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## A SPLENDID CHANCE FOR MACADAMIZED AVENUES LEADING TO THIS CITY

Prominent Citizen Offers to Donate Teams and Drivers if the City Will Furnish Material and Workmen—The Commercial Club Should Not Pass It Up.

The Journal is informed from sources which are absolutely reliable that a scheme is shortly to be proposed to the city officials for the paving or macadamizing of at least one of the avenues leading into the city. Whether both Washington and Chicago avenues are to be included in the proposal is not known just at this time but there is small room to doubt that the doing of the work on one of the avenues would quickly result in the others getting like work done.

The proposal looks as if it offered the city an excellent way of getting some mighty fine public work done at a minimum of expense to the city itself. Public spirited citizens are back of the deal and from information which is given out, the bulk of the cost of the work will be borne by them. This is the commendable spirit in which all such matters should be approached.

If ever any streets or avenues need ed work on them and if any work can do good for the city, the work proposed on Chicago and Washington avenue fills the bill. Both of these thoroughfares, the two most important entering the city, are in a deplorable condition. The Journal has been told time and again by many of the leading farmers of the county, that these two avenues constitute the worst pieces of road they encounter between their homes and the business section of the city. This grievance dates back to last fall when the long, continued wet weather left the avenues a sea of mud of limitless depth and which made them all but impassable.

With the freezing up of the winter, the avenues again became passable but with the passing of winter and the frost leaving the ground the condition which existed last fall is being duplicated now.

Those who have to drive into the city over these two avenues are unanimous in their statements that work must be done on these two avenues if country trade is to continue to come into the city. Foot passengers who travel the two avenues are the best witnesses to the condition in which they are now and they all agree that improvement must be made and at once.

The proposal which is spoken of at the commencement is backed by some of the wealthiest and most influential men in the city, men who are willing to go down in their own pockets and put up the money to make the avenues entirely safe and convenient for travel. While the name of the sponsor for the movement cannot be made public today,

it can be said in effect that a prominent citizen stands ready to furnish the teams to do the grading on one avenue at least and also furnish the teams to haul all rock which may be required for the work if the city will buy the rock and furnish a small number of men with shovels to do the hand work required. This man has the means to back up his offer. Not alone has he the means but he has had much experience in practical road building and he is willing to take hold of the work and superintend it and give Plattsmouth one avenue at least which will be suited for any kind of travel without charging the city one penny.

In addition to his voluntary services, the Journal is assured by other men of capital that they will go down in their pockets and raise some money to help the city pay out what may be required in the way of rock and handwork. These men will all be directly benefited and they appreciate it.

This relates to one of the avenues. What the live men on that avenue will do, the live men on the other undoubtedly will do. The individual cost to each one will be small when the measure of benefit is considered and the worth of the projected improvement to the business men of the city is inestimable. No city ever advanced without some movement forward by its influential citizens and without the expenditure of money in its upbuilding. The first step in this city to retain the country trade and add to it should be the creation of suitable entrances to the city and the voluntary offers of the leading business men quoted above should be taken up at once and accepted.

It will not do for the city to plead poverty and inability to spare the money for this improvement. If something else must be postponed to secure good roads into the city, the roads must be built. In addition the cost of the rock and the services of the men will be so small an item that the city will secure several miles of excellent streets at an insignificant cost to it. Although the treasury is not overflowing at present, there is considerable money which can be devoted to this work and, with the aid of the citizens spoken of above, it can be accomplished.

Paving has been suggested as a remedy for the state of affairs which exists and if they can be paved the scheme is admirable but if they cannot be paved then the thing for the city authorities to do is to take hold of this proposition and accept it and get the two avenues into shape for spring trade.

**It Was Some Fog.**  
Those who love dear old "Lunnon" would have felt strictly at home this morning if they had been in Plattsmouth. The heaviest fog in years enveloped the city from seven to eight o'clock and objects were entirely indistinguishable at a distance of a few feet. Trains entering the city moved slowly up to a distance of a few feet. Trains entering the city moved slowly up to the depot the engineers being unable to distinguish the semaphore until close to it and using due caution in entering the station. The fog lifted at eight o'clock. Weather sharps are divided in opinion as to whether it means clear weather or snow or rain.

## MISSOURI RIVER IS BREAKING UP

A Monsterous Gorge of Ice at Mouth of Platte Can Be Seen From the Burlington Station.

The old Missouri river is indulging in a few preliminary stunts prior to making its grand spring exhibition of the wonderful power of water. A huge ice gorge has formed just above the city extending from the point on the Iowa side clear across the river to the mouth of the Platte. This gorge formed some time during the morning hours and it has steadily been increasing in size and strength. Great ice floes are piled one on top of the other in a confused, jumbled mass which towers above the water surface to the height of many feet. From the Burlington station the gorge can be seen rearing its crest in a ragged, broken line clear across the stream and backing up the waters of the big Muddy for miles.

The gorge starts from just below the point where the Burlington road has been having so much trouble with cutting banks in late years and there is grave danger that it may result disastrously to the work which has been done in the past. Should the gorge hold, it must inevitably result in causing the water of the river to rise to a point where they will flow over the rip-rap which the railroad has put in and probably get in behind it, carrying it out when the gorge breaks and the steam starts to fall. The railroad company will doubtless make every effort to break the gorge and protect the property of the company from destruction.

This gorge is probably just a start for serious trouble as the river above here is full of floating ice which is all very heavy and which is liable to easily gorge. From this city south for several miles, the channel of the river is now practically open, ice having moved yesterday and there being none running today below the gorge. There is no means of telling how long this gorge will hold and residents in the lowlands opposite the city have expressed considerable anxiety over the outlook.

The Platte river is reported as rising also and this ice is being thrown into the Missouri and is adding to the strength of the gorge. There is grave danger of an overflow of the Platte should the gorge hold as the waters must inevitably back up that stream and spread over the bottoms on both sides if the gorge gains any great height. There were quite a number of people down to the Burlington station during the day looking at what could be seen of the gorge from that point. A better view of the gorge can be seen from the hills at the end of Third, Fourth and Fifth streets and from Wintersteen hill.

### James Is Pleased.

Jimmy Bulin, the tinsmith who is part of John Bauer's monster establishment, is perhaps about the happiest man in these parts today and they were all some mystified until the truth leaked out. It seems the Stork came into town this morning and proceeded to leave a mighty fine young daughter with Jimmy and his estimable wife. The young woman is here to stay according to her announcement and Jimmy says he is in favor of it too. He does not consider that any of the other young ladies in the city are in it with her and in this view his wife heartily joins. The entire family is getting along very nicely including Jimmy who simply can't be excelled as a model papa.

## RAISE PROTEST AGAINST RATES

Omaha Commercial Club Adopts Resolutions That Hit the Nail On the Head.

The Journal this morning received a set of resolutions which were recently adopted by the Commercial club of Omaha touching a proposed advance in the freight rates on packing house products from that city to the east. This proposed advance has raised a great outcry among the business men of the upper Missouri Valley and will end in a fight before the Interstate Commerce commission on the raise.

There can be no doubt but what the raise if put into effect will be a severe blow to the packing interests of Omaha and South Omaha and is in effect a discrimination against that city and in favor of Kansas City from which point the rates have not been advanced. The commercial club of other cities in this immediate territory have taken steps to assist the Omaha body in fighting the raise and in this manner it is hoped to protect the stock market at Omaha. The advance it is claimed would result in cutting down the price of live stock in the Omaha market while it would advance the price of the dressed product to consumers in this territory. There is every prospect that a great fight will be the result of Omaha's protest against the advance and it is believed it can be defeated.

The Omaha club is sending out copies of the resolutions, states that they are sent out as a protest against an injustice to the stock raisers of Nebraska. They also are sent out that every one in the territory affected by the raise may be informed as to the increase in freight rates and its effect on the live stock and commercial interests of the state. It is the desire of the Omaha Commercial club that the people of the state know of the combination which has been effected by the railroads against their interests. The resolutions are as follows:

### Resolutions.

Whereas, All of the railroads leading eastward from Omaha and South Omaha have, "by agreement" published and filed schedules advancing the rates on meat products from South Omaha to eastern markets more than 25 per cent in spite of the fact that a similar advance has not been made from Kansas City, thus signifying their intention to ignore precedent, time-honored custom and plain principles of justice and equity, all of which demand that the two live stock markets, on account of their well-known competition in the purchase of live stock in a common territory and the shipment of the finished product to the same eastern markets, must enjoy equal freight advantages, and,

whereas, The present adjustment of rates on live stock from the great agricultural and stock-raising section west of Omaha and South Omaha is now generally favorable to the well recognized desire of the Hill, Vanderbilt and Moore lines to compel the shipment of all of the products of the said country to Chicago, so that they may get the long haul and the most money, and,

Whereas, The proposed advance in rates on said meat products from South Omaha to eastern markets without a corresponding advance from Chicago and Kansas City to said eastern markets tends to "strengthen" the scheme of said railroads and by the same grace "weakens" to the farmer and stock-raisers the value of his market, because shipping live stock means shrinkage and consequent loss, and,

Whereas, In recognition of the economic principal of saving this loss by converting the raw material into finished product near the base of supply, there has been created at South Omaha at a cost of many millions of dollars an extensive system of plants and equipment, employing thousands of people who form a large part of the population of this community, and through the distribution of their income and by the large expenditure in our midst for supplies, building material, etc., by the live stock industry, and in the benefits that come to every business institution on account of the circulation among us of the proceeds in the sale of live stock, and,

Whereas, The carrying out of the principle of "long haul" will force to more distant markets the product of "long haul" will force to more distant markets the product of the great agricultural and stock-raising section with which we are so closely allied, and for which we furnish the natural and logical market, would result in irreparable injury and inevitably affect the prosperity of the farmer aimed at the chief industry of this community must be fully recognized,

Be It Therefore Resolved, That the commercial club of Omaha does hereby express its sentiment that this increase in rates is unfair and inadvisable and unjustly discriminative, and that our influence shall be used in every lawful way to attempt to secure the withdrawal of fair increase by the said railroads and failing in this, that we prosecute such complaints before the Interstate Commerce commission and take such proceedings in court as may speedily secure justice to this community and to the farmer and stockraiser and the reduction of any rates which may be found to be excessive, as well as the prosecution of any parties responsible for same if their acts shall have been in any way collusive and contrary to law.

## NEW HOSE HOUSE IS COMPLETED

Contractor Wm. Miller Turns It Over to Fire Chief Koubek Today, in Fine Shape.

The Plattsmouth fire department now has an other hose house. Contractor Wm. Miller this morning completing the new building at the corner of Main and Fourteenth streets and formally turning it over to Chief Koubek and the department. A monster American flag was immediately hoisted to the top of a staff which surmounts the building and proudly it floats to the breeze. The new house is of the same dimensions as the others in the city and it is a good piece of work. Mr. Miller has done a good job on the building and the officers of the department are well satisfied with the contract.

The building stands at the northeast corner of the street intersection at the highest point on Main street. The streets slope away from it in all directions. This makes the location an ideal one. Arrangements are now being made for a new cart to be installed in the building and the city council should at once get busy and see that enough hose is secured to thoroughly equip the cart. This will insure a good measure of fire protection to one of the most thickly settled parts of the city. Not less than 500 feet of hose should be put on this cart as it protects what is almost the heart of the city.

The land whereon the house is located is a donation for that purpose, the department raised the funds for paying for it. The department is also having the cart repaired and put in shape and the city owes it to a great number of taxpayers to get busy and furnish the host for the cart.

Chief Koubek pronounces the work done by Contractor Wm. H. Miller, to be very good in every respect. The building is thoroughly substantial and the workmanship is all that can be asked. The job was also done in record time and speaks volumes for the energy which Mr. Miller brought to the task.

### Revival Services to be Held.

Arrangement have been made to open a series of revival meetings in this city commencing April 3rd, at the Methodist church. Rev. W. L. Austin this morning received a letter from Rev. F. A. Campbell of University Place, stating that he would be in this city on that date which is Sunday, to hold the opening meeting. They will continue for several weeks and it is hoped to make them very successful. Rev. Austin is enthusiastic over the outlook for some great work in the evangelistic field and hopes that enough interest can be aroused to insure the greatest revival seen in this city in many years. Rev. Campbell who will conduct the services is well known in this city, having at one time occupied the pulpit of the Methodist church here. He is an able and powerful exhorter and there is no doubt he will conduct the meetings in such a manner as will win many souls to Christ. The meeting will open at the Methodist church on Sunday, April 3rd.

## MEETING WITH PUBLIC APPROVAL

The Work Can Be Done Now in Time to Save Money—Let The Commissioners Get Busy.

The Journal's call upon the county commissioners to exercise a little good judgment and proceed to make the repairs necessary on the county building before it costs the taxpayers a mint of money, is meeting with the approval of the public. Practically every taxpayer seen this morning had words of commendation for the paper which takes up the task of having the county court house kept in decent repair.

Especially does the public endorse the Journal's protest against allowing the tiling on the floors of the building to become loosened and kicked about. Already a large number of the tile have been broken and ruined by this thriftless and shiftless policy. The point is that it will cost very little now to have the repairs made while later it will be necessary to enter into a long contract with some firm to relay the floor and hold up the taxpayers for an extravagant amount. The work can be done now in time to save money and if the commissioners desire to make a real record for economy they will get busy.

Another thing which is cordially endorsed by all who spoke of the article was that part which calls attention to the pond at the rear of the building. Besides being very unsightly, this hole is an actual menace to the foundation of the building. The water is being allowed to stand there and to percolate through the ground under the foundation, loosening up the earth and causing the heavy building to settle and crack. This can all be obviated by turning this water into the sewer through the manhole which is now in place at the northwest corner of the building.

The practice of throwing scrub water into the pond at the back of the building from the windows of the upper stories is also condemned by the public. Custodian Svoboda speaking of this matter this morning stated that the attention of the commissioners had long ago been called to the necessity for a sewer connection on each floor of the building so that the water could be turned directly into the sewer and not have to be thrown out of the windows. Mr. Svoboda states that he was assured by Commissioner Friedrich that the connection should be made and that was all the satisfaction he got. He states that it is asking more than a man can do to require him to carry a bucket of water down stairs to empty it everytime they scrub as it would take an unreasonable length of time and increase the work vastly. In his opinion the remedy for this trouble will be to put in sewer connections from each floor. No matter what remedy is finally adopted by the commissioners, something should be done and done now, to stop the ruination of the handsome building.

As to the cracking of the building the opinion of the public seems to differ. Many believe that an investigation should be made to ascertain the cause of the cracking while others are of the opinion that it is caused by the settling of the building and that little can be done to stop it. It would seem the part of policy for the commissioners to at least investigate the matter on their own part even if they obtain no expert evidence on it.

The necessity of cleaning the walls is likewise a matter on which the public differ. Those who like a handsome and tasty interior favor the Journal's idea that the walls should be cleaned while those who don't care what the building looks like and are living back in the middle ages, favor letting them remain as they are, unsightly and unclean. The general opinion of the public however, favors clean walls and a handsome building.

Other improvements which have been suggested is that some steps be taken this spring and summer to keep the empty plat of ground north of the building in some decent shape and that the commissioners take steps to have the grass kept as nicely there as in the front of the building. This is urged with force by an ex-county official today who commented bitterly upon the shiftless appearance which the lot presented last year and the general tumble-down and gone-to-ruin aspect it had.

## HEROIC WORK SAVES HOUSE

But for the Timely Assistance of Passersby, the Residence of Amos Searle Would Have Been Totally Destroyed.

A narrow escape from the destruction of valuable property by fire was had yesterday when the fine residence of Amos Searle just beyond the city limits on the southwest caught fire. Fortunately the flames were discovered before they had gotten much headway and were put out in time to save the building and with practically no loss aside from a bad scare to Messrs. A. and Charles Searle and Lested Mason who occupies the premises. P. H. Kinnamon and his nephew Lester Mason were driving along the road on the south of the premises when the former happened to notice fire starting on the roof of the house which is a fine two story structure. Leaving his nephew to tie up the horses they were driving, Mr. Kinnamon ran to the house and informed Mr. Searle of the fire. As the latter hesitated what to do, Mr. Kinnamon told him to get some water and pass it up to him on the roof. He then quickly scaled the pillar of the porch

to the roof, Mr. Mason following him. Kinnamon then worked his way along to within a short distance of the fire while Mason served to pass along the buckets of water which Mr. Searle handed up to him. A few buckets of water served to quench the flames and save the fine residence from destruction. Mr. Searle was profuse in his thanks to the gentlemen for the valuable assistance they gave him and for their timely help in preventing the spread of the flames. The residence is one of the handsomest in this part of the country and a comparatively new structure, having been constructed but a few years since by Charles D. Cummins. It is valued at several thousand dollars and, as it lies beyond the fire limits, it must surely have been destroyed had the flames gotten sufficient headway.

George Hild and wife were among those spending the night in the city, being registered at the Perkins hotel last evening.

Prof. J. Asch of Murray came up last evening and spent the night in this city, the guest of friends, being a passenger for Omaha this morning where he will spend the day.

Mrs. Wm. Puls, Mrs. Fred Englekemeier and Mrs. Alfred Englekemeier were a party from Maple Grove and its vicinity who came in this morning to take the early train for Omaha, where they will spend the day Mr. Puls, Sr., drove in with them and has