

The Plattsmouth Journal

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HOW TO MARK YOUR BALLOT

Straight Party Votes Do Not Count This Year for Constitutional Amendments.

Sample of the ballot to be used at the general election November 7th will be submitted this forenoon by Secretary of State Pool to chairmen and officers of the various political committees and others interested. The law does not require the secretary of state to prepare a sample ballot, but it has been customary for many years for that official to send a sample to county clerks at the same time he sends to the clerks his certificate containing the names of the candidates and ballot titles of initiative and referendum propositions. The custom of preparing a sample ballot is considered a good one that ought to be continued, but in many counties the ballots are printed and prepared with little regard to law. Sometimes these departures from the law results in mandamus or injunction suits to change the printed ballots to conform to law.

The state law and not the secretary of state provides the form of the ballot. When the legislature of 1915 made some changes it incorporated in the law a sample ballot which makes it easy for county clerks to ascertain the correct form. The secretary of state furnishes the names of candidates who have been legally nominated and entitled to a place on the ballot, and county clerks do the rest. Each county prints its own ballot and pays for the same.

The law specifically provides that it is the duty of the county clerk of each county to provide ballots. He alone can provide the ballots and the sample ballots used at polling places. A copy of the official ballot as arranged by the county clerk shall be published in two or more newspapers of general circulation in each county three to ten days before the election. This law requiring publication of the form of the official ballot in newspapers was enacted by the legislature of 1915.

The left-handed ballot will be used this year for the first time. It has been said the form was prescribed for the benefit of voters who write with the left hand. The squares in which voters are to make a cross have been changed by the legislature from the right side of the ballot to the left side, immediately preceding the names of candidates. The political party designation remains at the right side of the ballot. Persons who hunt for political party names will find them on the right side, and then it will be necessary to carefully feel one's way with a pencil to the left side of the ballot and search for a square in which to mark.

The new form of the ballot provides for not more than three columns side by side. Referendum propositions, if there are any, come first. They will appear at the top of the first column, followed by the party circles. Then comes the constitutional amendments, then the presidential electors, candidates for United States tickets. The order of political parties, senator, state and county and local entitled to party circles is regulated by law. The democratic party circle takes precedence this year. The order of precedence is based on the total number of votes cast by each political party, the party casting the highest number of votes at the last election coming first, and the second highest second, and so on. This order governs not only the arrangement of party circles, but the arrangement of the names of candidates on the ballots.

There are three ways to mark a ballot. The voter can vote his party ticket straight by making a cross in the party circle, but such method of voting will not carry a vote either for or against either of the two constitutional amendments because the amendments are submitted by the initiative process and cannot be endorsed by political parties in convention or at primary elections.

Proposed constitutional amendments become a part of the constitution when approved by a majority of the vote cast in favor of an initiative amendment shall constitute 35 per

cent of the total vote cast at the election. To vote for or against the prohibitory amendment or for or against Food Commissioner Harmon's constitutional amendment which ensures him reappointment for sixty years, one must make a cross in the proper square at the left of the amendments. These squares will be labeled "Yes" and "No."

The second way to mark a ballot is to vote the straight ticket with exceptions. To do this a voter must make a cross in his party circle and then go down the ballot and make a cross opposite the names of the candidates of other political parties for whom the voter desires to vote.

The third way to mark a ballot is the good, old-fashioned way that has much prevailed ever since the Australian ballot was adopted in Nebraska, that is to make a cross in a square opposite each candidate whom the voter desires to keep in office, as the case may be. This method is considered the surest and safest against miscounting, but since the ballot has grown to be six to ten feet long it has become too laborious for the ordinary voter.

Where there are groups of candidates, such as presidential electors, a party circle at the side is provided by law so that a voter may cast his vote for eight electors with one full swoop of the backward stroke of the pencil to form a cross.

At the general election a voter is given the utmost freedom in the matter of voting for any one he pleases to bestow his favors upon. He can write in the name of his worst enemy or his best friend and the judges and clerks of election are in duty bound to count it.

Voters may be dismayed when they see the length and breadth of the general election ballot, but that is not all. There are two separate ballots for voters to mark at the coming election. The second is a small but important non-partisan judiciary ballot. Upon this piece of paper will be found the names of candidates for the supreme court, district court and county court. There is one chief justice and three judges of the supreme court to elect. The number of district judges varies in different judicial districts.

Chief Justice Morrissey and Judge Fawcett are running for the office of chief justice of the supreme court. One chief justice is to be elected. Three judges of the court are to be elected, but under the non-partisan judiciary ballot there are twice as many candidates as there are offices to be filled, so there are six candidates for judges of the court. The candidates are: Judge S. H. Sedgwick, Judge J. B. Barnes, both candidates for re-election; Judge James R. Dean of Broken Bow, Judge Albert J. Cornish of Lincoln, L. S. Hastings of David City and John C. Martin of Central City.

In some cities or counties there may be a third ballot containing bond propositions submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the political subdivision or territory.—State Journal.

It is a very warm night in August when an auditorium with a seating capacity of 8,000 auditors can't be filled to overflowing in a city with over 200,000 population to hear a candidate for president of the United States. So we see nothing to brag about in the Hughes meeting in Omaha.

The voters of Cass county are very well satisfied with the stewardship of Frank Libershall as county clerk. He has made one of the most competent officials the county has ever had, and there can be no just cause for a change. The people in this instance believe in "letting well enough alone."

Announcement that garlic strengthens and improves the teeth, suggests the observation that it also strengthens—but does not improve—the breath.

A news dispatch from Cleveland, O., says that John D. Rockefeller gave a child 30 cents the other day. Gee, but John is getting generous.

It is a mighty easy thing for a candidate to get an abundance of encouragement, but it's votes he needs.

Beware of the fellow who slaps you on the back. He may be the first one to slap you in the face.

Cleaning snow off the sidewalks on the 19th of October is a new wrinkle in this country.

A regular blizzard on the 19th day of October. How is that for weather in Nebraska?

Since life was given for abuse, don't abuse it.

Was it cold enough for you? Please, don't shoot.

Where there is smoke, one is sure to know which way the wind is blowing.

Optimism is that thing which makes a trader think everyone but himself is foolish.

Villa is enjoying life once more. He hasn't been killed for more than two months.

The finest institution that ever walked on two legs is a pretty girl who don't know it.

Do your own thinking and draw your own conclusions—and you will know what you are talking about.

A Springfield, O., mother gave birth to her thirteenth child, on the thirteenth day of last month. That is what we would call giving the hoodoo the double cross.

Who will be the republican candidate for float representative? The report is that Marshall T. Harrison declines to go on the ticket. He refuses to serve as a tool.

A. L. Sutton, the republican candidate for governor, served two terms in the state legislature, and in one session of that body voted against a woman suffrage measure, and against memorializing congress in favor of suffrage in another session.

Our old associate, Charley Grimes, who is connected with the Rock Island railway, at Fort Worth, is now touring the eastern states, writes us from Washington that "there is lots of politics; Wilson's chances much improved and looks to win." He has been to Chicago, Buffalo, Albany, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

Ira Bond, Minneapolis broker, has been arrested for the third time, on the charge of auto theft. A man with a name like that ought not be obliged to steal autos for a living, so we assume that he is innocent. It is surprising that the Minnesota authorities should even suspect him. Perhaps they've learned that a name is easily changed.

"The republicans are out and they want in," Mr. Marshall said; "that is the only thing in the way of an issue I have been able to find in this campaign. When we democrats were out we promised you a definite program of remedial legislation and kept the promise. The republicans are promising nothing and are trying to win by scolding Wilson. I don't believe scolding can win an election. I know the democrats have tried it in the past and failed."

Hon. John Mattes is a hustler, wherever you find him, at home or attending to business abroad. In the state senate he had more friends than any one man in that body. He was genial to everybody, a good talker, and always wielded great influence. He was not like a knot on a log. His work speaks for itself, and speaks good and loud, and his work should be commended by his re-election on the 7th day of November, that he may continue to represent Otoe and Cass counties as they deserve to be represented—by a gentleman of great ability.

John L. Kennedy, the republican candidate for United States senator, said at Pender last Tuesday night, that he "wanted to go to the senate to help to enact a new tariff law that would keep German goods out of this country after the war. He showed his unneutral spirit when he called attention to the fact that when hostilities ceased in Europe Germany would not have a neighbor she could trade with; that the only nation worth while that would trade with her would be the United States, and that we should have a tariff wall to keep her goods off the market." Now, we would like to know how the German-Americans like such talk as this from a man who is praying for their votes.

UNION. Ledger.

Creed Harris is going to give his house and barn a new coat of paint. About a dozen prairie schooners have passed through here during the past week.

The Royal Neighbors took their play to Nehawka last Thursday night where they showed to a large house. Elmer Morton, who has been visiting here for more than three months, left for his home last Thursday.

Vance Harris loaded his household goods the latter part of last week and left for his new home near Ft. Dodge, Ia.

No report on hand meeting this week. Come on boys, let's see if we have not just a little spark of fire left in us, to light the world a little with.

Matt McQuin will move into the house recently occupied by Chas. Niday. Mr. Niday will move his family to Wahoo, where they will

Mrs. M. J. Schafter and son, Mar-mak, their home. Ian, who have been visiting her sister, Mrs. W. T. Wilson, south of Union, have returned to their home at Auburn.

E. L. Shoemaker was called to Lodge Pole, Neb., the latter part of last week to audit some books for the Farmers' Union there, and did not get back until Monday morning.

Mr. Bennison, "The Oil King," of Nebraska City, was in town Friday looking after the interests of the Standard Oil Co. Mr. Bennison was so unfortunate as to be confined to his bed for almost six months, a sufferer from rheumatism.

EAGLE Beacon

George Williams and wife are visiting relatives at St. Joseph, Mo.

Ella and Harry Ewerth are enjoying country air this week at their brother's farm south of Eagle.

Mrs. Wm. Althouse, who has been critically ill at Green Gables sanitarium, Lincoln, is recovering nicely.

Mrs. A. H. Vanlandingham went to the College View sanitarium Sunday for a week's treatment for rheumatism.

Mrs. Hodtwalker returned last Monday from Havlock where she has been visiting with her daughter, Mrs. Cleo Davidson.

Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Munson and Friday of last week and visited until children of Irwin, Ia., arrived here Monday morning with Mrs. Munson's sister, Mrs. John Peterson.

Mrs. August Spahnle underwent an operation for appendicitis at the St. Elizabeth hospital in Lincoln early Wednesday morning. She is reported to be getting along nicely.

C. Harris, who recently moved to this place from Langdon, Mo., received a telegram last Friday announcing the death of his father, and with his family left for that place to attend the funeral.

The north Lutheran congregation is erecting a handsome parsonage directly west of the church. If the weather remains favorable it will be completed within a few weeks and the pastor will have a moving day.

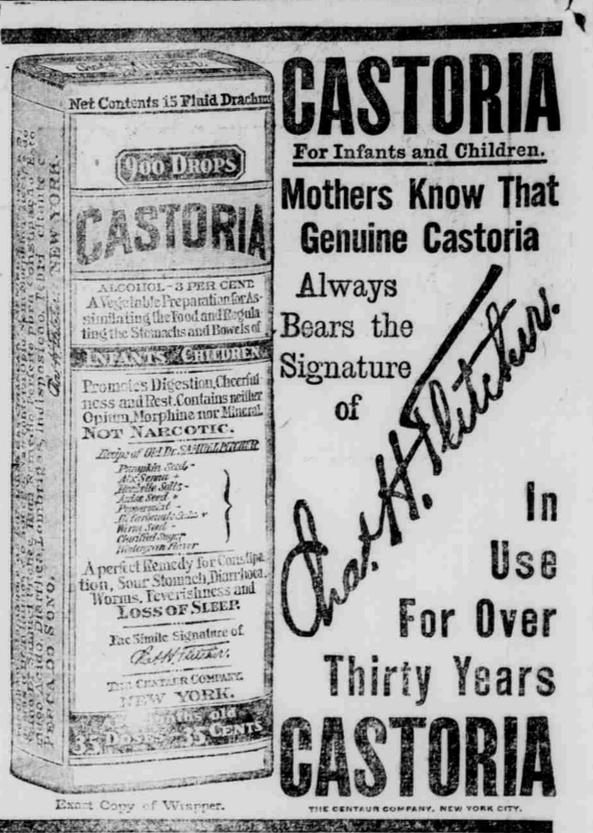
C. W. Crabtree visited between trains Saturday with relatives and friends at Eagle. Mrs. Edna Crabtree accompanied him to his home at Hastings and visited there Sunday and Monday. Will Crabtree, of Abbott, also spent Sunday with them.

M. L. Hursh seems to be having more than his share of trouble during the past year. Mr. Hursh is confined to his home with sickness, and Wednesday his cow escaped from the pasture getting into a nearby corn field and loading up on green corn which will likely kill her and a new born calf. Mr. Hursh recently lost a horse, a calf, and had a barn destroyed by fire within the past year.

MARRIED AT NEBRASKA CITY. From Saturday's Daily.

Leonard J. Austin of Union and Miss Margaret M. Klimm, residing near here, were married in Nebraska City Monday by Judge Bischof. The ceremony was performed before only the immediate relatives of the bride. Len and his bride are well and favorably known in this community and the best of wishes are accorded them by their many friends. Len passed the cigars Wednesday and we all had one for good luck.—Union Ledger.

P. M. Meisinger came down from Eason Saturday evening to visit over Sunday with his brothers, L. A., G. G. and W. G. Meisinger at their homes, and returning home accompanied by his wife and family, who have been here for a week visiting with relatives.




JOHN MURTEY,
Democratic Candidate for Representative of Cass County

The proper man to represent Cass county in the State Legislature. A gentleman and a scholar, and one abundantly well qualified to look after the interests of the tax-payers.

ELECTED AS PRESIDENT.

At the meeting of the Cass County Sunday School association held at Murdock Friday last, the delegates bestowed a well deserved honor upon Jesse P. Perry of this city in selecting him as the president for the next year of the association. Mr. Perry is one of the faithful workers in the Sunday schools of the county and the recognition of his services is certainly deserved by this gentleman for his long and hard work for the benefit of the association.

William Rice who has been here visiting with his relatives and friends, departed this morning for Omaha, where he will consult a specialist in regard to his health which has not been of the best of late.

A want ad will bring you a buyer.

TO FARMERS WHO UNDERSTAND THE GREAT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT IRRIGATED LANDS

Watch for the expected announcement this Autumn of the opening by the Government of its 12,000 acre Fannie tract in the Big Horn Basin. 200 reliably irrigated farms. No agents. No commissions. Direct to you from Uncle Sam, free homestead land and actual cost of perpetual water-right, 20 years' time, no interest and no payment between the first and fifth year.

If you want to know the future value of these farms, visit the adjacent locality of Powell, Wyoming, in the heart of 40,000 acres of irrigated land under this same Government Canal. The Government has now on file more applications than it has farms to allot, but we believe it our duty to let you know of this chance.

Write me and I will keep your name on file, to inform you as to the date of this opening.

S. B. HOWARD, Immigration Agent, C. B. & Q. R. R.
1004 Farnam St., Omaha, Neb.

