented here and we have six church organizations all in a flourishing condition.

A new ten thousand dollar brick school house located in the north part of the city is now being built and will be ready for occupancy by the beginning of the new year. This building is two stories high, with large basement. It consists of six class rooms, one of which will be large enough for an assembly room. The city now has a good system of graded schools.

In point of railroad facilities Loup City can boast of being as well off in that respect as any town of its size in the state. We have large and commodious depots, two large grain elevators, and good stock yards, all of which furnish first class markets and shipping facilities.

Below we present to the reader some sketches of the most prominent business men of the city:

A. E. CHASE.

For five years the name of A. E. Chase has stood at the head of the mercantile trade of Loup City. His name, goods, and honorable method of doing business are familiar to residents for miles in all directions. He carries a large stock of dry goods, clothing, notions, ladies and gents furnishing goods, shoes, staple and fancy groceries and his prices are in accordance with the times. Mr. Chase does an extensive business and carries the largest stock of general merchandise in this section of the state. He is courteous and accommodating and stands at the head of the business men of Loup City.

FARMER'S STATE BANK.

There is no branch of business so essential to the prosperity of any city or county as a well managed bank; one occupying a high position and holding steadfast the confidence and esteem of the people. As a fitting illustration of just such a state of affairs we wish to call attention to the Farmer's State Bank of Loup City. This bank was organized in 1889, and has an authorized capital stock of \$50,000.00. By its last statement published in June it showed a surplus and undivided profits of over \$1,300.00 and to-day their books show \$31,000.00 to the credit of depositors. This bank has always pursued a careful, conservative course, following fixed financial principles and has been very successful. They do a general banking business, buy and sell, exchange receive deposits, make loans and collections, and all other business that comes under legitimate banking. The officers of this bank are all well known merchants, enterprising and progressive and are as follows: J. Phil Jaeger, Pres.; C. J. Odendahl, V. P.; W. G. Odendahl, Cashier.

J. PHIL JAEGER.

One of the best known business men of Loup City is Mr. J. Phil Jaeger, the banker and merchant. He first engaged in the mercantile trade here 17 years ago, but later disposing of that branch of his business, and two years ago he once more entered the mercantile field. Mr. Jaeger carries a large and select stock of dry goods, groceries, notions, shoes, and everything usually found in a general mercantile store, and his prices are as low as first class goods can be sold for. His stock is large and complete and with ample capital with which to carry on his business he takes advantage of all discounts and is enabled to sell at figures which cannot be approached by competitors who do not enjoy equal advantages.

JOHN. H. TRAVIS

Among the prominent business men of Loup City we wish to call attention to Mr. John H. Travis, the general merchant. Mr. Travis has been in business here for five years and carries one of the largest stocks in town, embracing dry goods, notions, clothing, shoes and a fine stock of millinery goods. Mr. Travis is a shrewd buyer and is in touch with the best markets and is able to offer customers the best of everything at the lowest possible price. Mr. Travis is an enterprising and progressive merchant, well and favorably known, and to such men as he, Loup City owes much.

KEYSTONE LUMBER CO.

Lumber has its history and like all histories, has its various chapters. It opens with the primeval forests and the woodman's ax, and woods is the home and haunts of civilized man. It is the prime factor in the building world and has afforded a large trade for a class of men who have proven themselves typical hustlers. Among this class of men is found Mr. A. B. Outhouse, the manager of the Keystone Lumber Company. This company carries a large and complete stock of lumber and all kinds of building material, and their prices are in accordance with the times. They also sell hard and soft coal, and fill all orders in a prompt and satisfactory manner. This company has been in business here for 12 years, and their reputation for fair and honorable dealing is more than local and brings them trade from a distance. They own yards at Ashton and Rockville, besides their immense plant at this place.

W. R. MELLOR.

Enterprise is a dominant characteristic of Loup City business men and, none are more liberally endowed in this respect than Mr. W. R. Mellor, the well known and successful real estate dealer. Mr. Mellor has resided here for 14 years and has been engaged in the real estate business for the past ten years. He has the resident agency of the B. & M. land department, and does a general real estate business, buys and sells real estate, rents property and pays taxes for non-residents and makes farm loans. His judgment is accepted without question in all matters concerning real estate, and he is widely known. His list of city and farm property is large and embraces many genuine snags. Mr. Mellor is an old and respected citizen of Sherman County, and by virtue of his sagacity, responsibility and uprightness he has become a strong and influential business man of this city.

W. H. BOECKNER.

The occupation of a Merchant Tailor is an important one in the make up of a city's resources, as well made and well fitting garments are a necessity, and all take pleasure in pointing out where such can be had in perfection and at moderate cost. Mr. W. H. Boeckner carries a select line of imported and domestic woolsens, and can supply cus-

tomers with the best the market affords on short notice and at reasonable prices. Mr. Boeckner is a workman of ability and taste, and every garment made by him is fully warranted.

T. S. NIGHTINGALE.

The Sherman county bar is well equipped with fine legal talent but no member stands higher than Hon. T. S. Nightingale. He is an old practitioner, and cast his fortunes with the people of Loup City in 1878. Mr. Nightingale is an able lawyer, diligent and zealous and his cases has been marked by the observance of the highest standard as an attorney. He is a populist in politics, and while prominent in the councils of his party has never sought preferment, but was honored by the nomination as State Prosecuting Attorney for the 5th Judicial district. While suffering defeat he reduced the majority of the district from several thousand to a few hundred. Last fall he was chosen County Attorney of Sherman county, and has been most successful. Mr. Nightingale has a large amount of real estate belonging to clients that is for sale at a low price and on most advantageous terms. As a citizen and lawyer he ranks high.

ODENDAHL BROS.

This is one of the best known business houses in Loup City. It is the Pioneer drug store of this city and was established 20 years ago. Odendahl Bros carry a large stock of drugs, chemicals, proprietary medicines and pay particular attention to prescription trade. They are pharmacists with years of experience and their efficiency is well known. Messrs Odendahl Bros, are enterprising and progressive business men and their efforts have been an important factor in building up the business interests of our city. Substantial and reliable they stand at the head of our municipal affairs.

E. S. HAYHURST.

One of the best known merchants of Loup City, is Mr. E. S. Hayhurst, the well known Hardware Dealer. This gentleman has been in business here for 20 years, and with each succeeding year the volume of business has increased until to-day he carries one of the largest stocks of hardware, stoves and ranges and farm machinery in this section of the state. The stock consists of shelf and heavy hardware, "Sunshine" stoves and ranges, tinware, wagons, buggies, farming machinery, wind-mills, pumps, pipes and fittings, and his prices are in accordance with the times. Mr. Hayhurst is one of the leading business men of Loup City, and is an enterprising gentleman highly esteemed.

T. M. REED.

From the farmers point of view the first in importance in a town surrounded by an agricultural country is the hardware and implement house. Here he buys his stoves and ranges, shelf and heavy hardware, and all kinds of machinery used in planting cultivating or harvesting crops, as well as wagons and buggies. It is of vital importance to him that he deal with a responsible and reliable dealer who handles the best and sells at a reasonable price. Among the dealers in this section, Mr. T. M. Reed deserves distinguished recognition. He has been doing business here for 12 years and carries a large stock of implements and farm machinery of known merit, and a full line of shelf and heavy hardware, harness, pumps, wind mills, pipe and fittings. He also carries a good stock of plain and fancy furniture and musical instruments. His prices are as low as the lowest. Mr. Reed is one of our foremost business men and to such men as he, the town of Loup City owes much.

W. T. CHASE.

The public has a right to demand that the drug business shall be conducted by the most capable representatives. The accuracy in compounding medicine is equal in importance to the prescribing of the right kind of medicine. This leads us to say that Dr. W. T. Chase is a pharmacist with great experience, and his efficiency in this line is well known. He carries a large stock of drugs and chemicals, proprietary medicine, toilet articles. During the many years he has been engaged in business here he has enjoyed the fullest confidence of the people. His liberal dealing, personal competency and close attention to the wants of the public has attracted a large trade.

LONG & MATHEW.

In reviewing the legal lights of the Sherman County Bar, a prominent place must be accorded Messrs Long and Mathew. Of wide knowledge, eminent and acknowledged ability, they rank with the leading attorneys of the state. They are both old and respected citizens of this city and their partnership dates back to 1892. Mr. Long, of this

firm served 4 years as county attorney of Sherman county with marked distinction. In addition to their law practice they conduct a real estate and loan agency and are recognized as the leaders in this line. They are well posted on real estate values and they have a long list of farm and city property that they are selling at low prices and on very reasonable terms. They represent eastern loan companies and can make farm loans without delay at the lowest prevailing rates. These gentlemen are well and favorably known and have had years of experience, and can be depended upon for fair and honorable treatment. Mr. Mathew is a bonded abstractor and when his services are required customers may depend upon securing the advantage of a capable gentleman with ripe experience. As citizens and business men Messrs Long & Mathew stand high.

R. J. NIGHTINGALE.

In running our eye down the list of Blackstone disciples we read the name of Mr. R. J. Nightingale. This gentleman is one of the old timers of Loup City, having located here in 1882. He is a graduate of London University, graduating with honors, standing next to the gold medal of the class. Mr. Nightingale was admitted to the bar in this county, and possessing natural ability and a fund of legal acumen he has won distinction in the able manner in which he has conducted a long list of important cases. He practices in all courts and is studious and a hard worker, and as a citizen and lawyer is held in high esteem.

JAMES I. DEPEW.

Blacksmiths are plentiful in these parts, but few if any surpass Mr. J. I. Depew in knowledge of the business. He does a general blacksmith and repair business and does all kinds of wagon work. He uses only the best of material and does first class work, his charges are most reasonable. Mr. Depew has been doing blacksmith work in Loup City for 12 years, and is well and favorably known. When in need of blacksmithing give him a call.

M. LESCHINSKY.

None of the arts come nearer our homes and affections than does photography. By its means the poor as well as the rich can preserve the pictured semblance of loved ones and adorn their walls with the reproductions of the best work of the masters. One of the most skilled members of the profession is Mr. Leschinsky, a true artist of talent and attainment. His gallery is equipped for making from the smallest to the largest photos, in card or family group. In fact he does any and all kinds of work pertaining to the art of Photography. He has resided here for 10 years and is well and favorably known.

C. HAUCK.

For 20 years this gentleman has made the anvil ring in Loup City, and is a blacksmith who never lets a poor job leave his shop. He does all kinds of blacksmithing and wood work, and does repairing of all kinds. He is a clever mechanic and all work done by him is fully warranted. His work has stood the test of time for 20 years and he is known as an honest workman and a model citizen.

ST. ELMO HOTEL.

The St. Elmo hotel is one of the finest west of the Platte river and C. L. Drake its present manager is one of the best of landlords. He came to Loup City in June, 1886, and at once commenced the erection of the hotel which has ever since been the pride of this city. He opened the hotel September 1, 1886. It is a two-story structure, with a sixty foot front, eighty feet deep and thirty feet wide, being in shape of an L. The hotel property consists of one half block, with a good livery stable in connection and otherwise extensively improved. The front of the St. Elmo is shaded with a row of beautiful trees set out some twelve years ago. Mr. Drake also has 320 acres of land near the city and has been one of the prime movers in many of the enterprises which have been carried out for the benefit of Sherman county and Loup City. He was president of the first board of the irrigation enterprise and now occupies the position of president of the first Agricultural Fair Association of Sherman county.

A. CULLEY
President

A. P. CULLEY,
Cashier

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