

RETAILERS ORGANIZED

County Merchants Held Enthusiastic Convention Wednesday in Elk's Lodge Rooms.

OFFICERS FOR FEDERATION

A Number of Important Resolutions Adopted and Campaign Outlined for Advancing Retail Interests.

During the convention of the retail merchants of Cass county held in the Elk's lodge rooms in this city Wednesday, "The Cass County Federation of Retailers" was organized, and following officers elected.

President—C. C. Wescott
 Vice-President—H. E. Weidman
 Secretary—J. E. Douglas
 Treasurer—Frank P. Sheldon
 Executive Committee—Mayor H. R. Gering, Plattsmouth; L. F. Langhorst, Elmwood; W. F. Diers, Louisville; G. E. Dovey, Plattsmouth; Ed. Metcalf, Greenwood.

The convention held in this city was one of the best meetings of the kind ever held in Cass county—merchants from every part of the county being in attendance—and some of the best men in the county being chosen as officers of the federation. The president and also the vice-president, are prominent hustling retailers in this city, while the secretary is one of the capable attorneys in the county. The treasurer, Frank P. Sheldon, a large retail merchant of Nehawka, is a brother of Nebraska's chief executive, George L. Sheldon.

Beginning at 1 o'clock, when the meeting was called to order by M. A. Hostetler, state president of the federation, and continuing until adjournment, there was much enthusiasm manifested by every retail merchant, who doubtless felt well repaid for the several hours spent at the convention.

A very appropriate address of welcome delivered by Mayor Henry R. Gering, who informed the delegates that the city was at their disposal, and that Plattsmouth always has a warm spot in her heart for the retail fraternity, was received with much applause. Mr. Gering is one of the enthusiastic workers in the Federation, and stating that if there was a class of business men who were in need of organization, it was the retail merchant; he urged those in attendance to put forth their best efforts to "boost" the organization. During the course of the address Mayor Gering dwelt upon the fact that Plattsmouth merchants were royal—every store, saloon and bank in the city being closed for the afternoon in order that all might attend the convention. This mark of respect was highly appreciated by the delegates in attendance.

A much appreciated address on "What the Organization Does" was delivered by President Hostetler of Lincoln, who, through the many matters in the retail line coming to his notice daily, was in a position to give some good advice to the merchants. Of the bright prospects in store for the retail merchants, if they would work in harmony, he said: "individually they could accomplish but little, while by working together they could secure almost anything they desired."

The address by W. J. Pilkington, editor of the Merchants Trade Journal of Des Moines, Ia., was the feature of the convention, and taking as a subject "The Retailing of Merchandise as a Science," he portrayed the troubles of the retail merchants in a very picturesque manner, endeavoring to show those in attendance how they could remedy the evils. A number of topics that are of vital interest to the merchants, were fully discussed by the speaker, who advanced new thoughts and ideas with reference to advertising and the conducting of the store.

Throughout the course of his address Mr. Pilkington was often interrupted by the applause, which demonstrated the enthusiastic spirit with which the merchants followed the talk.

Fred Diers of Madison, Neb., state vice-president of the Federation, spoke upon "How the Federation Began Business," outlining the many disadvantages with which the merchants had to contend when they organized in Fremont a few years ago.

State Secretary, Mark L. Felber, also editor of the Omaha Trade Exhibit, who was also on the program for an address on "The Trade Paper," and C. C. Wescott, who was also on the program for a short talk, both stated that their sentiments had been expressed by preceding speakers and they, therefore, asked that the convention get down to business and organize.

An address on "How to Keep the Federation Growing" was delivered

by the State Organizer, Wm. Teitelbaum, who gave many useful hints to merchants, and encouraged them to patronize the local papers. His address which was highly complimentary to the press, was listened to with pleasure by the delegates, and brought to conclusion a very successful meeting.

L. F. Langhorst of Elmwood, who was to have appeared on the program, was unavoidably detained and did not reach the county seat until late in the evening.

A number of resolutions including one that will eventually eliminate the dead beat from the community, another that will protect the merchants from advertising fakers, and still another that unite the merchants for the purpose of advancing retail interests were adopted by the convention. A set of resolutions sent out by the State Federation will be placed in the store of every member of the county association, and this alone will be the means of saving annually hundreds of dollars, which would be paid out to institutions, and advertising fakers, who never benefit the city or community.

The convention also adopted resolutions thanking the Elks for the kindness in throwing their lodge rooms open to the merchants, W. S. Pilkington and the state officers of the Federation, for attending and assisting with the work of organizing the county association.

Rural Joys in Springtime.

I'd like to be a farmer and paddle in the mud; I'd like to milk the meek-eyed cow, a-chewin' of her cud; I'd like to feed the little pigs, a-swimmin' in their pens, and curry off the roosters and harness up the hens. I'd like to swim out to the barn in mud up to my chin, and open up the stable with an early mornin' hymn; I'd sing a song of glory, of birds and trees in bud, of farmers in the spring time a-paddlin' in the mud. Oh! It's nice to be a farmer in the early days of spring, when it snows and rains and rains and snows and blows like anything; all you have to do is whistle, and sing and cuss the mud, and slosh around and feed the stock and slip and all—kerf-thud! For it's fun to be a farmer in the early days of spring when the weather changes every day and mud on everything; all you have to do is slosh around and milk the Jersey hens and wade in mud up to your chin to find the piggy's pens. The little piggies stand a-squealin' through the rails, with a dab of mud on every snout and mud balls on their tails. The bossy calves lie down to sleep and freeze fast in their tracks; the wagon wheels won't go around till till you hit 'em with an axe. Yes, it's great to be a farmer with mud on everything (a-sittin' in your office) in the early days of spring.—Fairbury Journal.

Married at High Noon.

At the home of Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Zink, a pretty wedding occurred at 12 o'clock today when John W. Lewis and Mary J. Barker were united in the holy bonds. The ceremony was witnessed by a number of intimate friends and relatives. After partaking of a wedding dinner the young couple took the afternoon train to Omaha, where they will spend the day.

The groom is a son of Chas. Lewis, while the bride is a daughter of Wm. A. Barker. The young couple will make their home on a farm near Union. The best wishes of the Journal follow them to their home.

Drag Roads During Spring.

Those traveling the roads several miles south of the city, during the past few days have obtained a very noticeable improvement of the highways in that vicinity. The credit for the good roads is due to a number of energetic farmers, among whom are Mark White, Bob Fitch, Wm. Splitt and Peter Spader, who have been using road drags with excellent results. At the farmers institute held in this city last fall, this means of securing good roads was advocated by F. W. Chase of Pawnee, Neb., and the Journal is pleased to note that hustling farmers of Cass county are beginning to realize the necessity of working the roads, and hopes that every farmer will devote a short time each month, especially during the spring months, to dragging the roads before they become almost impassable for loads on account of the cuts and washouts.

So Near and Yet So Far.

Rallying with surprising strength, the railroads Monday night deadlocked the State Senate and stopped the passage of a bill to reduce freight rates 30 per cent and make the new rate the maximum. The argument was used that the 2-cent fare bill had passed, and that the Legislature "ought to let up." In the committee of the whole the bill was indorsed for passage by a vote of 14 to 14, Senator Saunders, as chairman, voting in the affirmative and deciding the tie. On a roll call to indorse the report in the Senate, Saunders, who was presiding as president pro term, reversed himself, and the vote of 15 to 14 was against the bill.

DON DESPAIN IN TROUBLE

The Overweening Pride of the Swell-Headed Youth Won't Stand With Older Party Manipulators.

A Lincoln special to the Omaha World-Herald says: "Don C. Despain, chief clerk of the bureau of labor and industrial statistics, chairman of the speaker's bureau of the republican state central committee during the last campaign, and general factotum of the Norris Brown senatorial boomers, has got himself into a pretty predicament. He wrote to Representative Adam McMullen of Gage county a letter threatening to expose alleged immoral conduct on the part of McMullen unless the latter took another track with reference to items of legislation which concerned the labor bureau. The letter was a personal one, but was resented by McMullen, who presented it to the house and asked to have it read as a question of personal privilege."

Following is the threatening letter which the young man sent to the gentleman from Gage county:

"March 15th, 1907, Mr. Adam McMullen, Representative Hall—Sir: I take the liberty of stating that the temporary injury done this department by your amendment to the salary bill will be remedied at the proper time. It is fully understood that your action was directed at me personally."

"Your game is one that two can indulge in and I will not permit it to be a one-sided affair. Should at any future time, when this matter or any other is under consideration, you indulge in any remarks personal to me, directly or indirectly, it may result in airing certain confirmed rumors relative to your immoral conduct on certain occasions during the present session."

"Several of your fellow members seem quiet anxious to inaugurate an inquiry along the line mentioned above and a resolution calling for the same reposes in the pocket of a member of the house."

Yours truly,
 DON C. DESPAIN."

Charges Investigated.

Mr. McMullen demanded immediate investigation of the charges, a committee was appointed to act in the matter, and the following is the report of the committee, in which Don acknowledged that he lied, and the gentleman from Gage exonerated:

"The committee appointed to investigate the McMullen charges finally found Despain later in the afternoon and found only that he knew absolutely nothing about the hinted charges in his letter. The following report of the committee contains all the points of interest of the investigation and speaks for itself:

Mr. Speaker: Your committee appointed to investigate the charges contained in the letter written to one of our members, the Hon. Adam McMullen, beg leave to report the following:

Pursuant to our appointment and in accordance with its object the committee met and requested the appearance before it of the purported author of the letter, Don C. Despain, who did duly appear and who was by the committee duly sworn to testify to the truth of the matters alleged in said letter, the investigation of which was pending before the committee, and the said Don C. Despain did then and there testify that he had written the letter which formed the basis of the inquiry, but that he had no charge to make against the said Adam McMullen, and had no knowledge that any charges or insinuations contained in said letter, was true.

In support of the findings hereinafter made by this committee we beg to submit to the house for its consideration the following excerpt from the testimony:

Don C. Despain being duly sworn, according to law, testified as follows, interrogated by Mr. Hamer:

Q—Mr. Despain, this is a committee appointed by the house to investigate the charges contained in a letter written by you, and addressed to the Hon. Adam McMullen and we have asked you to come before us to give testimony in substantiation of those charges contained in your letter. Now Mr. Despain, you wrote the letter referred to, did you?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—State what you know with reference to the truth of the charges.

A—Well, Mr. Hamer, I do not believe I did—at least I did not intend to make any charges in the letter. I have no personal knowledge of the charges. I acted in a moment of anger possibly, and acted irrationally, I admit. I believe that certain remarks were made tending to do me an injustice at the time my appropriation was stricken out of the appropriation bill and the remarks then made together with the newspaper reports of the matter stirred up my anger, which caused me to carry out the natural instincts of the heart, and I acted under that impulse on the spur of the moment without good judgment, I admit.

In conclusion your committee wish-

es to report that in their opinion there is and has been no foundation for any charge or insinuation of immoral conduct on the part of the said McMullen.

No testimony had been submitted to us, nor have we been able to discover any testimony, which would show that the conduct of Mr. McMullen has been anything but exemplary or that his character has been anything but above reproach. We believe that the charges made in the letter are utterly without any foundation and were inspired solely by a desire to retaliate for a fancied wrong.

T. F. HAMER
 E. W. BROWN
 N. P. DODGE, Jr.

The report of the committee was received with applause at the night session and unanimously adopted.

There is a general feeling, not only among the enemies but the friends of Despain as well, that even though he may escape criminal prosecution he has forever blasted all hopes of sitting longer at the political pie counter and the big, juicy hunk that was to be sliced out for him will have to go to some one else.

Despain was a candidate for pretty nearly everything that might have been handed out about the state house from reappointment to his present position to the secretaryship of the railway commission.

RESORT TO ARBITRATION

Belief Expressed That a Big Strike Will be Thus Averted.

Trainmen will canvass the referendum vote taken on the acceptance or rejection of the proposition made by the general managers committee in Chicago Thursday. At that time the decision of the men in relation to a strike probably will be known, says Lincoln Journal.

It is believed that a strike will be averted. A suggestion has come from the general managers that may exist after the result of the vote taken on the western roads has been made known. The trainmen's officials have shown a disposition to arbitrate the question, or at least to consider the request. The delay may prevent a strike and a decision may be reached between the men and the companies.

The trainmen, following the course taken by the engineers, made a demand on the managers of western systems for identical schedules, the demands being made on the same date and in concert. The trainmen hold that when requests have been made in the past for higher wages from individual roads, the managers have invariably pointed out that it is unjust to ask one road to pay more than another. That this might be avoided this time the men asked for an increase in concert, making the demand for the same schedule on each road west of Chicago.

The roads have replied that it is unjust to make a schedule apply on some roads that is manifestly just and proper on others. Forty-two railroad lines were involved in the request made by the trainmen.

The Burlington has posted an offer to trainmen, in which it is said that owing to adverse legislation, the increased cost of operation in every line, and the problems which must be met by the managements of railroads at this time, that it ought not to be asked to make a more liberal proposition than an increase of \$10 per month for conductors, \$6 per month for baggage men and \$5 per month for brakemen.

Two Papers for the Price of One.

For a few weeks the Journal is prepared to make the following offer: Every new subscriber for the Daily Journal, who pays three months in advance, will receive the Kansas City Weekly Star for one year. Also every new subscriber to the Weekly Journal who pays one year in advance, will receive the Weekly Star the same length of time free of charge. Now is the time to get two papers for the price of one.

District Court Notes.

The case, in the matter of the assessment of W. B. Banning was heard in district court yesterday afternoon. The action is brought in regard to assessment of Mr. Banning's elevator at Union, the owner contending that the assessment is too high in proportion to other property. After hearing the arguments the case was taken under advisement by the court.

The action entitled Chas. Johnson vs. Bankers Union of the World, up for hearing in district court today—the suit was originally brought in the county court where judgment was recovered on life insurance policy issued to the deceased, wife of the plaintiff. The case was appealed to district and the present hearing secured.

The case of Leutchens, et al. vs. Leutchens, et al., an action for the settlement of the estate to which the parties are heirs, was heard in district court this afternoon.

Two days' treatment free. Ring's Dyspepsia Tablets for impaired digestion, impure breath, perfect assimilation of food, increased appetite. Do not fail to avail yourself of the above offer. Sold by Gering & Co's drug

WOULDN'T GRANT LICENSE

Love's Young Dream Rudely Demolished at Glenwood, Iowa.

The following adventure of a young cobbler from this county, who remained in this city nearly all day last Saturday, is taken from the Glenwood, (Iowa) Tribune. Evidently they came to Plattsmouth with the intention of getting married, and possibly concluded not to make the effort, so close to home, and slipped across the river to make the job more sure, but were doomed to disappointment, even over in Iowa, where so many Nebraska "kids" seek conjugal bliss:

"Clerk Davis was hastily summoned to the court house last Saturday night by a Nebraska couple desiring a marriage license.

"They had come all the way from Ashland, driving up to Glenwood from Pacific Junction through the mud and darkness.

"Such a strenuous program and long journey was worthy of a happier denouement.

"The young couple was accompanied by J. W. Abbott who works at the White & Jones livery barn at the Junction. He was acquainted with the young man, Frank Chamberlain by name, but could not make the necessary affidavit as to the young lady's age.

"Clerk Davis was compelled to tell them that he could not issue the license without the proper witness as to the young lady. She appeared to very close to the legal age of 18.

"Of course they were disappointed. The young lady took occasion to tell Mr. Davis in a rather emphatic manner that he was entirely too particular and that he should be a judge because he knew so much about law. She said they did not need witnesses in Nebraska.

"The couple went back the same night to the Junction where they took No. 13 for Ashland, declaring that they would start out Monday and hunt up a more friendly clerk from which to secure the coveted license."

Death of Mrs. Henry Carr.

The intelligence of the death of Mrs. Margaret Hicks Carr, which occurred last evening about 7 o'clock at her home in Greenwood, Neb., was received in this city last night. The deceased has been sick for several months, an operation for the removal of gall stones being performed some time ago, since when she been in poor health. The untimely death of her father, C. W. Hicks, in the Lincoln railroad yards about a week ago, proved a great shock to Mrs. Carr, and pneumonia soon developed, bringing to an end her sufferings.

Mrs. Carr was reared to womanhood in the vicinity of this city, and after her marriage to Henry Carr removed to Greenwood where she has resided for many years. Besides the husband and two daughters, three brothers, and one sister are left to mourn her demise.

The funeral will be held from the home in Greenwood at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Annual Business Meeting.

In the basement of the Presbyterian church, the annual business meeting of the congregation was held last evening for the purpose of electing officers and hearing the reports from the secretaries and treasurers of the various departments, which show an increase in the general work of the church. The reports further showed that the bills had been met promptly during the year, and that everything is running satisfactorily. Messrs J. M. Roberts and J. N. Wise were re-elected as elders, while Mr. W. J. Evans was elected as an elder for two years to succeed Wm. N. Baird, who is now located in Denver, Col. Mr. D. C. Morgan was re-elected to the board of trustees, and T. H. Pollock, elected to the board to succeed Dr. C. A. Marshall. J. E. Douglas, treasurer of benevolence, was re-elected superintendent of the Sunday school, and also the following officers elected for that department: Assistant superintendent, Geo. L. Farley; secretary and treasurer, Margaret Hodgert; assistant, Alma Larson; librarian and pianist, Estelle Baird; assistant, Esther Larson. A goodly number was in attendance and a very interesting meeting held.

Missouri River Cutting Badly.

The Missouri river was quite high the past week but is now receding. The river is reported making some ugly inroads into the Iowa bank south of Henton, and the Burlington is doing some tall old hustling to preserve its tracks.

The trouble is at a point about half a mile south from where the ripping is now in progress. The company is said to have ordered that 100 additional men be put to work protecting its property at that point.—Glenwood Tribune.

KODOL digests what you eat and quickly overcomes indigestion, which is a forerunner of dyspepsia. It is made in strict conformity to the National Food and Drugs Law and is sold on a guarantee relief plan. Sold by F. G. Fricke & Co.

Easter Vests



We have just received fresh from the makers a swell line of Easter vests—in light flannels and washable cottons. They are made in the new dip fronts—one, two, three and four buttons, flaps on the pockets. Some especially handsome plaids and checks. Prices \$1.50, \$2.50, \$3, \$4 and \$5.

Better Pick One Now

C. E. Wescott's Sons

"Where Quality Counts."

Progressive Dinner Party

The members of the "Five Hundred" club were most delightfully entertained last evening in a novel manner—at a progressive dinner party. This society of young ladies, who have been entertaining for the past year, originated a new way of entertaining, when the affair culminated in a very successful social time at the home of C. A. Marshall.

The first course of the dinner was served at 6 o'clock at the hospitable home of H. N. Dovey, where Miss Helen was the hostess. Fancy menu cards were presented to the guests by Miss Margaret Mauzy and after partaking of bouillon, fruit punch and celery, the young ladies repaired to the home of J. H. Donnelly, where they were entertained at the second course of the dinner by Misses Gretchen Donnelly and Gladys Sullivan. At that place fruit salad and wafers were served and the company soon on their way to the home of George E. Dovey, where with Miss Margaret as hostess, the third course—of orange-ice—was indulged in by the young people.

The fourth course was prepared at the home of J. W. Johnson, where Miss Ruth and Miss Zetta Brown and Frances Weidman were hostesses. A genuine good dinner of roast beef, potatoes, peas and hot biscuits were partaken of at the festal board, which was beautifully decorated with place cards—pen and ink sketches—ferns and sweet peas.

From the Johnson home, the club went to J. P. Falter's, where the fifth course—brick ice cream and white cake, was served by the hostesses Misses Emma Falter and Ellen Windham.

For the sixth and final course the society repaired to the home of Miss Gladys Marshall, where amid much merriment coffee, bon bons, and nuts were disposed of by the young ladies, who afterwards spent the evening at music and a social time celebrating the success of the affair.

The table at the Marshall home was tastefully arranged, a large candelabra occupying the center of the table, while around it was a profusion of ferns and sweet peas.

Those participating in the occasion were Misses Margaret Mauzy, Ellen Windham, Gretchen Donnelly, Ruth Johnson, Emma Falter, Zetta Brown, Gladys Sullivan, Helen Dovey, Frances Weidman, Gladys Marshall and Margaret Dovey.

Merchants' Federation.

THE merchants of Cass county met in this city yesterday and effected complete organization. Every town and village in the county was represented, which shows that all the up-to-date merchants are in harmony with the movement. All that is necessary now is for them to make up their minds to continue interest in the laudable cause, and not lag one iota from the object in view. By sticking directly to the text, the merchants will not only benefit themselves but they can also prove of great benefit to the honest yeomenry of Cass county. The Journal will continue in the future, as it has in the past, to commend everything good for the people and condemn that which is not. And the merchants' federation, we candidly believe, will result in much good to the county at large.

Baled alfalfa hay for sale by H. M. Soennichsen.