

## JUSTICE IN A GALLOP

John Frank Conner Pleads Guilty to Murder in the Second Degree.

## IS GIVEN A LIFE SENTENCE

Conner Waives Preliminary Examination, Goes into District Court and Pleads Guilty in the Second Degree, and Is in the Pen, Next Morning.

The terrible domestic tragedy on Thursday afternoon of last week, on the Conner farm south of this city, had a quick denouement, last Saturday afternoon, in the preliminary trial, the trial in district court, the sentence of the criminal and his dispatch to the penitentiary at Lincoln, all taking place within a few hours.

About five o'clock, in the district court room, before Justice of the Peace H. H. Berry, occurred the preliminary hearing. The prisoner, through his attorneys Morlan, Ritchie & Wolff, waived examination and hearing, and the justice bound the prisoner over to appear in the district court forthwith, placing the prisoner in the hands of the sheriff of Red Willow county for safe keeping.

R. C. Orr, judge of the district court, was present in the room and announced that the "appearance forthwith" would mean, at eight o'clock, in the evening, in the court room.

At the appointed hour, the district court room was crowded, perhaps fifty women being among the audience, which numbered about 300, all very quiet and orderly.

After some delay, caused in preparation of the complaint and indictment, County Attorney P. E. Reeder appeared and the complaint of the state of Nebraska against John Frank Conner, who had preceded the prosecuting attorney into the court room, was read by Mr. Reeder. The complaint in the language of the law alleged that John Frank Conner had on April 23, 1908, on the Conner farm in Gerver precinct, Red Willow county, Nebraska, shot and murdered his wife Minnie Conner, with malice aforethought and premeditation, the indictment being in detail and full phraseology of law.

The prisoner being asked what his plea would be to the indictment replied that he would plead guilty to murder in the second degree, admitting the killing of his wife.

The sentence of the law in cases of murder in the second degree provides a minimum of ten years and a maximum of "for the term of natural life."

County Attorney Reeder announced that he would accept the plea of guilty of murder in the second degree with the understanding that the sentence should be a life sentence, knowing as he did the circumstances and facts of the case and believing they merited the severest sentence possible to the law.

It then became the unpleasant duty of Judge Orr to pass sentence. But before so doing the judge stated that he thought the prisoner owed it to himself, to the court, and to the people to give his reason for committing so terrible crime as wife murder, and opportunity was given the prisoner so to do.

The prisoner's statement was made in so low a voice that it was impossible for the audience, or those even nearest him, or even the court stenographer, to catch much or a connected account of the story. He recounted the story of the cattle episode in connection with the affair which culminated in his being shot by A. H. Redfern on the bridge spanning the Beaver creek, a year or so ago. This matter was gone over in detail by Conner and according to his statement was the beginning of the end of his troubles in that neighborhood. The gist of Conner's story is that the entire neighborhood was against him from that time on; that he

(CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE)

**Wash Fabrics.**  
Very pretty lawns in figured and in plain colors for 5c a yard; from that up to 75 cents. We show all the desirable novelties of the season in lawns, batistes, voiles, natural and dyed linen suitings, silk muslins, pongees, arnold swisses, French ginghams, etc. You can see these very conveniently in our counter books which contain cuts from every piece in stock. We invite your inspection. The Thompson D. G. Co. Actual cash prices.

**YOUR SNAPS COUNT**  
When we furnish your camera supplies. We have the sort of stock of photo goods that pleases the critical amateur. You pay for the best and freshest supplies in any case. Here you get what you pay for. All sizes of films and plates carried; all the desirable papers. Agency for Eastman kodaks.

L. W. McCONNELL, Druggist.

**Damaged Fruit Severely.**  
While there is considerable difference of expressed opinion as to the amount of damage caused by the severe freeze of Tuesday night, there is small doubt but that the damage was heavy in this section. Ice formed to a thickness of half an inch, and fruit which was advanced to any considerable extent was no question damaged.

**Laces and Embroideries.**  
Our method of displaying these goods makes selections easy and pleasant. Our counter books contain cuts from every piece in stock which numbers over 400 pieces of all kinds of embroideries and more than that many laces. We invite your inspection. The Thompson D. G. Co. Actual cash values.

**Made Voluntary Assignment.**  
First of the week, Harry Simons made a voluntary assignment in favor of his creditors. Chicago and local parties are the creditors. The store is now closed while the stock is being inventoried. Unfavorable business conditions is the reason given for the failure.

**Men's Suits \$5.00 to \$12.50.**  
The newest brown in stripes at \$12.50. Very handsome greys at \$12.50. Absolutely pure black worsted suits for \$10. Neat business suits \$8.50 and \$6.50 and good looking suits for \$5.00. The Thompson D. G. Co. Actual cash prices.

**Score, 25 to 12.**  
When the accountants completed their arduous duty, Saturday afternoon, the score of the ball game between the McCook and Cambridge high school teams was found to be 25 to 12 in favor of the local club. The locals got some fine track work to boot.

**To the Reform School.**  
Judge Orr held a session of juvenile court, last Friday, and sentenced Phillip and Bernie Spiker to be taken to the reform school at Kearney. The boys were taken to Kearney by Sheriff Peterson, last Friday night.

**Suits Have Arrived.**  
The suits for the McCook base ball team have arrived. The suits are green in color, with stockings in red and green. The letter "M" in white on the shirt fronts. They are the famous Spaulding make.

**Attention I. O. O. F.**  
It is desired to have all members present at the next regular meeting, Monday evening, May 4th, when degree work will be given. Visiting Odd Fellows cordially invited to attend.

**W. A. MIDDLETON, Sec'y.**  
"They Sell Sunshine."  
Yes, we have it in all colors. The best varnish stain ever made. Put some Sunshine on that old rocking chair or book case and it will look like new. For sale at Woodworth & Co.'s, Druggists.

**Velle Buggies**  
are the strongest buggy built and the best for the money and are really the cheapest to buy because they last so much longer. At the McCook Hardware Co.'s.

**For Sale.**  
One 14 h. p. Star engine, tender and tank; 32x52 Port Huron separator, self-binder, weigher and wind stacker. Price, \$1,000.—5-1-4ts\*.  
F. B. AMANN, Bloomington, Neb.

**Majestic Ranges**  
are the acknowledged standard of range construction; that is why the biscuits are that beautiful brown all over when baked in these ranges.  
McCook Hardware Co.

**Quick Meal Gasoline Stoves**  
have large burners; this means a saving of oil; the vapor stoves work like gas.  
McCook Hardware Co.

**Special Price on Pictures.**  
Your choice of fifty designs at ten cents each. A. McMILLEN, Druggist.

## PROSPECT IS MOST PROMISING

Proposed Masonic Temple-Opera House Enterprise Meeting with Enthusiastic Popular Approval.

## A LARGE TURNOUT AT CITIZENS' MEETING

Another Meeting Will Be Held, Next Tuesday Evening, When Subscriptions Will Be Open for Stock to Further This Great Enterprise.

No one could have attended the citizens' meeting in the McCook commercial club rooms, Monday evening, held in furtherance of the proposition to build a Masonic temple and opera house in combination, without feeling a swelling tide of optimism as to the final outcome of the campaign recently inaugurated to accomplish that greatly-to-be-desired result.

There was a large and representative attendance of McCook businessmen and citizens interested in McCook's growth, and the consensus of expression was that we can and we will realize this dream of years.

The proposition was clearly stated by Dr. C. L. Farnestock and Albert Barnett, the former making plain what the Masonic fraternity had accomplished in securing three very desirable lots on Main avenue adjoining the present postoffice building, and the latter going into detail as to what is further contemplated. Pictures of a suitable building were exhibited on the walls of the club room, blue prints, plans and elevations, and photographs, exterior and interior, were available to give the eye as well as the mind something to feed upon. Mr. Barnett digressed enough in a reminiscent way to bring to the minds of those present what McCook had accomplished in a quarter-century's growth; indicated her possibilities in a commercial way; referred to what McCook had "done for many of the citizens of McCook and suggested that now is one of the best times in the city's history for those who had been benefitted to do something worthwhile for McCook.

The plans and ideas advanced contemplate the spending of \$35,000 in the enterprise. This is thought to be sufficient to give McCook a modern opera house seating 1,000 people, splendid Masonic temple facilities, besides two fine store rooms and several desirable suites of offices.

Remarks in support of the enterprise were made by Messrs. Walsh, Boyle, Carman, Waite, Pennell, Morlan, Kimmel, Menard, Thompson and others, without a dissenting voice or a false note.

There was a noticeable sentiment prevailing to attack the work of securing stock subscriptions right away, and indications are that several thousand dollars would have been subscribed on the spot, but it was thought best to postpone this until the meeting next week, Tuesday evening, when the work will be taken up with a hearty will and pushed with all vigor.

## FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION.

The matter of a patriotic celebration, July 4th, was taken up and decided in the affirmative. The celebration will dove-tail into the races of the driving park association as far as is practicable. Committees and details will be given out by the commercial club in due season.

## BAND CONCERTS.

The matter of having band concerts during June, July and August came up incidentally, and without opposition the meeting decided to have them and at once took up the work of providing means to defray the expenses of the concerts. Those present subscribed \$200 and Messrs. Carman, Boyle and Scott were appointed a committee to complete the subscriptions.

## CITIZENS' MEETING, NEXT TUESDAY.

Next Tuesday evening, a citizens' meeting will be held in the Menard opera hall, at which time the matter of stock subscriptions to the Masonic temple-opera house enterprise will be taken up. This meeting will necessarily be a strictly business affair and of necessity will be confined to men, businessmen, professionalmen, in fine all men in every walk of life who are interested in McCook's advancement and success.

Entertainment of a musical nature will be provided on this occasion.

It is the fond hope of those boosting this proposition that the men of McCook will attend en masse and that the enterprise will be given a mighty impulse in the form of numerous and liberal subscriptions.

We can.  
We will.

## NORTON HAS—WE WILL.

Norton, Kansas, has built an opera house costing \$33,000. Norton is not more than half the size of McCook, and does not in any large degree represent the commercial importance in its neighborhood that McCook does in this. Let the people of McCook come up to the mark promptly and liberally, and the work will be accomplished. Attend the meeting, next Tuesday evening, and boost for the temple-opera house by taking a liberal block of stock in the enterprise.

## O. E. S. WILL GIVE A PLAY.

The members of the Order of the Eastern Star have decided to give a play for the benefit of the temple-opera house project, of which fuller details in the near future. Even the ladies are boosters for this enterprise.—let no men lag.

## THE AWLOS WILL BE BOOSTERS.

THE TRIBUNE understands upon good authority that the Awl-Os will be among the active and efficient boosters of the temple-opera house project.

**The City Fathers.**  
Regular session, April 27th. Present all. Previous session's minutes read and approved.

Mayor appointed G. W. Godfrey as city marshal and same was confirmed.

Mayor appointed Dr. J. D. Hare as city physician and same was confirmed.

A motion was carried setting out of the fire limits the north half of block 19, original town, provided that no frame structures shall be built nearer than 20 feet of the south line of lots 3 and 10. (To make this motion effective, however, an ordinance will have to be passed, approved and published.)

Request of Oliver Jeffries for permit for a stand on Main or West Dennison streets was referred to committee on streets and alleys.

Official bond of I. N. Biggs, police judge, for \$500, was accepted and filed.

Finance committee reported favorably on the petition for sidewalk on Main hattan and Douglass streets.

City treasurer's report was filed and referred to city attorney.

The citizens having an option on land in the valley south of town offered in writing to transfer same to the city for water works purposes. Same was referred to water committee in connection with city engineer to investigate that or any other suitable tract.

Druggists' permits were granted to C. R. Woodworth & Co., L. W. McConnell and Albert McMillen.

Saloon licenses were granted to Mitchell Brothers, McFann & Cox, W. Y. Johnson, M. U. Clyde, James Steinman and Hendricks & Lathrop.

Billiard and pool hall permits were granted to William Sullivan, Mrs. J. T. Kendlen, Burnett & Morrissey and McFann & Cox.

Card table permits were granted to William Sullivan, Mrs. J. T. Kendlen and Burnett & Morrissey.

City attorney was instructed by motion to collect by suit any unpaid 1907 occupation tax.

Bills as follows were allowed and ordered paid from respective funds:  
Nebraska Telephone Co. \$ 4.50  
C. H. Meeker 10.10  
H. W. Conover, expense 1.75  
D. C. Marsh, mdse 8.25  
A. C. Eldred, salary 12.50  
G. S. Scott, mdse 13.50  
McCook Hardware Co. 70.05  
N. E. Barger, sidewalk 83.20  
L. Thayer, fire claims 6.30

Following fire claims of \$2 each were allowed:

Floyd Berry, J. N. Gaarde, C. A. Leach, W. C. McCarty and G. S. Scott.

## To My Patrons.

I take pleasure in thanking one and all of you for the kind consideration you gave me during my brief stay in the clothing business; and I am sorry to say that existing times caused a disappointment in trade; and in order to protect all of my creditors, I have voluntarily turned over my entire stock at a loss of several thousand dollars to me in order to protect them.

But I am here to stay and I can be found any time at the B. & M. eating house, which I will personally manage hereafter.

Thanking you one and all,  
I am respectfully yours,  
H. SIMONS.

Knowing the exact transactions, I can verify the above letter.  
F. A. PENNELL.

## Lace Curtains.

Very handsome patterns and designs in Nottingham, brussels, tambours, Irish points and swiss curtains for fifty cents to \$6.75 per pair. Also wide single curtains for the landscape windows for \$1.25, \$2.50, \$3.75 each. Lace door panels from 50c up. House cleaning time will shortly draw your attention to the subject of lace curtains and we shall expect you in to look us over. The Thompson D. G. Co. Actual cash prices.

## A Different Spring.

Instead of spring laziness, why not have spring energy? You can, by using McConnell's Sarsaparilla with Burdock. Purifies the blood, tones up the nerves and liver, and gives strength and vitality. Price \$1.00 per bottle.  
L. W. McCONNELL, Druggist.

## Important.

All A. O. U. W. members are requested to be present at the regular meeting, next Monday evening. Matters pertaining to finances will be up for discussion. Also there will be initiation of candidates.

**Benefit of D. of H. Drill Team.**  
Under auspices of the A. O. U. W., a social dance will be given in the Menard opera hall, Tuesday evening, May 19. Tickets, \$1.00.

**Get a John Deere Lister**  
at McCook Hardware Co.'s and not have empty rows across your field to hurt your eyes all summer.

## DEPOSITORS

Like to tell that in bringing their business to a bank they are helping to build it up; in other words, they are giving something for what they receive. We want you to feel that way toward us.

## WE ARE GROWING GROW WITH US

We want your account—want you to know we will appreciate it, be it large or small; want to make ourselves use to you in financial matters, and we can handle your business with profit to you and to ourselves.

## THE McCOOK NATIONAL BANK

P. Walsh, C. F. Lohm,  
President Vice President  
C. J. O'Brien, Cashier

## APPLES.

There will be a car of Extra Fancy New Hampshire Baldwin Apples on track in McCook, Saturday, May 2nd, which will be offered for sale cheap, considering quality.

## Attempted Suicide.

Denver, April 26.—Haunted by a love affair, with the daughter of a prominent citizen of his home, Geneva, Neb., George W. Epley, a graduate of the university of Nebraska, and at one time a leader of Geneva society, attempted suicide shortly after midnight this morning, by hurling himself through a large glass window on the third floor of a rooming house. When he was picked up on a platform about thirty feet below, he was a bleeding mass. Epley was 35 years old and came from McCook, Neb., yesterday. He was the son of the president of the First National bank of Geneva.

## Light Weight Suitings

in shadow-striped panama, in batistes of every color and three grades, in mohairs of newest striped and checked patterns, in voiles of black and colors, in shepherd checks of brown and white, of black and white, of blue and white;—a very complete and desirable assortment at from 35 cents up to \$1.00 yard. The Thompson D. G. Co. Actual cash prices.

## Black Silk 29c a Yard.

A flyer, a chance shot, just once in a life time as it were. A good grade of all silk with the satin finished surface most desired, a perfect black, for the unheard of price of 29 cents a yard. Not more than 20 yards to one customer. The Thompson D. G. Co. Actual cash values.

## Jake Lacey's Monster Show.

Jake Lacey's monster show opened here, last Saturday. There was a parade in the afternoon, with humorous features of numerous sorts. Jake carried all the solemnity of a Barnum, however, and that sort of equalized matters.

## Dress Skirts \$2.00 to \$12.50

in the desirable colors of wire voiles, chiffon panamas, shadow-striped batistes etc., etc., \$2.00 to \$12.50. Alterations free. The Thompson D. G. Co. Actual cash values.

## Firless Cookers.

What do you think of that? Call and see them at McCook Hardware Co.'s.

## Farm Loans.

Go to Johnson & Rozell.

Remember the May Day  
Breakfast, Congregational  
Church, Saturday morning,  
6:30 to 9. 25 cents.

## Strictly Cash Basis, June 1.

This is to notify my patrons that on and after June 1st, 1908, my meat market will be conducted on a STRICTLY CASH BASIS. Business conditions make this action necessary, and it will be strictly adhered to. D. C. MARSH.

Let Us Show You  
our Wall Paper before you make your purchase.  
A. McMILLEN, Druggist.

RACES AT McCOOK  
—  
July 3rd and 4th, 1908  
—  
BIG PURSES  
—  
Four Races Each Day  
—  
Arrangements are being made for Patriotic celebration July 4th