

WEST TALKS WATER RATES WITH MEMBERS OF COUNCIL INFORMALLY

Addresses Letter to Mayor and Councilmen in Which He States What He Wants In The Way Of A Franchise—Makes A Few Concessions In Rates—Meets Commercial Club Directors.

From Saturday's Daily.

George F. West, the new owner of the Plattsburgh Water company, met yesterday afternoon with the directors of the Commercial club, and last evening with the mayor and councilmen. He talked with the Commercial club directors and the city officials concerning the need of water improvement here and about the terms of a new franchise.

At the meeting with the councilmen he read a letter which he had framed and addressed to them which states what he desires in the way of a franchise and what rates he will be willing to make. The letter is given here in full as follows:

"Hon. John P. Sattler and Members of the City Council:

"Gentlemen—As the franchise granted by the city of Plattsburgh to the Plattsburgh Water company expires by limitation in March, 1912, and as the undersigned has recently purchased the Plattsburgh water works from the former owners of the plant, we wish at this time to make the following proposition to the city of Plattsburgh and ask for a new twenty-year franchise, the city reserving the right at the end of each five-year period during the life of the new franchise to purchase the property of the water company at a proper court appraisal.

The Plattsburgh Water company agrees to put its property in Plattsburgh in first-class condition, to erect a new pump engine, a new pump house and new boiler, to clean out the deep wells and repipe them to the new pump; to make needed extensions in the city and to furnish 80 hydrants at a rental of \$40 per hydrant during the life of the franchise, instead of \$45, the old price.

"The company agrees to lay new mains beyond the lines of the present mains in the streets 150 feet for one water taker or a multiple thereof.

"The domestic water rates to not exceed the present published schedule.

"The Water company will lay service pipes from the street main to the abutter's property lines with three-quarter-inch galvanized pipe, including the pipe trenching and back filling, at 20 cents a foot and \$4.50 for tapping main, the lead connection, the iron curb box and the shut-off.

"The company will undertake to do all the above work right away as soon as materials can be had and the labor performed, and spend the sum of at least \$10,000 on improvements to the present

plant, so as to make this water system highly efficient and effective.

"We ask you to grant us this franchise at an early date, so that we may proceed with our work without delay.

"I am leaving in Plattsburgh Mr. James W. Bonie, a competent erecting water works engineer, to do all the above work, to meet you and explain any detail of the new construction work that you may want to know about.

"Respectfully submitted,

"The Plattsburgh Water Co.,
By George F. West, President."

Mr. West went over the question of some of the rates with the councilmen and made some concessions. He said most of the rates, however, will be the same as at the present time. He said that he could not put in the improvements and make a fair profit and lower domestic rates very much.

For a dwelling of five rooms or less, with one self-closing faucet, the rate is \$6 a year under the present franchise. He said that he would be willing to let this rate stand, but permit as many faucets as desired. At the present time there is a charge of \$2 a year for each additional faucet.

Another concession he made was in regard to rates for people having meters who used as much as \$10 worth of water a year. He said that a rate of 25 cents a thousand gallons would be granted to persons whose bills ran as high as \$10 a year. The present meter rate is 35 cents per thousand gallons for ordinary consumers down to 15 cents for the big consumers.

No concessions were discussed on additional rooms, bath tubs, closets, stables, business firms, sprinkling or building purposes.

City Attorney A. L. Tidd was present last night and he said that under the present charter a franchise will not have to be left to a vote of the people, but can be made by the city council.

Heretofore, he said, the city, working under a charter for towns of 5,000 population or more, all franchises had to be left to the vote of the people. Since the report of the last national census the town has been under a charter of a city of less than 5,000 population, and the cities in that class can grant franchises through the council. If the council did not wish to take the responsibility of granting a twenty-year franchise it could probably have the franchise submitted to the people for approval or rejection.

The city officials and Com-

mercial club members are disposed to be reasonable with Mr. West in the matter of a franchise. They wish an efficient system and one that will be extended to give service to the greatest possible number of people. There is a disposition, however, to see that in giving Mr. West a square deal that the city be given a square deal also. The water franchise, if given, will be for a period of twenty years. That is a long time. Men that are now of middle age will be old men at the end of that time. The school boys of today will be middle-aged men. One councilman, in expressing his opinion, said: "Mr. West is a good fellow and has a winning personality, but the councilmen should not let those personal qualities have the effect on them of giving away their children's rights for a period of twenty years. For my part, I shall try to do my part in having the city make a bargain on the franchise question that will be the best obtainable. Mr. West has no right to expect more than that, and the city officials will certainly be 'easy marks' if they give more. Personally, I am in favor of the city buying the plant. We have paid for it twice over in the last twenty years. We can buy it now and pay for it in ten years and improve it just as well or probably better than the company would."

From the remarks made today by other members of the council it is probable that the water question will not be settled in a day. The council will probably demand considerable investigation and discussion before they take any final action.

ELECTION OF POLICE JUDGE HAS BEEN CHANGED

Under the New Law Such Official Is Elected at General Election.

The last legislature passed a law that radically changes the status and jurisdiction of the police judges in all the towns and villages of the state. Prior to the passing of the new law, the police judge was chosen by the people of each town or village at the annual municipal election and held his office for one year. He had jurisdiction within the corporate limits and for three miles outside in all directions, but had jurisdiction only over offenses in violation of the city ordinances.

Much of this has been changed by the new law. The police judge must now be elected at the general election and holds his office for the term of two years, becoming a state rather than a municipal officer. His jurisdiction will cover the same territory, but in addition to hearing cases arising out of the violation of city ordinances he will hear cases involving the violation of the statutes where the maximum fine is not more than \$100.

NOTICE.

State of Nebraska,
County of Cass, ss.

In County Court.

In the Matter of the Estate of Anna Margaret Claus, Deceased, To All Persons Interested:

You are hereby notified that there will be a hearing before this court upon the report of the Executrix of said estate, together with her petition for final settlement and distribution of said estate according to the terms of the last will and testament of said deceased, on the 3rd day of October, 1911, at 9 o'clock A. M. That all objections, if any, must be filed on or before said day and hour of hearing.

Witness my hand and the seal of the County Court of said county, this 11th day of September, 1911.

(Seal) Allen J. Beeson,
County Judge.

Keister School.

Keister Ladies' Tailoring College. Designing, drafting and dressmaking taught. For terms apply at room in Coates' block. Managed by Mrs. N. A. Leist.

9-14-1mo-wkly

For Sale.

Three male hogs, thoroughbred Poland-Chinas. For particulars see Julius Pitz, south of Plattsburgh.

9-14-3tw.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought!

Bears the
Signature of
Cast. H. Fletcher

WEEPING WATER.

Republican.

Miss Mary Bungate departed Tuesday night for Lawrence, Kas., to attend the Kansas university. Miss Mary is specializing and thinks she has selected a course there that will meet her needs.

R. E. Countryman received a surprise last week. He went out in the orchard to pick the large apples on three Wealthy trees and found someone had been there before him. He don't relish such surprises.

Mrs. E. T. Rickard and son, Elmer, were over Sunday visitors with friends. Mrs. Rickard only recently returned from Colorado, where she spent the summer trying to get relief from hay fever.

R. A. Williams, who conducted the moving picture show here recently, has leased the west room of the Davis block and says he will locate here. He expects to use electricity from the plant here as soon as it is in readiness.

Miss Clara Andrus went to Lincoln Saturday to be treated in a hospital. In stepping from the train last week she received internal injuries that caused her considerable inconvenience. It proved to be an abscess that has rendered her condition quite serious. She is under the care of her uncle, Dr. Andrus.

J. M. Teegarden, the portly cashier of the City National bank, was taken quite ill last Saturday and has not gone back to work yet. It was probably a bilious attack, but enough like a beginning of typhoid to alarm the attending physician. Latest reports are of a change for the better.

Banner, son of Mrs. E. Hadley, was playing on a straw stack in Mr. Day's field last Saturday and he tumbled off, breaking the bones of his right arm in the elbow joint. It caused a fracture of three bones and Dr. Butler says it might make a stiff joint, but hopes to overcome that if possible.

PACIFIC JUNCTION.

Glenwood Tribune.

Ora Price is building a small house on his place near the Plattsburgh bridge which he bought lately from the Doty estate.

Threshing is about over with on the bottom. The shipments of wheat have been very heavy this year from the Junction.

Fred Mendenhall has a three months' job weighing mail at the depot; that is, all mail that is transferred at this point, which includes all trains except No. 7.

What do you know about the Junetin being a big hay shipping point? The Davis & Anderson people up to the first of this week had shipped 57 carloads this season.

Dr. Bacon returned Saturday from Chicago, where he attended the annual convention of Burlington surgeons. He also visited his daughter, Ethel, at Warsaw, Ind.

Claude Anderson returned Saturday from his visit to Duluth and other points on Lake Superior. One of his experiences was that of being in quite a severe storm on the lake. He also took in the Minnesota state fair at St. Paul one day.

Charles Sage and Barney Costello came home from Plattsburgh early Sunday morning on No. 10, considerably the worse from booze and in a quarrelsome frame of mind. Constable Johnson was routed out of his bed at 2:30 and he escorted them to the city jail. Squire McLaughlin made it \$5 and costs each.

Frederick Reed, a well known farmer near Elliott, was the victim of a painful mishap here early Monday morning. Just as the K. C. train from the south was pulling into the station he was seen, apparently half asleep, to walk off the platform of the smoker. He fell and struck his head and shoulder. He remained in a dazed condition for an hour or more. He was sent home on No. 6 at 8 o'clock.

UNION.

Ledger.

Guaranteed Hosiery

We offer to the trade the best proposition ever offered in the Hosiery business—

4 pair for \$1.00

We guarantee that 4 pair, if worn alternately, will not have to be darned or mended in the toe, heel or sole for four months from date of purchase. They come in ladies', gentlemen's, girls' and boys'. Ask to see them.

ZUCKWEILER & LUTZ

employed in a responsible position with the G. M. & P. S. railway in Maiden, Washington, came in Monday for a short visit to old friends.

C. M. Seybert of Louisville, the democratic candidate for county commissioner, was in town Monday afternoon to meet some of his personal and political friends.

Misses Leota Barton, Angie McCarroll and Grace Mougey, who are attending Plattsburgh High school, came down Saturday for a Sunday visit at home.

Ralph Viall was overcome with the intense heat Monday and was very sick that night. Most of the men in the quarry knocked off work for the afternoon on account of the heat.

Louis Dunkak, who owns a ranch near Newcastle, Wyoming, and is down here visiting his brother-in-law, George Peters, was in town a few hours with the latter gentleman Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Hansen of Plattsburgh, who have been visiting their relatives, the Hansens, for several days, took the evening train Monday. George Hansen brought them to the train.

There has been enough Nebraskan people in Colorado this summer to justify an organization to demand that the hotels and places of amusement not charge rates to the people of this town.

Last Saturday night the hoobos who have maintained a camp in the woods across from the cold storage plant, went on a spree and one of them collected a couple of dollars from the other with a club. The clubber didn't exactly owe the money, but he was too drunk to make any resistance and besides, the other fellow needed it to buy booze with.

Last Friday evening while Rev. Van Buren was seated in his study preparing his sermon there came an alarm at the outer door and the choir fled in, with a watermelon each. Mrs. Van Buren was over at the church waiting for the choir and when Rev. Van Buren went after her he had considerable trouble to induce her to come, without giving the snap away. The party broke up about 11 o'clock with everybody full of watermelon.

Committee Met Today.
From Saturday's Daily.

Members of the democratic county committee and most of the democratic candidates are at Louisville today attending the meeting of the committee. The meeting was held to transact some routine business concerning the coming campaign.

For Sale.
Alfalfa seed in any quantity. See or 'phone Julius Pitz or Charles Shopp. 9-14-wkly.

Mrs. James Bordman went to Hartington, Neb., today, where she will visit friends.

September Travel Bulletin!

The excursion rates to Eastern localities will continue. It is your last low rate change of the Summer to visit your old home or make a tour of the East.

The Dry Farming Congress will be held at Colorado Springs, October 16-20. Special rates will be made.

The colonist one way rates to the Pacific Coast are in effect September 15th to October 15th, only, this year.

The Burlington has through standard and tourist sleepers every day to California—on No. 3 via Rio Grande, Scenic Colorado, and the Southern Pacific and Salt Lake Route, on No. 9 via the Rio Grande, Scenic Colorado, and the Western Pacific.

"On Time" operation. Western people living in the territory served by the Burlington will be interested in knowing something about the punctuality with which the management tries to operate its trains. Fast mail No. 7, from Chicago to Omaha, during the months from April to July inclusive, a period of 122 days, arrived at the Missouri River "On Time" every day. The other exclusive fast mail and express train No. 15, from Chicago to Omaha during June and July, 2911, arrived "On Time" at the Missouri River every day. These are the exclusive mail and express trains that daily bring into the West the great volume of traffic so necessary to the social and commercial life of that region.

R. W. CLEMENT. Ticket Agent.
L. W. WAKELY. General Passenger Agent, Omaha, Neb.