

The Plattsmouth Journal.

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REWARDS FOR DRAGGING THE ROADS

A Proposition That Should Meet the Approval of Both Farmers and Merchants.

The question of giving prizes to the farmers displaying an interest in the good roads question is again being agitated in some quarters and a great many of the merchants are in favor of taking up this matter and getting it in position where it can be used during the coming summer to the mutual advantage of both the farmer and the business man. The roads leading to the city are the ones that give the greatest concern, because it is over these avenues that the farmers and others must come to town, and if they are kept in good shape it is sure to result in the people coming here to trade and visit with each other on Saturdays and on market days, and prove the means of making the ties between the residents of the town and the farms warmer and closer.

To the farmers who come to town with their road drags, improving the highway for travel as they go, should be given some substantial reward in the shape of a prize worthy of the work which they do in the way of helping to fix up the road, and the business men of the town should see that the proposition is looked after and some organized effort made to see that these worthy citizens may receive the proper reward for a service they have rendered to the community. The value of the prizes need not be great, but they will prove to the users of the road drags that their services have not been overlooked, but that they are warmly appreciated by the business interests of the city.

This plan has been used very successfully in the farming communities of Iowa and Missouri and has stimulated the interest of the farmers in this matter to such a degree that on Saturdays a great many of the farmers may be seen in the towns, having ridden in on the faithful road drag, and they, by calling at the different stores, secure the rewards offered. One plan that has been tried, and quite successfully, too, is having the Commercial club of the town issue coupons good for the delivery of the prizes in goods from the different stores, and in this way everyone interested in the matter profits and the city has the benefit of having the highways leading into it kept in good shape.

There are several of the leading farmers of this section who take a great pride in the appearance of their farms and the roadways leading to them, and such men are among the liveliest wires that a community can possibly have in their midst and they add immensely to the appearance of the section of the country where they make their home. This matter is worthy of consideration here, and during these winter months is the time to stir it up and get the ball so rolling to start the movement so that when the season rolls around and it is possible to work the roads everything will be ready to start out.

Returns From Hospital.

William Rothman, who for the past few weeks has been in the hospital in Omaha, where he was undergoing an operation for the straightening of his injured arm, the use of which he has not had for several years, through an accident while out hunting, which caused the arm to be drawn and stiff, returned home last evening on No. 2. Will has had a very severe struggle at the hospital and several times it was not known whether he would recover, but he has pulled through and thinks that in a short time he will have the full use of his arm.

"Officer 666" at the Parmele.

"Officer 666" is a good-natured "copper" and theater-goers in New York all last season laughed their heads off at his ineffectual efforts to arrest the high-toned thief who, in the play, finally purloins the uniform of the brave officer and makes his "get-away." Now, however, before many thrilling episodes have cropped up in the three acts Augustin MacHugh, the author of the farce, takes to tell his most amusing story. "Officer 666," which is one of the genuine hits of 1912, will be presented here at the Parmele theater on Wednesday night, February 11.

EX-SENATOR W. B. BANNING FOR GOVERNOR

An Able Gentleman and One Who Would Serve the People With Honor to Himself and Credit to the State.

Lincoln Journal: W. B. Banning of Union, Cass county, is to be a candidate for governor on the democratic ticket. This is the news that reached the state house yesterday. When anxious inquirers asked how the messenger knew that Mr. Banning intended to run for governor, the messenger said Mr. Banning himself said so. This statement of Mr. Banning, providing he made it, is considered the best evidence of his intention, and is therefore taken to be true.

Having placed himself in the position of a candidate for governor against George W. Berge and all other comers, Mr. Banning will be subject to inspection. He has a record behind him. With two terms in the state senate to his credit, it will not be surprising if his opponents look up all of his votes, and possibly his failure to vote on bills and measures before the senate.

Mr. Banning was not a member of the last senate because he was defeated by Senator Henry H. Bartling of Otoe county, who was celebrated in the legislature as the senator who defeated county option and as the champion of the present Sunday base ball bill. In opposition to county option, Senator Bartling did not have much edge on Senator Banning, who served in the senate when county option was defeated.

PORTER CAMP, CHARGED WITH FORGERY BOUND OVER TO DISTRICT COURT

From Saturday's Daily. This morning Porter Camp was arraigned in county court, charged with perjury in securing a license to marry Miss Adeline Darrough in this city about a week ago. He swore at that time that she was 19 years of age, when she was in reality only 15. He waived a preliminary hearing and was bound over by Judge Beeson to the district court to await trial. Porter, it seems from developments in the case, was badly affected with the matrimonial disease, and in his short lifetime has accumulated quite a number of helpmates, and being quite young may be able to tie the world's record for the number of times married. He secured a divorce from wife No. 1 in Davenport, Iowa, in October, 1913, and came to Omaha and was married to wife No. 2, who died in that city on December 22, 1913, and after a few days of mourning he was married here to Miss Darrough, after a hurried trip from Omaha, and this last venture proved his undoing.

OFFICER 666 is a frolic, one of those attractive thief stories which are so irresistible.

SHALL THE STATE UNIVERSITY BE REMOVED?

Matter in Which Every Taxpayer in Nebraska Is Interested and Upon Which Much Depends.

Editor Journal:

Among the many questions that must be settled by the people of Nebraska at the coming election the question of university removal will be one of the most far-reaching in its effect with which we will have to deal. This will be true because of the enormous cost of such an enterprise, and also because of the future policy of that great institution.

For two decades the people have complained of the increasing demands of the university for new buildings and equipment, and nothing short of state pride in a public institution of learning has prevented an open revolt. Pride in our university is laudable, but such a pride should never allow us to spend the people's money without due consideration for the actual needs of the institution. In deciding this question there are just two all-important considerations: The welfare of the school and the cost to the people as compared to the value they will receive.

"Room to grow" has been the slogan of those who want the university removed, but those who know best are ready to assert that our university is already too large. This statement is made advisedly. It is not the purpose of a university to fit people of higher education, and the university should not prostitute itself to such a purpose. The business of a university should be specializing in higher education. The foundation for that education should be laid at home, out in the high schools of the state, and if even a small part of the money now being expended in preparation for the real university course could be spent in bettering the rural high schools and in bringing the high school boy or girl to the university with a foundation upon which a university education could be built successfully the state would reap a reward that would be a benediction to the boys and girls that can never have the advantage of a university course. To make this plainer let me say that not more perhaps than 3 per cent of all those who enter high school ever graduate at the university, and only a small per cent of those who graduate at the high school ever succeed in getting a degree at the university.

If the state of Nebraska has more money to spend than it is now spending for education, let that money be expended to raise the standard of the schools in efficiency out in the state where not less than 95 per cent of our boys and girls must get all the education they can ever have. The university has no right to ask the expenditure of more money until every county and every village within the boundaries of the state shall provide the boys and girls within reach an opportunity to fit themselves to enter the university if they so desire.

One dollar spent in enlarging the university is a dollar spent where only a small per cent of the children can ever get a direct benefit, while a dollar spent out in the rural schools will be spent where all will get a direct benefit. This is not the only complaint that must be lodged against our present system of preparatory education. The law provides for the accredited high school, but there is no check upon the giving of a high school diploma, even in an accredited high school, to persons who have been allowed to get the diploma without having done the work in a satisfactory manner. No one will dispute this, and until these things are corrected and until the rural schools are up to a standard that will fit

those who apply for admission to the university in a thorough manner, we should devote ourselves to this task instead of the task of making room for more at the university.

History will not long consider the size or architectural designs of our buildings, nor will it take account of the artistic arrangement of the grounds, but it will measure the greatness of our university by the character of the work of that institution, and the equipment of the men and women it shall send out to wield their influence in the affairs of state and nation. It will make little difference to the men and women of the next generation who was the foot ball coach, or who won the games of any given year, but it will tell with pride of the men and women who have gone out from its halls of learning and found honorable places at the top in some field of human endeavor.

But the next question is the question of cost. To move the university to the state farm means that we must abandon what we have built in the days when it meant so much to our people to foot the bills. Abandonment would be the first cost and rebuilding would be the second cost. Both seem to me a wanton waste of money, and the reason for taking such a step should be overwhelming.

It is not necessary for me to say that Nebraska is one of the worst institution ridden states in the union. Two Soldiers' Homes, when one would serve the purpose better. Two agricultural schools, when one could have done the work just as well. More normal schools than should have supplied the needs of a state of twice the population. The pork barrel influence is written on the face of Nebraska so indelibly that a stranger need not ask any question as to the "Why?" And now, since we have these institutions, they must be supported, and upon the backs of the taxpayers of the state is strapped the burden of their support. This must not be taken lightly. The burden is no small one. It must be considered along with the question of university removal and it must be considered without sentiment. Sentiment may enter into the argument of those who are to spend a few years in places of public trust, but sentiment will pay no bills. A university large in numbers may sound well just now, but to our children it will mean little when we compare its work with other schools of learning. Removal might add a few dollars to the value of real estate at the state farm, but the people of the state would scarcely care to pay for this enhancement.

Nebraska needs to retrench. Her load is already too heavy. She cannot afford to be among those of whom it may justly be said "Pride taketh a fall." Let us make a slogan of the fight against removal, "Make the university better, not bigger."

Otto Mutz.

SOME THINGS DONE BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THIS WEEK

From Saturday's Daily. The county commissioners, at their meeting in this city this week, let the contract for the county printing. The Plattsmouth Journal was awarded the contract for the road notices, notices to contractors, calls for bids and other notices of this kind, as well as the commissioners' proceedings. The Weeping Water Republican was given the contract for the printing of the bar docket for the year 1914 at the rate of 15 cents a case and \$1 a page. The board also granted a license to operate a pool hall in the village of Manly to Eli D. Keckler. A petition of the trustees of the village of Eagle requesting the appointment of A. H. Vanlaundingham as justice of the peace was also received and he was appointed to fill the vacancy that exists in Tipton precinct.

Get your harness oiled for \$1 at John Gorder's.

FIFTH ANNUAL COMMERCIAL CLUB BANQUET

A Large Number Present, and a Fine Time Enjoyed by Everyone.

From Friday's Daily.

Last evening the fifth annual banquet of the Plattsmouth Commercial club drew to the Modern Woodman hall some one hundred and sixty of the representative business men and citizens of this city, who for several hours spent a most delightful time in meeting with each other and in the enjoyment of the "feed" which had been prepared for their consumption by the ladies of the Methodist church. An exceptionally strong list of speakers had been prepared for the occasion, and this feature of the occasion was one that was filled with many good things for the auditors, as the different speakers gave the benefit of their experience and wisdom to the gathering.

Throughout the banquet the feeling of unity and the pleasure at being all together under the banner of progress and helpfulness made a great success of the occasion and showed clearly that the business men of the city are awakening to the splendid results that can be secured through the united efforts of the business interests of the city to make for a bigger and better Plattsmouth in the future. There was lots of enthusiasm shown at the banquet and there was a more apparent intention in the members of the banqueting party to enlist their services in the future in the ranks of the Commercial club.

The banquet was presided over by Carl A. Rawls as toastmaster, and it is not necessary to dwell at length upon the able manner in which he filled the position, and his remarks made as he opened the program of the evening were filled throughout with words whose purpose and intent it would be well for every person present at the banquet to take heed and to put forth their efforts in the future for the building up of themselves and the city.

The tables, which extended around the entire south, east and west sides of the hall, presented a most beautiful appearance with their handsome floral decorations, having large bouquets of carnations interspersed with lavish trimmings of ferns and sweet peas, while smilax was strung the length of the tables and showed the artistic handiwork of Stenner Brothers, the Plattsmouth florists, who furnished the flowers and done all the work of decorating. The music for the occasion was furnished by the Holly orchestra, and this was one of the most pleasing features of the banquet and the sweet strains of the music during the progress of the banquet put everyone in a most receptive mood for the feast of reason furnished by the orators of the evening.

The first speaker of the evening was Rev. Father M. A. Shine, and his address was one of the most instructive and interesting ever heard in the city and touched on the early traders and merchants who had come into this country when it was a wilderness and made possible the knowledge of the country that lay throughout this part of the great west. In his remarks Father Shine brought out historical facts that were unknown to a great majority of his auditors and showed the deep interest and research he has made on the subject of the early history of Nebraska and the Missouri valley. He showed that the first record of the fur traders in this section was in 1654, when traders from the French settlement of Montreal, Canada, came west, traveling the great lakes and overland through Wisconsin and the present state of Minnesota to the Missouri river, which they thought would lead

them to Mexico. He also touched on the French traders who came up the Mississippi river in 1705 from New Orleans and assisted in opening the territory to the knowledge of the world, and the hardships that had confronted the different parties who ventured into the heart of the then unknown wilderness. The speaker followed in succession the different changes that had occurred in the possession of this part of the American hemisphere and how the different exploring parties who had come up the Mississippi had marked the mouth of the Platte river as one of the main landmarks for the other parties who followed them, and just a few miles north of the then mouth of the river there had been a number of posts established where the traders made their headquarters in the dealings with the Indians. The address of the eminent historian and divine was one that will be long remembered by his auditors, and the facts he brought out increase the interest in the early history of the state.

(Continued on page 6)

ELMWOOD AGAIN CAPTURES THE BACON

Fair-Sized Crowd Attends Basketball Game, and Again Local Team Is Defeated.

From Saturday's Daily.

Despite the extreme cold weather of last evening there was quite a fair-sized crowd of basketball enthusiasts present at the German Home to witness the contest between the Elmwood High school team and the team representing this city. The boys from our school are showing much better form, although they are still lacking experience in the game, being to a large extent new players, and the showing they made last evening against the husky representatives of our neighboring town was one that they need not be ashamed of. They were in much better shape than in the game at Elmwood, as the score shows, and with practice can develop into a good live bunch of players. The score in the first half of the game stood 31 to 13 in favor of the visitors, but by good work the locals succeeded in wiping out the "hoodoo" number and the game at the close stood 51 to 21 in favor of the visitors.

The team here has been greatly handicapped this season by lack of a place to practice and it is only in the last few weeks that they have been able to secure a place where they could train, but since they have gotten down to work they have developed quite rapidly and each succeeding game shows their advancement in the work of the basketball game. The boys are deserving of the support of the people of this city in their work to maintain the reputation of the local schools in athletics and the games should be attended by larger numbers of the citizens, not only for the financial gain, but for the effect that the presence of the spectators have on the creating of enthusiasm among the players on the team.

The high schools of this city and Nebraska City will meet at the German Home in this city on next Friday evening and a good crowd should be on hand to see the game. The boys composing the team here last evening were: Waldemar Soennichsen, Byron Arries, Floyd Stone, Paul Handley and Wallace Hunter, and they were in the game with vim from start to finish.

FOR SALE—A pure bred boar and pure bred Poland China sow, out of Gorder's herd, weighs from 350 to 400 lbs. Price for the two, \$75.00. See them at my farm, Ben Decker, Plattsmouth, Neb. 2-9-14-w

SUDDEN DEATH OF A. L. McDONALD AT EAGLE, NEB

He Passes Away Very Quietly While Reclining on a Settee at the Restaurant.

On Tuesday morning our usually quiet little city was thrown into a commotion of suppressed excitement by the news that A. L. McDonald had been found dead.

On Monday evening Mr. McDonald was familiarly called, went as usual to his boarding place at the close of business. When he got to the restaurant where he boarded he was for a time short of breath, which was nothing unusual for him, as it always seemed to fatigue him more or less to walk. After he had been home for a short time he took a tablet of some kind which had been, no doubt, prescribed by his physician, and in a short time he felt much better. From that time on until he retired about 10:30 o'clock he was jolly and apparently spent a pleasant evening with the folks at the restaurant.

About 1 o'clock in the morning he got up, saying he was restless and could not sleep. He went down stairs, built a fire in the stove, after which everything being quiet the rest of the occupants of the building went to sleep.

Nothing further was known of Mr. McDonald until about 7:30 a. m. Tuesday, when Mrs. Brunner, proprietress of the restaurant, got up to begin her duties of the day, when she discovered Mr. McDonald's dead body in a reclining position on the settee as though he were sleeping.

It is very probable that he sat down by the warm stove, fell asleep and died without a struggle and without realizing that the end was near.

Mr. McDonald was a man who was universally liked, kind-hearted and very fond of little children, who were also very fond of Mr. McDonald. He was of a very cheerful disposition, always ready for a little fun, and always looked on the bright side of life.

In the death of Mr. McDonald Eagle has lost a good and beloved citizen and a successful business man. At the time of his death, at the age of 79 years, he was actively engaged in the real estate business. The greater part of the past twenty years of his life has been spent in Eagle.

His daughter, Mrs. L. W. Archer, of Denver, Colo., and a nephew, A. B. McDonald, of Rocky Ford, Colo., arrived on the early morning train Thursday and took charge of the funeral arrangements. The body was shipped that evening to Denver, where interment will take place.

All Thursday afternoon friends took a last look at Mr. McDonald in a casket at the home of W. L. Hobson, waiting for the train which would bear his body to its last resting place, and the entire community extended its sympathy to the sorrowing relatives. —Eagle Beacon.

Dovey Will Case On.

The contest over the admission to probate of the will of the late Mrs. Jane Ann Dovey was called again this morning in the county court, and several witnesses were examined, both for the contestants and the heirs named in the will. The case was brought to a close at 2 o'clock this afternoon, when it was submitted without argument to the court, and Judge Beeson decided to admit the will to probate. It is probable the case will be appealed to the district court.

For Sale at a Bargain.

Five acres, good house, barn, fruit, 2 1/2 miles from town; part cash, balance monthly. Make offer. W. R. Byers, 1418 North 27th street, South Omaha, Neb. 2-7-2wks-w