

## HISTORIC CITY NOW IN DECAY

### STORY OF BROWNVILLE IN HER EARLY AND PALMY DAYS.

St. Louis Newspaper Contains a Highly Interesting Sketch of the Old Town—Once the Greatest in the Missouri Valley.

A Brownville, Neb., correspondent writing to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch of the 6th says: "Up and down the Missouri river on the west side of the stream are many ruins that were left by the decay of the river traffic. The towns that were once prosperous in the old river days, are now a mass of ruins and Brownville is the greatest of them all. It is a ruined city of handsome homes and large business houses, nearly all of them unoccupied and falling into decay.

On the high bluffs overlooking the river are homes that cost thousands of dollars, some of them as much as \$50,000, but today they are empty or occupied only by caretakers. Many of them are brick and stone structures as large as castles, but the roofs are falling in and the oak finishings inside are mouldy and rotten. Others are in a better state of preservation, but there is an air of desertion about them all. Down on the level, where was once the business section of the city, are large houses built of stone and brick in which only silence reigns. Two or three bank buildings, handsome structures in their time, stand on the main streets, and rats scurry across the counters where once money was passed. The vaults are empty and the combinations to the safes are lost. Large business houses are unoccupied, decaying as they stand, and weeds are growing in the paved streets in front of them. The gas plant is a ruin and the lamps on the street corners are never lighted.

In the pioneer days of the west Brownville was a magnificent little city. It was the home of many men who have been known nationally, some of them in the heyday of the town's existence and others who made themselves known in the world after the town had fallen into decay. In its best days the town had many schools and colleges. It was the seat of learning on the river. Newspapers were published here, and even a book publishing house flourished for a time. The river traffic made Brownville and it was also the gateway for much of the overland travel in the days of California gold excitement. The settlement of a greater part of the Northwest was through Brownville or at least such settlement as was made before the advent of western railroads.

The first blow to Brownville's prosperity was when the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs railroad was built on the other side of the river. The building of the road presaged the decay of the river traffic, and it followed quickly. The large river steamers, which had visited Brownville daily on their journeys up and down the stream, began to disappear and, although, it was not recognized then as the inevitable, Brownville's doom was sealed.

Omaha began to build up and finally secured the Union Pacific railroad. Civilization spread out over Nebraska and Kansas, too far away from Brownville to reach it without a railroad.

A great many rich men lived here at that time and the business men were enterprising. They recognized the need of a railroad, which they thought would revive the flagging interests of the country. Bonds were voted for a road, but the road was never built. Years later bonds were again voted for another road, to be delivered when the road had been built. It was constructed and the bonds were delivered, but the next year the rails were taken up.

A railroad was finally secured, but it was too late. Brownville had been forgotten. Civilization had gone around it, leaving the little city isolated. Even the county seat was moved away, a greater part of the population going with it, and the town stands today a practically deserted ruin, inhabited by the few who cannot get away and perhaps by a small number who live here from choice.

At one time the town was the home of a United States senator. The man who has been a United States senator and more than once the subject of Nast's pencil, afterward became a book agent and finally was lost to sight. He had been the owner of one of the castles on the hill, and the house still stands. It is a ruin, unoccupied, and rotting as the years go by. Efforts have been made time and again to sell much of the property for taxes, but there are no buyers.

In the early days two men came to Brownville and made fortunes, and they remained with it to the last. One was ex-Gov. Farnas, who made his farm near the limits of the town, his home in all the years of his political life. The other was W. T. Den, who came here in 1880 with only a kit of shoemaker's tools and who became one of the richest men in the west. He remained in Brownville all his life. Both of these men are buried in the

deserted and ruined cemetery near the decaying city.

It is a strange fate that befell the town. In the early days it appeared to be an ideal location for a city. The early settlers had reason to believe that it would continue to grow and in time become the great city of the west. The shifting sands of commerce threw it aside, however, and it is possible that there would have been but one large city on the Missouri river, and that would have been Brownville.

Had the railroads centered there instead of going to points north and south there would have been little of Omaha and Council Bluffs, perhaps still less of St. Joseph and Atchison, and Kansas City would have had a hard struggle for existence. Brownville would have rivalled St. Louis and Chicago and the dreams of the pioneers been realized.

#### A Close Call.

Albert Weir, one of the employees of the News, while working about a press Monday morning caught his clothing in the fast revolving cog wheels and before the press could be stopped his right leg was dragged into the cog wheels and the flesh torn about the cap of the knee and the muscles seriously injured. The press was stopped in time to keep it from crushing the knee. Dr. F. S. Marnell was called, dressed the injury and sent the young man home, where he will be compelled to remain some time. It was a close call.—Nebraska City News.

## DRESSING UP THE WINDOWS

### Merchants and Business Men Showing a Commendable Enterprise.

A number of the merchants are getting their windows into shape for the big day tomorrow. Philip Thieroff has an attractive incandescent light display on the front of his saloon.

Wescott's store is similarly lighted up, the electricity in the latter instance being made right on the premises.

Brabill's jewelry store has an arch of incandescent lights in the front window. Earl Wescott did the wiring in each case.

Hergert's bakery is fixed up to show a village scene. Two wagons drawn by prancing horses are going down the tinsel-paper street. One wagon is heavily loaded with two buns, the other groans under the weight of five cookies, thus showing the marvelous size of Hergert's pastry.

A canvas sign is strung across the sidewalk in front of the laundry bearing the legend "Steam Laundry." Underneath is a smiling black cat and at one side a grinning negro. This artistic production is the work of Mr. Wrenn.

#### The Hessian Fly.

"Although the Hessian fly proved to be less destructive to small grain than had been feared in the early spring," says Prof. Lawrence Bruner, "a sufficient number of the larvae have matured nevertheless and have gone into the 'flaxseed' stage to make precautionary measures necessary at this time if we would be perfectly certain that no harm shall come to the grain sown this fall."

Since the insect lives over the summer in the stubble and issues sufficiently early in the fall to deposit eggs on early grain, it becomes necessary to destroy it while yet in the "flaxseed" stage. This can be done by either burning the stubble or plowing it under thoroughly and deeply during the present month. Every farmer should accordingly see to it that all stubble of wheat, barley and rye is thus treated before the flies can issue. If this is universally done throughout the fall wheat region the insect can be almost entirely destroyed in a single season. Cooperation, however, is absolutely necessary and the work must be done before the flies issue, as suggested above. Late planting is also recommended where this can be done without fear of interference by an early winter.

**Used Handkerchief for Bar Towel.**  
Walter Mayor, who borrowed a handkerchief from Henry Huckins, formerly editor of the Lincoln Blizard, in a saloon last night with which to wipe his mouth after taking a drink of beer, was fined \$1 and costs in police court this morning. He pleaded guilty to the charge and paid his fine. For the past year he has been working on a farm in Nebraska and is now making his way back to his home in Chicago. Mayor, who was charged on the police register with "larceny from the person," said there was nothing in the story of his stealing at all. The barkeeper gave him permission to wash his face in the rear of the saloon, but after he had completed his ablutions he found there was no towel. He went back to the bar, had another beer, and then, without asking permission, borrowed Huckins' handkerchief to remove the foam and moisture still remaining on his face. That made Huckins sore and he called the police, but did not appear in court this morning to prosecute.—Lincoln News.

**H. Klitsch, the four man of Weeping Water, was in town today.**

## THE CARNIVAL A SURE GO

### Many of the Attractions Opened up Last Night and Maid Street Fairly Swarmed with People.

Performance is now going on. In popular show parlance that is just the case. The street fair is about all ready to begin. Three of the shows were, in fact, in operation last night. They were Tuene Bros. merry-go-round, the jubilee minstrel show and Uno, the Australian wild girl.

Tuene Bros. had the advantage of getting here ahead of the other concessions and they did a good business last evening. The crowd was large considering the fact that the formal opening of the show was not until tonight.

Uno, the Australian wild girl drew big crowds. A big picture in front of the tent shows two husky sailors in the act of capturing the wild girl. When it is remembered that this curious creature has baffled the medical and scientific world, that she is Mankind's Most Monstrous Marvel and Most Marvelous Monster, that she eats big Texas rattlesnakes alive first allowing them to bite her, then biting off their heads and tearing the scaly skin from the flesh with her teeth—what wonder is it then that the crowds hurry to see Uno?

The negro minstrels, located just opposite the Perkins House, did a good business. They are advertised to be the largest show of the kind traveling in the world and the price of admission is the small sum of 15 cents which takes you through the entire performance lasting one solid hour.

On Fourth street, just south of Main, is located the big electric and moving picture show. On Main street, just west of Fourth, is located the big Ferris wheel. This appears to be a very strong arrangement and was put up in an incredibly short time. It is operated by a gasoline engine and will raise people higher than the third story of a house.

On the other side of the street, opposite the Ferris wheel, is the tent where Pearl the Fat Girl is on exhibition. Pearl is known to most Nebraska people, being reared in Council Bluffs. She is truly a wonderful sight. She is only 12 years of age and weighs 539 pounds. Associated with Pearl in the same tent is the Living Doll who confesses to being 29 years of age and weighs only 22 pounds.

The carnival company's merry-go-round is located on Fourth street north of Main.

The high trapeze for the aerial free act is erected on Fifth street north of Main and north of that is the Stadium. It is impossible to mention all the smaller concessions—ring throwing devices, palaces of palmistry, fortune telling booths, nigger baby stands, hot wheel stands, ice cream and lemonade stands without number.

**At the Woodmen Grounds.**  
There is where the big time will be tomorrow. The dancing platform has stood waiting since the previous date and all the other concessions are there. The Royal Neighbors have erected a commodious tent for the reception of visitors.

All the big events will take place there, and the prize purses will be put up just as advertised. Then there are the two big ball games mentioned elsewhere in this issue. The special trains from Omaha will arrive before 10 o'clock in the morning, and also the special on the Missouri Pacific will fairly pour the people into town.

While the real headquarters tomorrow will be at the grounds out on Chicago avenue it is safe to say that the crowds will be thick down about the street fair just as they were thick here today and will be all this week.

**Ill For Some Time.**  
In an interview with a prominent physician of this city, he stated John Wallinger died Monday morning about 10 o'clock, and that he had come down stairs earlier in the morning for the purpose of remaining up. Just a few minutes before he died he told his daughter he would go back to his room and lay down as he was not feeling so well. The doctor also stated that Mr. Wallinger had been in poor health for a long time, and that heart failure was the cause of his death. Mr. Wallinger attended the picnic at Holschuh's grove Sunday afternoon.

**The Masonic Home.**  
D. M. Jones was in Omaha Monday and conversed with the architect who drew the plans for the addition to the Masonic Home in this city. He was told by that gentleman that the plans and specifications will be down here in a few days for the benefit of the contractors here who desire to make bids on the work. It is the intention to have the addition completed as soon as possible, as Hon. F. E. White, Grand Secretary says there are many throughout the state awaiting admission, and that it would not be long after the completion until the inmates would number at least 150.

If you are a judge of a good smoke, try the "Acorns" 5 cent cigar and you will smoke no other.

#### Base Ball Tomorrow.

Don't forget the two big free ball games tomorrow out at the grounds where the Woodmen picnic will be held. Free! free! free!!! for everybody. No discrimination against the stronger sex tomorrow. The Woodmen offer a purse of \$10 for the Avoca game in the morning and \$15 for the "Victor" game in the afternoon. The hours for the games are 10 a. m. and 3:30 p. m.

Elks' line up against Avoca: Schneider, 2b; Harrison, 3b; Priskey, cf; Tutt, ss; Wurl, 1b; Parmele, lf; Wilkens, rf; White, p; Ballance, c.

Elks' line up against the Victors: Mauzy, cf; Schneider, 2b; White, 3b; Harrison, rf; Priskey, lf; Gcos, 1b; Tutt, ss; Kosak, c; Wilkens, p.

#### Double Wedding at St. John's Church.

Mr. Aloysius Alt and Miss Crescentia Althammer, and Mr. George Hraskey and Miss Mary Kushinski were joined in wedlock this morning at St. John the Baptist's Catholic church.

Mr. John Engel was best man for Mr. Alt and Mrs. John Engel was the bride's matron. For Mr. Hraskey Emil Kohoutek acted as best man and Miss Mary Hraskey was the bride's maid. At 10 o'clock the procession entered the church which was comfortably filled with friends and relatives of the contracting parties. In the van of the procession were Rose Kushinski.

#### Was Her Enemy.

A woman who was a great tale-teller happened to hear one neighbor speak slightly of another and immediately carried the word from the first to the second neighbor claiming that she thought as a friend she ought to let the second neighbor know what the first neighbor was saying, but instead of thanking the tale-bearer, the second neighbor said: "It makes no difference to me how many rotten eggs my neighbor has on his premises, but the person who carries the decayed hen fruit to my house and breaks it under my nose is my enemy."

#### Crops Never Better.

In his weekly crop summary, issued Monday, Section Director Loveland, of Lincoln says:

"The past week was warm, with maximum temperatures above 90 degrees on several days. The daily mean temperature averaged 2 degrees above normal, except in northwestern counties where it was about 2 degrees below normal.

"Heavy showers occurred quite generally in eastern counties where the rainfall mostly exceeded 1 inch and ranged from 2 to more than 3 inches in considerable areas. In most central and western counties the rainfall was less than one-half inch.

"Haying and threshing progressed rapidly except in eastern counties Friday and Saturday, where the heavy rain Thursday night retarded work of this character. Some spring wheat has been threshed and the yield is rather better than expected. Potatoes are not yielding as well as expected. Corn has grown well and has been very much benefited by the rain in the eastern counties. In some northeastern counties a high wind accompanied the rain and damaged corn to some extent by breaking and blowing it down. As a whole corn is now in excellent condition with every promise of a large crop. Fall plowing has progressed nicely with the soil in excellent condition."

#### Funeral of John Wallinger.

At the home of A. A. Schaefer southwest of Plattsmouth the funeral of the late John Wallinger was held this afternoon at 1 o'clock. Services were held also in the German Lutheran church and the body was laid to rest in the Walroff cemetery.

#### Married at St. John's Church.

Henry Winkler of Petersburg and Miss Mary Rich of Plattsmouth were married in St. John's Catholic church at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, Father Bradley officiating.

The bride was dressed in white with veil and wreath and was attended by Miss Mary Sitzman as bridesmaid. The best man was Mr. Michael Preis. The bridal party approached the altar to the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march. The service was in German.

Mr. and Mrs. Winkler will remain in the city a few days and will then go to Petersburg, Neb., where they will make their home.

A double wedding occurred at St. John's church at 10 o'clock Wednesday. Mr. Aloysius Alt and Miss Crescentia Althammer will be joined in marriage. The other couple who will enter the state matrimony are Mr. George Hraskey and Miss Mary Kushinski.

#### "Dead Easy."

An old bachelor in the neighborhood of Murray was being twitted, the other day by a young fellow who said: "Why, that's a young fellow who stuttered, 'its d-d-dead easy d-down our way. I called up Miss—' by phone and I s-said: I h-have an important q-q-question t-to ask you, and she s-s-said, 'What is it?' and I s-s-said, 'Will y-y-you m-m-marry me, and she s-s-said, 'Yes, w-w-who is t-this t-t-talking?'"

## COUNTY SCHOOL

### SUPERINTENDENTS

#### Candidates Must Be Qualified By Holding First Grade Documents

#### SAYS STATE SUPERINTENDENT MCBRIEN.

State Superintendent McBrien announced yesterday that he is disposed to adhere to an inflexible rule requiring all county superintendents elected in November to hold first grade teachers' certificates. They may not issue the documents to themselves, and must show themselves qualified for them in regular examinations unless they are college graduates or have life certificates. In the event they fail to qualify in the manner prescribed by McBrien, which is also that of the new certification law, their elections will be null and void and their places will have to be filled by appointment. Superintendents who are candidates for re-election also come under the same provisions and must be qualified on or before election day. The advice received from various sections of the state indicate that there will be some trouble over these new provisions in several of the ninety counties. In some instances county conventions have already been held. If their nominees are not equipped according to the standard laid down by the state superintendent they will have to perform their work over again.

Under the provisions of the law six of the small western counties are exempt: Blaine, Grant, Hooker, Kimball, McPherson and Thomas.

The provision of the act passed by the last session of the legislature relative to the selection of county superintendents is as follows: "No person shall be eligible to the office of county superintendent who does not hold at least a first grade county certificate issued in this state and in force at the time of his election. The provisions of this act so far as the same relate to the certificates of county superintendents, shall not apply to counties having less than one thousand inhabitants."

It is suggested that some of the superintendents who are candidates for re-election and others who are aspiring to the nomination will have a hard time securing first grade certificates without doing a good deal of studying between this time and the date of the November election. The suggestion that certificates may be issued by the official to himself or to his successor in office is frowned on by Superintendent McBrien, who recommends that the business be removed as far from politics as possible, and insists that all such officials as are in office now qualify before the superintendents of other counties and in all cases before those who have first grade certificates. He prefers, that they take the examinations for those first grade certificates before county superintendents who hold life professional certificates. He has made the following statement with reference to the policy to be pursued:

"Some have facetiously suggested that county superintendents now in office who aspire to re-election and who may now hold first grade county certificates might issue to themselves such certificates. This office will hold that such certification does not meet the requirements of the law. The county attorney cannot qualify merely by the study of law. He must be legally admitted to the practice of law by taking the proper legal examination or being admitted to practice through due process of law before he is eligible to this office. The student of medicine is not a legal practitioner merely from his study. He must pass the required examination before the state board of examiners, though he follows under the intent of the new law that the county superintendent must likewise legally qualify, not by issuing to himself a certificate but by holding a first grade county certificate issued to him by the proper authority on a satisfactory examination, unless such superintendent or candidate therefor holds a state certificate or is a graduate of a college, university, or normal school of good standing. I appeal to the honor and integrity of county superintendents who are to retire from office next January to issue no first grade county certificate to any one not entitled thereto. Do not let the political bosses scare you into issuing any certificate to any one except upon merit. Let every person who aspires to the high office of county superintendent qualify in accordance with the law before he or she dare ask any political party for nomination to the office. Any person who aspires to this office who cannot meet the requirements of the law is unworthy the votes of a free people.

The state superintendent does not believe that there is any politics to it. He points to the fact that there are two county superintendents holding life certificates who are democrats. During the session of the legislature it was facetiously urged that the bill requiring first grade certificates would

make it impossible for any democrats to secure their election to the office.

For a superintendent with a second grade certificate to issue the qualifying document, he says would "smack too much of politics."

"It would strengthen the certificate issued to apply to a county superintendent who holds a professional state certificate good for life. Such a county superintendent is free from all obligations in asking any one else to issue him a first grade county certificate."

The records show that the following county superintendents hold professional state certificates good for life: W. A. Julian, Hastings; T. N. Hartzell, Kearney; C. S. Wortman, Plattsmouth; C. L. Coons, Clay Center; John Chleboun, Jr., Schuyler; Charles Arnot, Fremont; E. J. Bodwell, Omaha; Anna V. Day, Beatrice; P. P. Bentley, Alma; James O'Connell, Trenton; Mrs. Olive True, Fairbury; J. R. Baker, Minden; O. R. Bowman, Lincoln; Fred A. Marsh, Central City; Geo. D. Carrington, Jr., Auburn; R. C. King, Nebraska City; A. Sotley, Grant; Geo. Crocker, Falls City; C. H. Bright, Wayne.

#### A. H. Hager Laid to Rest.

The funeral of the late A. H. Hager was held from his residence on South Tenth street. The services were in charge of the Odd Fellows lodge of which he was a member.

A large number of the Odd Fellows formed in line at the hall and marched to the house in charge of L. G. Larson as marshal. The services there were under the auspices of the Odd Fellows, John Corey and P. D. Bates acting as high priests.

Interment was made at Oak Hill cemetery. Following were the pallbearers: George Dodge, M. L. Johnson, T. E. Olson, John Kirkham, Wm. Holly and Louis Anderson.

#### Warm Fight at Weeping Water.

Last week the postoffice fever struck town, and after a candidate or two had bobbed up, a petition was started. The vexed question had fairly got settled when another petition, to move the postoffice across the street into C. A. Webster's store building, was generously supported with signatures. This aroused the ire of the business men on the southside of Main St. and another petition was circulated to retain it in its present location. The ink almost burned the paper when a few signed, so warm did things get. Either location is a good one, the idea with some was that a removal into a building where no other business was conducted, would make it pleasant for patrons, but those whose business is on the south side of the street rather thought the present location an ideal one, and even started a couple of rigs to secure signers.

Congressman Pollard has not yet given any candidate for postmaster encouragement enough to satisfy them that they are safe in buying new boxes or even keeping the old ones. To state it fairly, it is early yet by about eight months, reckoning by the expiring term of postmaster Hay, and again it is a matter that Congressman Pollard will let out to some one else most likely so that what is to be may not be until it is.—Weeping Water Herald.

#### Will Start Church Here.

The Hepzibah Missionaries who held tent meetings on south Eighth street for several weeks in the early part of the summer are going to start a permanent church here. They have rented the Patterson building at the corner of Sixth and Pearl streets for that purpose. Elder G. W. Ostrander who has been in the city several days, went to Tabor Ia., today to complete arrangements. Most of the members of the sect live in Tabor and Mr. Ostrander expects a number of them to move to Plattsmouth.

It's mighty funny how a girl never grows a wisdom tooth till she is in love and a temper till she is married.



## 50c

## BABIES?

No! We would not put such a cheap and depreciating price on the little darlings for the best friends we have.

## Slippers and Shoes

to which we refer

Children Slippers, black, 2 to 3	25
Slippers, tan	30
Patent Slippers	30
Red	30
Patent 4-strap, 5 to 8	85
Tan 4-strap	1.00
Patent 4-strap, 8 to 11	1.00
Patent Wine Top, 2 to 5	50
Advertising Brushes	10

We Dye Old Tans, Black.

## Sherwood & Son.