

STATE FIRE INSPECTOR SAYS PROTECTION LAME

MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MORE EQUIPMENT FOR THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

Lack of Interest on Part of Citizens is Responsible for the Present Demoralized Condition of our Fire Fighting Force.

The state fire inspector has called the attention of the mayor and council to the condition of the North Platte fire department, which he suggests is inadequate to properly protect a city of this size. He recommends more equipment and the organization of three companies, one of which with proper equipment should be located in the Fourth ward.

The inspector simply directs attention to a condition that is known to all who are conversant with city affairs, namely that the fire department is at present in a more demoralized condition than it has been for years. This is not the fault of the present chief nor the handful of men who are members, but rather to the lack of interest on the part of citizens generally and the disinclination on the part of the younger element to associate themselves with the department.

The declination of the membership and the lack of interest in the department began when the people of the city, by their votes, refused to issue bonds for a city hall in which it was proposed to provide quarters for the men and the apparatus. It was only natural that this refusal should discourage those who had previously taken a wide awake interest in the department. They argued, and reasonably so, that if the citizens generally did not appreciate the department sufficiently to provide quarters for it, they had no right to expect the members to devote without pay, their time to an organization that was hardly noticed by the people.

Not as an alarmist, but as one interested in the city, The Tribune makes the statement that under present conditions the fire department would be practically helpless in the case of a big fire, and through this lack of efficiency and equipment thousands of dollars worth of property is liable to complete loss any day or any night.

It is time that citizens generally, especially the larger holders of city property, wake up to real conditions as it relates to fire protection.

Tuesday last was some big day in Omaha, as on that particular day the stockyards of that city led every other place in the world on the receipts of livestock for one day, with over 51,000 cattle and 31,000 hogs. Chicago was second and Kansas City third.

Mrs. C. F. Spencer, of this city, state president of the P. E. O., was the guest of the Gothenburg chapter Tuesday evening, as was also Mrs. Killian, of Kearney, state organizer. A four course dinner was served at the home of Mrs. J. J. Jennings.

The Fifth Nebraska regiment of which the North Platte company is a part, arrived at Fort Crook yesterday from Llano Grande just seven months to a day from the time it left Lincoln July 9th for border service. The regiment comprises 697 men and fifty officers. It is uncertain how long the regiment will remain at Fort Crook before being mustered out.

Mrs. Dee Raney, of Wallace, spent the first of the week visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Greeley Bundy.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Miss Grace O'Neill has resigned her position at the O'Connor store.

Jack Foster, formerly of this city, is reported to be very ill in Omaha.

J. V. Romigh, the auto man, is transacting business in Gothenburg today.

Rev. Gleason, of Ogalalla who spent several days here returned home Wednesday evening.

Miss Abbie Foster was called to Omaha the first of this week by the illness of her father.

Rev. Ives of Ogalalla came yesterday morning to spend a few days with Archdeacon Bowker.

The Monday program at the Keith will present "The Patriot," a powerful and unusual screen story of a vital theme, featuring W. S. Hart, and the Keystone comedy "The Feathered Nest," with Chas Murray and Louise Fazenda.

Segis Pledge Rose, the large Holstein heifer at the Substation on the 23d day of her official 30-day test, produced in one official day of 24 hours, on February 4, 100 pounds or approximately 12.5 gallons of milk. At 10 cents per quart her day's production would amount to a total value of \$5.

The Hub department store, formerly conducted by W. T. Banks, who recently left for California, has been purchased by Roy Banks and Frank Elliott who have taken possession. A number of improvements both exterior and interior are being made and the amount of stock carried will be greatly increased.

The Junior class of the high school has in preparation a minstrel show that will be given Friday evening of next week February 16th, in the senior high school auditorium. The last time we attended a minstrel given by the students we thought it very clever, the features being original and the characters well taken. It is probable the show next week will be fully as amusing and enjoyable.

Superintendent Snyder returned from Omaha Wednesday where he made arrangements with Dr. B. B. Davis, Omaha's chief surgeon, to mate four Holstein-Friesian heifers of the Substation with Rag Apple Korndyke Boon, a \$500 pound bull. This is the bull that Dr. Davis bought for \$2500 when a calf to head the Friesland Dairy Farm herd. This herd is considered by many breeders as the best herd of Holstein-Friesian cattle in the state. The service fee of Rag Apple Korndyke Boon is \$100.00.

Bombs to the right of him, bombs to the left of him, bombs in his pocket, bombs in his hands, bombs in his hat, bombs everywhere, and John Barrymore nearly expires with fright and terror when he finds himself elected by a band of nihilists to assassinate the Czar himself. He has been introduced to them as the foremost American king exterminator, when in reality he is nothing in the world but a terrific corset salesman, in Saturday night's Keith feature, "The Red Widow." Mr. Barrymore says he envied Raymond Hitchcock who played the part of Hannibal Butts in the play on the speaking stage as he did not have to fear the undertaker. But even if the making of the film was hard on Jack Barrymore it makes good entertainment for the rest of us.

Piano at a Bargain. Customer near North Platte, Neb., is unable to finish payments on piano contract. We will turn piano over to first satisfactory party who will pay balance either cash or five dollars per month. Write Schmoller & Mueller Piano Co., Omaha, Neb.

PLANS FOR CELEBRATION ARE BEING MATURED

HOLDING COMPANY MEETS AND HEARS REPORTS MADE BY SECRETARY MOONEY.

Authority Given to Assemble the Floats, Close Contract With the Amusement Company and Arrange for Indian Battle.

The twenty-five business men who compose the holding company which is backing the North Platte Semi-Centennial celebration held a meeting at the Hotel McCabe Wednesday evening and had submitted to them reports of the progress that has been made by President J. B. McDonald and Secretary George Mooney. The secretary had with him an immense stack of correspondence which he had had with amusement companies, with promoters and designers of electrical floats, with originators of pyrotechnic displays, and with those who volunteer suggestions as to putting on the Indian battle of Summit Springs. This Indian battle, which was to have formed one of the features of the show to have been staged by Colonel Cody, had been worked out in detail, and through the kindness of John Baker the complete scenario has been forwarded to the secretary. This gives Mr. Mooney an opportunity to work up the scenes just as they were to have been presented by the late Col. Cody. This battle, in which several hundred Indians and soldiers will engage, and which will be one of the features of the celebration, will be produced two successive evenings with the scene laid at the city park and viewed from the grand stand. The feature will conclude with a pyrotechnic display each evening, \$800 having been appropriated for the fireworks.

A contract was ordered closed with the Parker Amusement Co. The features to be presented by this company, eight or ten in number, are high class—not hoochie coochie girls, plantation singers, snake eaters and other cheap acts usually furnished by carnival companies—but novelties that are really interesting and worth while. The paraphernalia for one act alone weighs eleven tons. The detail of these acts will be given later.

The reproduction of two blocks of Front street as it appeared in the very early days will prove highly interesting. This scene has been very accurately drawn and the building fronts will be an exact duplicate of the original. This street scene will be embodied in the advertising booklet, of which 25,000 copies will be printed for distribution far and wide.

The designs for the twelve electrical floats, which will represent the development of the west have been completed and work on them will shortly begin. In addition to these floats there will be in the pageant ox teams, emigrant wagons, cowboys and Indians representing the pioneer days and then in contrast will be the automobile with the occupants arrayed in evening clothes, and other evidences of advanced civilization of the people.

The Cinderella ball and the Queen's ball will be the two big social functions, the first for children, the latter for adults. These balls will be held in a tent 80x120 feet in area. The queen will be selected by a vote of the people, each vote cast costing the depositor one cent, and the successful contestant will be awarded a \$200 diamond ring. There will be ladies-in-waiting as well as matrons to the queen. There will also be a king, whose identity will not be disclosed until the coronation ceremony, which will precede the ball.

The North Platte band, the Parker Co. band, and two others to be engaged will give concerts at intervals during the days and evenings.

Many minor features are being worked out and there is no question that the last week of June will prove one of the greatest weeks western Nebraska has ever known.

To handle the different phases of the work, nine committees will be selected, and the chairman of each of these committees will form the executive board.

Submarines are Busy.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Lloyd's report for the third day of Germany's new submarine campaign shows that the undersea boats are maintaining the average of destruction set by the Berlin naval experts as necessary to success. The third day's reported losses totaled 27,985 tons and the preceding two days' totaled 56,600.

At such a rate the destruction of 1,000,000 tons a month, which is the German aim, would seem about to be accomplished. German naval experts contend that such an average would cut England off from the world and end the war by its starvation.

It is realized here, however, that the British government is not lacking in measures to keep the seas open and that these will become apparent as the campaign progresses. It is pointed out that while the world knows of the losses of merchant ships, it knows little, if anything at all, about the losses of the submarine flotillas.

Stock and Dairy Farm for Sale, 640 acres located 7 miles north of Maxwell, well and windmill, 3 miles of fencing, 65 acres in cultivation, balance hay and pasture. Price six dollars per acre. Terms \$1500.00 cash and balance on easy terms, six per cent interest. There is a big bargain in this property.

BUCHANAN & PATTERSON, Agents.

Veterans' Ball Well Attended.

The third annual ball of the Spanish War Veterans was held Wednesday evening at the Lloyd opera house and the attendance was one of the largest of this season. Bunting in the national colors was draped on the balcony and walls and at intervals a large shield in the red white and blue was used. The Stamp orchestra furnished an enjoyable program of popular dances and dancing continued until one o'clock. The usual concert which preceded the opening of the ball on former occasions was omitted, and the time devoted to dancing. Large flags were lowered from the gallery across the hall while the orchestra played the "Star Spangled Banner." A. W. Shilling, Leonard Robinson, A. E. Bell, Arthur Hammond and their assistants left nothing undone which would add to the pleasure of the attendants. The advance sale of tickets was very gratifying and this amount was doubled by tickets sold at the door. The ball was a social and financial success and those in charge are to be complimented.

Married Fifty-Six Years.

To Mr. and Mrs. John Wortley, of this city, has been accorded the privilege and happiness of having spent fifty-six years of married life, the anniversary occurring Wednesday. They were married at Brookfield, Mo., February 7th, 1861, and came to this city in 1873, and for twenty-five years lived on a ranch northeast of town, moving into the city about a dozen years ago. Mr. Wortley is eighty years of age, and Mrs. Wortley seventy-three, the latter attaining that age yesterday. Mrs. Wortley has been ill for a couple of weeks and this precluded the possibility of a celebration of the wedding anniversary, but during the day many friends called to extend congratulations.

Bonus Checks Arrive

The bonus checks issued by the Union Pacific to employees who received less than \$1800 last year, arrived this morning and are being distributed today. Each check represents ten percent of the salary earned during last year.

The total number of checks received at this terminal was three hundred, and they averaged above \$75 each, making the total sum over \$25,000. This generosity on the part of the Union Pacific company should certainly be—and undoubtedly is—appreciated by the employes.

Frank Winn Injured.

Frank D. Winn, of Kearney, for many years a North Platte railroad man, was seriously injured Wednesday when he was run into by an auto while riding his wheel. Winn suffered a broken collar bone, a wrenched back and many cuts and bruises. For several hours following the accident he was in a semi-conscious condition.

Methodist-Presbyternan

Sunday schools 10 a. m. Morning worship 11 a. m. Mr. Cram will speak on "Jerusalem First." Patriotic service in the evening. Mr. White will speak on "Likenesses between Abraham Lincoln and Jesus Christ."

Mrs. George White, of Sutherland, is visiting this week with Mrs. Hugh Bird.

Sheriff A. J. Salisbury has returned from Lincoln where he accompanied Roy Roberts to the penitentiary.

William Nunn, who was arrested recently for assaulting John Fay, plead guilty in the county court yesterday. He was fined five dollars and costs and being unable to pay was taken back to jail to serve his sentence.

Undertaker W. R. Maloney was called to Paxton yesterday to take charge of the body of James Burns who died of blood poisoning at the age of sixty-seven. He was a farmer in that vicinity.

Jack Harter was granted a divorce in the district court Tuesday afternoon from Perla Ramsey Harter to whom he was married August 13, 1913 in Alliance. The defendant has resided in Denver for several years past and refused to locate here. The grounds for the divorce were abandonment.

County Attorney Halligan and Mrs. Halligan left Wednesday afternoon for Omaha and Lincoln. The former had been called to take charge of Company E at Ft. Crook and the latter will visit her parents. Attorney J. J. Halligan has been appointed as deputy county attorney to act during the absence of his son.

Now that we have a paved section, the next move is to purchase a sweeping machine. The street commissioner has been directed to ascertain the cost of a suitable sweeper. It was ever thus; one investment calls for another. We repair the rooms of our homes, then conclude that the bright clean walls make our furniture look shabby and we buy new furniture. So with the improvements of a city.

The ordinance which provides for narrowing residential streets to thirty-six feet in proposed paving districts was read for the first time at the council meeting Tuesday and will be further considered at the next regular meeting. By making the streets thirty-six feet instead of allowing them to remain forty-six feet, will save about eighty dollars to each owner of a sixty-six foot lot, and leave the street plenty wide for all purposes.

For Sale

66 foot lot on west Sixth street. Sidewalk in, sewer and gas in alley. \$100 down, balance easy payments. O. R. Robinson, 322 west Second.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Mark Atchison and wife will leave this week for Rochester, Minn., to spend a couple of weeks.

The girls' domestic science club will hold an exchange in Derryberry & Forbes window Saturday.

R. D. Birge has been in Omaha for several days past attending the convention of the state lumber dealers' association.

Mrs. Owen O'Neil and family will move this week to Green River. Mr. O'Neil has been employed there for several months.

Victor F. Beck, who had been employed as an architect in Omaha for nine years, arrived in North Platte this week to locate permanently.

At a meeting of the Nebraska association of abstractors, held in Lincoln this week, O. E. Elder, of this city, was elected one of the five vice-presidents.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Fenwick went to Omaha this morning where Mr. Fenwick will be "looked over" by Dr. Jonas preparatory to being placed on the pension list.

Mrs. J. D. Cox, of this city, was in Grand Island Tuesday attending the marriage of her sister, Miss Eva Mull, of Sutherland, to Chas. E. Wallace, of Filley, Neb. The couple will reside in the latter place.

The ladies of the Methodist aid society will again make an effort to see the \$100 offered by Today's Magazine for subscriptions. The ladies have earned this sum twice before and are anxious to succeed again as it will assist them in raising their share of the expense of the new church building. If those who desire to renew their subscriptions will please give the renewal to any of the Methodist ladies it will be greatly appreciated. The ladies desire to secure the required number before April 1st, an after that date the price will be raised from 50 cents to 75 cents a year.

J. F. French, colored porter on train No. 13 was arrested here this morning for assaulting the news agent on the train. He will be given a hearing in the county court this afternoon.

The I. O. O. F. lodge held a meeting last evening at which they took in a class of forty-one. Twenty-seven of these were local people and the remainder were residents of Dickens and Wallace.

It is announced that the co-operative grocery in the Bratt building on Locust street will open next week. A membership of 400 is claimed, each of whom pay a dollar a month with the promise that goods will be sold to them at actual cost, the \$400 per month received from the membership supposedly paying the operating expenses. Each purchaser must deliver the goods he buys.

At a meeting the fore part of this week held by the Suburban Irrigation District officers for the current year were elected in the first district as follows: Director, Charles McDonald; treasurer, J. G. Beeler; assessor, Charles Wyman. Two other districts are to be heard from before the votes can be canvassed, which will be Monday afternoon. The district is composed of eight thousand acres.

The officers of the North Platte band state that unless some arrangements are made in the near future to give them financial support that the regular summer band concerts will be discontinued. It is not their intention to disband, however, but will continue to practice in order to play on public occasions and if the necessary funds for music is given them they will be pleased to hold the concerts every week.

F. J. DIENE & CO. Real Estate and Insurance. Come and see us for town lots in different parts of the city. Good investments on easy terms. Houses for sale and rent. We have also good bargains in farms and ranches. Cor. Front and Dewey Sts. upstairs.

Organ Recital By Miss Florence MacKay. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, This [Friday] Evening, 8 o'clock. PROGRAM: Prelude and Fuge in D minor. (a) Gondolied. (b) At Twilight. (c) Humorske. 11th Hungarian Rhapsody. March Popticale. Sunset. Midsummer Caprice. (a) Andantino in D. (b) The Rosary. Trombone solo. Marche Militaire. ADMISSION 35 CENTS.

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