

The North Platte Semi-Weekly Tribune.

THIRTIETH YEAR.

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Pertinent Paragraphs Pertaining to the Paving and Park Propositions.

A Statement.

When the proposition of purchasing the Dillon tract of land for park purposes was first taken up for consideration and an examination of the records made, it was found that the plat on file showed ninety-four and a fraction acres, and the tax receipts also showed the same acreage. To satisfy the people as to what the exact acreage is, City Engineer McNamara made a survey of the land Wednesday and found it to be but seventy-five acres. The survey was reported to Mr. Birge, who stated that he had been paying taxes on ninety-four and a fraction acres; that he had two offers of \$12,000 for the tract, and that in face of these offers he could not very well reduce the price to the city.

While the re-survey caused some surprise to those who have been boosting the proposition they believe that the area of the tract is sufficient for all purposes for a community park, and that if the seventy-five acres are worth \$12,000 to an individual they are worth more than that to the city as a community park.

The result of the re-survey could very easily have been kept quiet, but there is no desire on the part of those who favor the proposition to engage in any underhanded or unfair work—they want the people to know the facts and the men who started the movement would not misrepresent the facts for the sake of securing one or a dozen city parks.

BE A BOOSTER.

Be a Booster if you can.
Booster of your fellow man.
Boost your project, boost your state.
Boost your town at any rate.
Boost it as a place to live.
Boost it—every boost you give
Makes the town a better town.
Boost it up, don't knock it down.
Be a Booster for you can.
Boosting is the better plan.
Boosters always win acclaim;
Boost the knockers to their shame.
Boost them for they need your help.
Make them yell instead of yelp;
Boost them till they have to boost.
Boost them up, or off the roost.

Don't be Selfish

Suppose you would not visit the park once a year, you know there are hundreds of people who will visit it daily or weekly. Are you so selfish that you will not donate a small sum yearly for the benefit of others?

Big Property Owners Favor Bonds.

Messrs. Neville, McDonald, Waltemath, Pizer, Reynolds, Belton and others who have large property interests in North Platte favor street paving. They are among the men who will not only pay for paving the streets, but will also pay their share of the interest on the bonds—and their share will amount to quite a sum. If these men are willing to shoulder more than three-fourths of the entire cost of the paving, certainly the property owners at large should be willing to pay their share.

James Belton Favors Bonds.

James Belton, who for several years past has made his home in San Diego, Cal., but still owns the buildings occupied by the Crystal theatre, the Dickey Bakery and by Howe & Maloney, has written Mr. Maloney that he is glad that North Platte wants to pave its streets, and requests that Mr. Maloney work and vote for the bonds. Mr. Belton realizes that North Platte has too long worn the swaddling clothes of a country village and that it is time to wake up and become more modern.

Work for the Laborers.

City Engineer McNamara estimates—and Charley is in a position to know—that thirty per cent, or about \$18,000 of the \$60,000 to be expended for street paving will be paid out to laborers and to teamsters for hauling sand and other material. Paving means employment for a number of men and under the specifications local labor is to be employed, thus creating work for the laborers of North Platte and plenty work is what the laborer needs. The money paid for labor is put in circulation right here in town and creates business for the grocer, the butcher, baker—and the rest of us.

Paving Popular in Kearney.

The city of Kearney voted on the proposition Tuesday of issuing \$50,000 bonds to pave street intersections and alley spaces and the proposition carried in each of the four wards. Like North Platte, Kearney was somewhat slow in taking up paving, but since the first pavement has been laid practically everybody is in favor of permanent roadways. Kearney has paved one district, is now at work paving a second, and the bonds to be voted Tuesday will be used in the third district. The experience of Kearney will be repeated in North Platte—once paving is started everybody will want it.

Young Men Should Take an Interest.

The young men in North Platte and especially those above voting age, should interest themselves in the affairs of the city, and when bond propositions, such as we have before us today, come up they should get out and vote, and not only vote but work for the success of the measure. The older men of the town who have been

doing the boosting for twenty-five years, realize that sooner or later they must give up the work, and younger men carry it on. They one and all believe that the present time is a most excellent opportunity for the young fellows to jump into the harness. Start in today young men to boost for the paving and park bonds, both of which are propositions that merit your best efforts.

Ladies are Boosters

Two the best boosters for street paving and the park are Misses Anna and Josie O'Hare. They were present at the booster meeting Monday evening, and both in talks regretted that they could not vote as well as boost for public improvements. If the women of North Platte had an opportunity to vote for street paving and park bonds there would be no question about the result. If the men of the town were half as good boosters as the women North Platte would be the busiest, brightest, best and most beautiful town in the west. But be patient, ladies, within three years the right to vote will be yours.

Look up Your Valuation.

Did you, as suggested by The Tribune, look up the assessed value of your home and figure just what the paving bonds and park bonds will cost you? And if you have did you not find the sum just what The Tribune said it would be? The Tribune will not misrepresent in order to gain votes, it is absolutely square. It stated that if your home is worth \$2,500 or \$2,800 and assessed at \$400, you will pay forty cents a year as your share of the interest on the paving bonds and thirty cents on the park bonds—seventy cents a year. If your assessed value is smaller the amount you pay will be correspondingly less; if larger your share will be correspondingly greater; but in no event will the tax be a burden to you. Let everybody boost the two bond propositions and thus show to the outside world that we are a wide-awake progressive town.

Be Consistent

We run across a man Tuesday who said he wanted to see the streets paved, but he didn't want to vote bonds. We asked him if bonds were not voted or a direct tax levied, how the streets could be paved? His reply was as you might expect; he said "I don't know." Of course he doesn't know; neither does anybody else know. A city, be an individual, can't get something for nothing. If we want paved streets, somebody must pay for them, and certainly as the street intersections and the alley spaces belong to and are the property of the city you could not justly and consistently ask the property owners on the streets to be paved to pay for the intersections and spaces any more than to ask your neighbor to build and pay for a sidewalk in front of your property. Therefore when a man tells you that he favors public improvements but is opposed to bonds, you can safely put it down that he is telling you a falsehood—he don't favor public improvements—he is a knocker.

North Platte Covers Much Ground.

About half the people of North Platte don't seem to know or realize the ground covered by North Platte, and occasionally you hear one say that the Dillon park is too far out of the way. Is that so? Well let's consider where you could possibly secure a like number of acres that would be nearer—just scratch your cranium awhile, and let us know where that land is located. Did you ever stop to consider that North Platte covers thirty blocks east and west and eighteen blocks north and south and that no matter where the park was located some of the people would need travel anywhere from twelve to twenty blocks to reach the park? This park is to be a community park, it isn't to be bought for the accommodation of any particular section of the city or because it is easy of access by some one particular portion of the city. It is to be for the benefit of all the people, and with the area covered by the city, and which area is being increased each year, there is no land so well adapted for park purposes, more easily accessible, or more convenient to the people of the whole town than is the Dillon tract.

A Holy Horror of Bonds

One reason why North Platte still wears the swaddling clothes of a country village so far as public improvements are concerned, is because the people have a holy horror of bonds, yet more than half of them run store accounts and at times borrow money at the banks. They go in debt themselves, but think it is perfectly awful for a city to go in debt—bond itself. Now we want to ask every man in North Platte this question: Were you ever in or have you ever heard of a progressive and prosperous city that has not a bonded debt? Do you suppose that New York and Chicago would have become, as they are, the greatest commercial cities in the world had they never bonded themselves? Do you know that both these cities are bonded to the limit, and that if five millions of bonds are paid this week, next week five millions more will be issued? And yet these cities have prospered wonderfully, in fact their

progress is the wonder of the whole world. Did the Odd Fellows, the Masons and the Elks pay cash for their splendid buildings in North Platte? No, emphatically no; if this had been necessary the buildings would not have been built. We are not advocating a profligate expenditure of money; but we do insist that North Platte is in the discard as compared with other towns in the matter of public improvements; that these improvements cannot be made without the issuance of bonds, and that there is no progressive town that has not a bonded indebtedness.

"That Awful" Railroad Crossing.

"I would be in favor of the park proposition," remarked a man yesterday, "if it were not for that awful Locust street crossing." We conversed with the man a few minutes and he admitted that he had only crossed the track once in more than a year. Dangerous crossing? Why truly there is less danger in passing over the Locust street railroad crossing than there is in crossing Dewey street Saturday evening when the auto drivers are out in full force. Don't you know that every train, every light engine, every switch engine must come to a dead stop before passing over the crossing, and when getting under motion after making the stop, the train or engine must be preceded over the crossing by the flagman, brakeman or switchman? Ask the engineer about this matter and he will tell you that the engineer who passes over the crossing without coming to a dead stop is promptly discharged—it is a dischargeable offense and all the railroad men know it—we repeat, you are more safe passing over the Locust street railroad crossing than you are crossing Dewey street on Saturday evening.

Possibilities Unlimited.

The possibilities of the Dillon tract of land as a community park for the people of North Platte is almost unlimited. There is ample room for fair grounds, race track, ball grounds, golf links, one corner on the river bank can be used for gun club trap shooting, foot ball grounds for the children can there be located, the grove affords a splendid place for holding Sunday school, lodge and church picnics, it would make ideal Chautauqua grounds, and with but little expense a lake for boating and bathing could eventually be created with but little expense. The city is constantly hauling dirt for the streets, why not excavate for the lake and use the dirt on the streets, making the excavation as the dirt is needed. The present dirt pit is about exhausted and additional land for that purpose must be purchased. The grove on the ground will provide the necessary shade while the newly planted trees are getting their growth. If we bought land elsewhere we would need wait for fifteen or twenty years before we would have trees large enough for shade. There is no other tract of land so well situated, so well adapted for a community park as the Dillon tract. Certainly we will be a foolish people if we refuse to buy it at the present time—and ten years from now we will, if we neglect to buy, be strongly condemning ourselves.

The Lighting Contract.

The street lighting contract which will be presented at the election next Tuesday, is one that was drawn by a committee of citizens, approved by the city council and is now up to the voters for approval or rejection. This committee of which E. R. Goodman was chairman, spent several months gathering data relative to street lighting in towns of North Platte's size and condition and one of the strong features they sought was to safeguard the best interests of the city. The contract runs for a period of five years; and under its provisions the present lighting will be about doubled at an increased cost to the city of about \$325 a year. If the contract is ap-

proved by the voters, the company will put in an entirely new line of wire, lamps, shades, and other necessary material at a cost of between \$3,000 and \$4,000. At present the city has no contract with the electric company; in fact there has been no contract for five or six years. When the contract with the former company expired the council refused to renew unless a better system was provided. This the old company was financially unable to do, and so by common consent the matter has slid along, the city paying the old rate for a very unsatisfactory system of street lighting. The new contract having been drawn by the citizens' committee, the voter can rest assured that there is no "nigger in the wood pile," and that the adoption of the contract means double the present light at an increase of only ten per cent in cost.

Brands Story as Falsehood

W. W. Birge brands as an absolute falsehood the story in circulation on the streets that the Dillon tract of land was offered for six thousand dollars within the last year. Mr. Birge says that a year before the late Mr. Dillon died, or about six years ago, Mr. Dillon refused an offer of \$10,000 for the same tract of land that is being offered to the city for \$12,000. Any fair minded person will agree that land contiguous to the city has advanced more than twenty per cent during the past six years, and that if this land was held at over \$10,000 six years ago, it is easily worth \$12,000 today.

Here is Something in Store for Us

The Tribune was told some mighty good news for North Platte this week which, however, cannot be given publicity at present. It will assume material form within the next year and will be a realization of North Platte's fondest desire. Our informant permitted no statement further than these few lines. We will add this in sincerity: If North Platte does as well to itself next Tuesday as outside interests will do within the next year, we will certainly be a bigger and better town.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Mrs. Edward Robbhausen entertained the Degree of Honor social club Wednesday afternoon.

Biggest assortment of Fall Suits ever shown in the city, 200 of them now on display at BLOCK'S. Prices \$10 to \$40.00.

New Fall Coats of any description, any style, any size, at any price now shown at BLOCK'S.

Miss Dolly Kidwell, of Wallace, who had been visiting in town, left this morning.

H. A. Chambers returned to Woodbine Iowa, Wednesday afternoon, after visiting at the Elmer Coates home for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. George Austin are enjoying a visit from the former's brother, John Austin, who came from Avoca Iowa, yesterday.

Mrs. H. P. Hansen and daughter and Miss Hazel Minshall left Wednesday evening for Omaha and Lincoln. The former will visit friends and the latter take up her duties as teacher in the Lincoln schools.

Weather forecast for North Platte and vicinity: Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday, cooler tonight. Highest temperature yesterday 76, a year ago 84; lowest last night 56, a year ago 57.

Another improvement to the business buildings on Dewey street has been started. New fronts are being put in the Donaldson building occupied by Harry Dixon and Diener & Fleishman.

A Union Pacific official says it is probable that when the new Hotel McCabe is ready for occupancy the Pacific Hotel will close its doors. While the officials do not so state it is generally said that the hotel is losing money every day it is operated.

Harry Piercy Married

Friends in town have received cards announcing the marriage of Harry Achilles Piercy to Miss Frances Lora Gilbert. The ceremony occurred August 15th at Tonopah, Nevada. The groom will be remembered as a former North Platte boy.

Wanted—Experienced saleslady, at The Fashion Shop.

Misses Irene and Dorothy Hubbard visited in Gothenburg yesterday.

Mrs. Bert Barber went to Sidney last evening to spend a week or longer.

F. W. Hermlinghausen has returned from Missouri where he spent the past week.

Arthur Bullard left this morning for Minneapolis to spend ten days on business.

Miss Lucy Lott, of Wymore, arrived here Wednesday to take charge of the Hub millinery.

The bible class of District No. 1 will meet with Mrs. W. T. Banks Tuesday afternoon.

Miss Elizabeth Hanlon returned last evening from Denver where she visited friends.

A number of young people are planning to attend the social dance at Hershey this evening.

The Epworth League will meet with Miss Gail Swanson, 903 west Third street this evening.

Mrs. M. E. Watts is furnishing her house west of the Ray Langford residence and will occupy the same after October first.



SHIRTS

THAT STAND THE MOST TRIPS TO THE LAUNDRY ARE THE BEST SHIRTS FOR YOU TO BUY.

Our \$1.50 Manhattan shirts are guaranteed fast color and the strength of the fabric will enable them to withstand more laundry trips than most shirts that cost more. Try them out under our guarantee protection.

GOOD SUITS FOR GROWING BOYS

Strongly enforced at the critical points—knees and seat. All wool materials—blue serges and a fine line of fancy weaves.

You will like the way they wear and hold their shape until worn out.

Bring us your boy to clothe and we will save you money.

\$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$5.

HARCOURT & JENSEN

The Clothing Store of Better Value.



The National Fashion Show

known as

The Young Men's Style Week

Will be held in Burke's Clothing Shop.

Sept. 4, to 11, inclusive

We urge your attendance, to introduce the

Famous Young Men's Tailors

KINGSBAKER-BEIRSDORF

Chicago.

Whose line of the newest woollens and the latest

Young Men's Fashions

WILL BE demonstrated for your style information

Prices \$20.00 to \$35.00

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR NO SALE

Authorized Tailor for R. R. Uniforms

Room 9 Walmath Bldg.

EDW. BURKE.

McVICKERS' Beautiful Fall Hats.

Our first display of attractive New Millinery will be given

September, 16 and 17.

The discriminating buyer will find our hats to be of unusual value and exquisite charm. Our big quantity buying enables us to retail high class millinery at more reasonable prices than the small buyer must ask for inferior merchandise.

We Sell "REGINA HATS." Best in Style, workmanship and quality. Ask to see them. We will be pleased to welcome the trade to our First Fall Opening.

McVickers' Millinery

2nd FLOOR THE LEADER.

Lexington, Cozad, North Platte, Ogallala.