

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Members Participate in Oratorical Fireworks on the Light Question

Last night's council meeting was one of the most entertaining which that august body has ever held. There was all the accompaniments of bloodshed and murder there being a lot of fire works, red fire and explosions of a rhetorical nature principally the product of Councilman Bookmeyer. The doughty statesman from the Third ward occupied the floor most of the evening and when not engaged in denouncing his fellow members, he tried his hand at "bawling out" the Nebraska Light Company and the light committee of which he has been an active member. In fact, the councilman went so far as to move that the light committee be discharged and a new one appointed but none of the other members felt as he did—it is believed that they were all afraid they might be selected upon the new committee which is not considered the most desirable berth in the council just at present. While Councilman Bookmeyer did not get much farther than a start, he sided largely in passing away the evening. Everybody was there except Councilman Bookmeyer when Acting Mayor Sattler called the council to order at eight o'clock, and the statesman from the Third came in a few minutes after the meeting had opened. There was no objection to marking him present when the acting mayor asked the question, but it is believed if anyone present had known the thoughts surging about in Bookmeyer's breast there would have been vigorous objections by several members.

Dr. Elster, the silver-tongued, read the minutes in his usual precise and deliberate style eliciting a murmur of approval from the members and the gallery alike by his poetical phrasing of the business of the last session and they were duly approved as there no fault to be found with them.

Forthwith burst the storm. The city clerk in ringing tones then read a petition to the council asking that body to formulate a contract prescribing six arc lights and eighty-two incandescent lights to be placed as the council might designate and ask for bids furnishing the same, the contract to go to the lowest bidder. The petition also asked the passage of an ordinance lowering the price of gas to \$1.50 per thousand cubic feet from the present price of \$2.10 per thousand. The petition was signed by some six hundred citizens whose names were not read as it would have taken too long.

Councilman Weber moved to refer the petition to the light committee which motion brought Bookmeyer to his feet with his opening address. The Third ward councilman was opposed to referring the petition to a committee, what he wanted was action on it and that at once. The people wanted action and not reference. Vorndran followed Bookmeyer in an assault upon the reference idea. The people had waited three or four years for light and they wanted it. He, too, wanted action on the petition at once. He had hardly gotten back into his chair when Bookmeyer again seized the floor and demanded to know what had been done. Why had the committee waited so long? Why did not the people get the light they voted for, and he vigorously condemned further delay. He wanted action without reference to any committee. Councilman Schulhof called the attention of the members to the fact that there was nothing to act on before the council. It would be necessary to refer the petition in order that there could be something for the council to act on. After the light committee had reported there would be something before the council but there was nothing in the petition which the council could act on. Councilman Steimker endorsed the Weber motion. He agreed with Schulhof that there was nothing before the council for it to act on. To get it in shape it would have to be referred to some committee. Councilman Neuman agreed thoroughly with Steimker and Schulhof. He agreed that something ought to be done to light the city and he wanted the cheapest light to be had no matter who produced it. He was unreservedly for electric light and did not favor gas but he couldn't see how the council could act on the petition before them. They would have to wait until the committee reported. He took occasion to refer to the light committee and animatedly upon their slowness stating vehemently that "they are not doing a D— thing" which lang-

uage greatly shocked the members of the council, and caused him to be gently rebuked for his unseemly conduct. He referred to the apparent end of the Bortenlanger franchise, the fact that two additional members had been added to the committee but still nothing had been done. There was much more to Councilman's Neuman's speech which space forbids reproducing. Councilman Weber referred to the several committee meetings and their failure to get together. The committee was willing to act if they could agree and he thought the petition ought to be referred to them. Councilman Bookmeyer then returned to the charge and scored the light committee for asking further time—it ought to be ashamed to do so. He evoked a roar of laughter by stating that he wanted to discharge the light committee which was added to when Schulhof added his "amen" to the remarks. Bookmeyer then took a pronounced stand for light and favored getting it from anyone who could furnish it. He again reiterated that the petition ought to be acted upon.

Acting Mayor Sattler then took a hand in the imbroglio. He believed the petition ought to go to the light committee. He thought Bookmeyer right in wanting light and that too at once. He favored a special meeting before the next meeting so that the matter could be expedited. He wanted a contract drawn up and bids advertised for. He spoke of the people having voted for light and stated that they unquestionably favored electric light. He didn't care what party furnished the light but any party who could furnish it and who would put up a certified check for ten per cent of the contract price with a fidelity bond to be filed within sixty days from the granting of the contract conditioned for the faithful performance of the contract.

Schulhof wanted the petition read but this was not done being overlooked in the excitement.

Bookmeyer again tried to get the floor and Acting Mayor Sattler mildly protested against his speaking so often but he silenced the opposition that he had the floor, hadn't he. And he kept it also. He took occasion to recite some of the history of several of the committee meetings and seemed to feel that he had not been getting a square deal from the other members of the committee. He was very vehement in his remarks. His remarks were cut short by calling attention to the fact that there was nothing before the council for it to act on. The motion of Weber to refer then carried without dissent. This gave the members a breathing spell between storms.

The report of the secretary of the fire department of the action of the meeting of January 5th and 12, in electing officers was then read and on motion of Neuman the officers were unanimously confirmed. The list of officers is the same as printed heretofore in the Journal. The finance committee reported as follows:

Lester Burrows, special police	\$6 00
Charles Bates, hauling horse cart	1 00
Roy Taylor, street work	53
Phil Harrison, street work	4 90
Charles Bates, hauling cinders	2 10
Public library, periodicals	50 70

On motion these claims were allowed and the clerk instructed to draw warrants for the several amounts.

The finance committee reported the following claims to go to the several committees—Claims committee, Charles Zelka, drying hose, \$1.75. Judiciary committee, Plattsmouth Water Company, hy, hydrant rental, \$3,471.10. Plattsmouth Water Company, water rent \$8.75. The report was agreed to and the claims referred as recommended.

The judiciary committee to which had been referred the notice of H. H. Ashton to vacate the small room used as a store room and also raising the rental for the council chamber and police court from \$50 to \$75 per year, reported that the notice and raise be accepted. Councilman Neuman did not favor paying \$75 per year for one room and desired to know if the committee had investigated the matter of obtaining other quarters. For the committee Chairman Schulhof reported they had investigated and that they could get Coates Hall for a council chamber for \$50 per year but they would have to secure an office for the police judge which would cost \$6 or \$7 per

month at least. He also recited the history of the how the present room came to be but \$50 per year as the city had at one time paid \$100 per year for the same room. Councilman Steimker spoke of the reason for reference being so the committee could investigate. He did not consider that the city would be paying too much and did not believe that the city could do better than to accept the offer. On motion the report of the committee was accepted all voting aye save Neuman.

Acting Mayor Sattler called upon the light committee for a report, again stirring the troubled waters just as they were about to cease their tossings.

The committee reported a communication from A. Clabaugh of the Nebraska Lighting Company withdrawing their offer to furnish the thirty boulevard lamps as the company claimed it could not live up to the conditions imposed by the city. It was at this time that Bookmeyer created a sensation by moving that the light committee be discharged but no one would second the motion and he had to content himself with another speech in favor of immediate action. The communication of Mr. Clabaugh was placed on file.

The claims committee reported the claims of John Waterman, \$4.60, Wm. Wehrlein \$2.00 and the Plattsmouth Journal \$19.20 favorably and on motion the city clerk was instructed to draw warrants for the several amounts.

The claims committee also asked further time on the claim of H. L. Asemissen which was granted.

The committee on streets, alleys and bridges reported asking further time on the matter of a new road to the ferry which was granted.

Chairman Vorndran of the fire and water committee called attention to the fact that no report of the condition of the fire apparatus had been received this month but City Clerk Elster who knows everything, stated this report would appear next month sure and the matter was dropped.

Chairman Mendenhall of the police committee reported the reports of the marshal and police judge as correct and the same were placed on file.

Mendenhall also stated that he had been asked to investigate the whereabouts of the police on the night when the wholesale burglaries took place on Main street, and stated that he had been unable to ascertain where they were. He stated further that his opinion was that a burglar would be safe in the alleys any time after eleven o'clock at night. Steimker moved the council to laughter by suggesting the chairman of the police committee get out in the alleys after eleven o'clock and see for himself.

Councilman Schulhof wanted the street and sidewalk around the block leading to the jail repaired and made passable, speaking of the muddy condition which existed there. Steimker objected to the city repairing walks and wanted the property owners notified to put same in good repair. He amended Schulhof's motion to refer to the streets committee by having the marshal notify the property owners to repair their walks. He also called attention to the impossibility of grading the streets at this time of year and suggested parties having business at the jail go around some other street. Neuman stated that the walk had to be fixed and if the property owners didn't do so, the city should and charge the same to the property. Steimker's amendment to have the marshal notify the property owners carried.

Councilman Neuman called attention to a dangerous hole on Granite street near the shops and moved that the Burlington Company be notified to put a fence around the hole and repair the walk. This motion carried.

Acting Mayor Sattler then revived the light question and precipitated another row. He wanted the council to take action on this question before the next meeting and stated that he stood ready to meet free and he believed all the other members would do likewise. He again asked that a contract be drawn up and bids asked for, the contract to be let to the lowest bidder.

Councilman Steimker flatly declared he was done with coming up to meetings to "chew the rag" over the light question and that he would not attend. It was up to the light committee to get together and formulate some plan to light the city. There was altogether too much talking already. He wanted the committee to draw up a plan and report to the council and stop the "chewing."

Sattler thought Steimker was right in his criticism of the committee but as the committee hadn't reported he wanted something done. He thought it time to do something. He wanted a report from the committee.

Bookmeyer again took the floor and severely criticized the committee. He wanted to know how many times bids had been asked for and referred to the part of the Commercial Club in the matter. He charged Steimker

secret meeting of members of the council, intimating that there was something going on which the public specifically with being a party to a lie knew nothing of.

Steimker at once took the floor and for a few minutes things looked like Jackson and Burns were getting into the council. He called Bookmeyer to order. He stated that he was invited to meet some members of the council at Councilman Falter's office and when he got there he found they were all there but Sattler, Bookmeyer, and Vorndran. He wanted Bookmeyer to look out "or something would drop." He denied any opposition to Bortenlanger in particular but he was opposed to this city getting power from Glenwood and he never would vote for such a scheme. If the city could not have its own plant let it do without light. He didn't care who built the plant here. He believed in spending the Plattsmouth taxes in Plattsmouth. He had no choice in this city but he wanted the best and he wanted it in Plattsmouth. He then ended the wrangling by a motion to adjourn which prevailed.

INSTALL OFFICERS

Royal Neighbors of America Have Enjoyable Evening

The Royal Neighbors of the Modern Woodmen of America, Maple Leaf Camp No. 5389; last evening conducted the installation of their officers for the ensuing year, at their hall in the Coates Block, and the occasion was made one which will long be remembered by all who had the good fortune to attend. For the occasion Mrs. Sarah E. Cain, the district deputy had come down from Omaha and she acted as the installing officer. The work was given by the Foresters of the M.W.A. in splendid fashion, Chief Forester Ramsey making himself particularly noted for the manner in which he did his share of work, the ladies being more than pleased with his services.

After the installation refreshments were served and dancing was had until a late hour. There was a very large crowd in attendance and to say that everyone enjoyed themselves is to put it mild. The occasion is justly considered as the most successful of the kind any lodge has given here.

The following are the officers of the lodge who were installed: Oracle, Miss Garnet Cory. Vice Oracle, Mrs. Jennie Tulene. Past Oracle, Mrs. Inez Stenner. Recorder, Mrs. Sybil Brantner. Chancellor, Miss Florence Cory. Receiver, Mrs. Louisa Klingler. Marshal, Mrs. Catherine Lindsey. Outer Sentinel, Mrs. Margaret Tulene. Inner Sentinel, Mrs. Julia South.

Protect Your Town.

"Protect your own town and thereby show that you are in favor of protection," says the Mokane, (Mo.) Herald-Post. "As townspeople we should favor our town above every other as the growth and development of it is what will enhance the value of all property both in and about it. Then buy your drygoods, groceries, hardware, furniture, etc., at home. Have your printing, your blacksmithing, your shoemaking done at home; patronize home in every instance that you can. The success of our merchants and mechanics means new business houses and residences, additional demands for labor of various kinds. To the farmer a first-class town affords a better market for his products, a better trading point. Such a town is bound to increase the value of his land. Unquestionably 'in union there is strength.' Let us protect our town."

Plattsmouth Man Honored.

At the convention of the National Bohemian Catholic Bohemian Workmen's association, just closed at La Crosse, Wis., this city was honored by the selection of John M. Jirousek for president. The convention was very largely attended, there being delegates present from all over the country and a fine showing was made for the association. The complete list of officers elected is as follows:

President, John M. Jirousek, Plattsmouth, Neb.
Vice-president, J. N. Novotny, Veseville, S. D.
Secretary, B. G. Hovorka, New Prague, Minn.
Treasurer, F. J. Polak, Prague, Neb.
Treasurer Reserve Fund, Vac Vac-hal, Omaha, Neb.
Chaplain, Rev. John Velek, Prague, Neb.

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The Best Dressed Men



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25 PER CENT!

Wescott's Sons,

"Where Quality Counts."

To Grant Request.

For some time the members of the Commercial Club, the jobbers and packers have been trying to meet the officials of the Missouri Pacific for this division and request them to put a special switch engine in at this point, as the present manner of handling freight has been very unsatisfactory. This morning general superintendent A. E. Gould, Superintendent DeBernardi, and Assistant Freight Agent Kooser arrived here and were met at the depot by President Steinhart and a number of the members of the Commercial Club, and the request of the citizens explained to the officials. They admitted that they knew of the needs of our citizens and promised that by April 1st the crew would be on duty here, but it would also be expected to be on duty at the Nehawka quarry. They were of the opinion that would give our business men all the relief necessary.

After a general talk, in which the condition of the road at present was discussed, the officers stated that they expected to make many improvements during the present year and would have as good an equipment as any road in the west. They were taken to the Elk's home and entertained and this afternoon two automobiles were placed at their disposal so they could see the city and surrounding neighborhood.—Nebraska City News.

The general condition of the Missouri Pacific would make food for a volume of talks by the official of the road. If Nebraska City really believes that this road during the coming year will have as good an equipment as any road in the west, they want to revise their beliefs for such a contingency is almost as remote as signaling Mars.

With the Sick.

Mrs. Frank Sivey who was operated upon some days since is reported as getting along fine and there is every likelihood that she will be able to return home. Her many friends are delighted at her progress and rust it will continue.

Mrs. John Nemetz is reported as doing as nicely at the hospital in Omaha as could be expected and there is every reason to believe she will successfully weather her troubles and return soon a well woman.

Henry Hesse is reported as getting along finely and it is believed he will soon be able to return home.

W. L. Street continues to slowly improve and is able to get about to greet his many friends at his own home in the city, and his recovery is only a matter of comparatively short time.

Judge Root Accepts.

Judge Jesse L. Root of this city yesterday formally accepted the appointment as judge of the supreme court from Governor Shallenberger. As he had previously accepted the same position from Governor Sheldon he is in a safe position as regards the court and is a fixture in any event. Judge Root's letter accepting the position is as follows:

Lincoln, Jan. 26, Governor Ashton C. Shallenberger.—On the 22nd of this month I received from you a commission as a member of the sm commission from you as a member of the supreme court. I accept the appointment in the spirit in which I conceive it has been made, to the end that a quorum of said court may have the unquestioned right to perform the functions of that body. Permit also to thank you for the appointment. Sincerely yours, Jesse L. Root.

Miss Carrie Allison of Murray came up this morning and was a passenger on the mail train for Norfolk where she will make a visit with friends for several days.

Manly.

Theo Harms was transacting business in Omaha Monday and Tuesday. Mrs. Theo. Harms was in Omaha seeing her mother who in the St. Joseph hospital.

Harry Green who has been in the St. Joseph hospital undergoing an operation for appendicitis is reported as doing nicely and expects to return home Friday.

Chas. Bowers is visiting Andrew Krecklow and family.

R. L. Sanders while getting off the Missouri Pacific passenger train Monday evening was struck on the leg making it necessary to use a cane and consult the doctor to dress his bruises. The iron on the steam pipe coupling which connects the pipe between the cars struck him, caused by the rubber hose disconnecting.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch and other Sunday papers can be had by leaving your orders at the bank at any time.

Chas. Irons was up to Omaha to see Dick who is in the hospital.

A meeting of the Farmers' Elevator Company was held last Monday for the purpose of electing a new board for the ensuing year. Another meeting will be held on next Monday for the purpose of electing a manager for the corporation.

The Richardson quartette are still continuing their vocal music instructions at the school house every evening and on Friday night they will give a concert at the Methodist church, admission will be charged.

A large crowd attended the sale of Ed Brown's Wednesday and everything sold well.

A Good Investment.

320 acres of well improved land in Dickinson county, Iowa. Black loam, clay sub soil, slightly rolling. 9 room house, cellar and cistern, large barn with basement, corn crib, hog shed, chicken house. Good well and windmill. All fenced and cross fenced. Large orchard, large grove. About 90 acres in pasture and hay land, rest under plow; R. F. D. and telephone, 7 1/2 miles to nearest town.

A new electric railroad is assured from Sioux City to Spirit Lake, and the land will be inside of 2 miles from a station.

Price per acre \$60. Terms, easy. For further particulars call upon or address.

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to an unthrifty animal. It restores health and compels the animal to convert the largest possible percentage of the food eaten into bone, muscle, milk, fat etc., permitting less to pass off as waste. Dr. Hess Stock Food is the scientific kind; it has the medical and veterinary institutions back of it. Sold on a written guarantee.

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