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Henry C. Backemeyer Named Commissioner

Prominent Resident of Elmwood Precinct Selected to Take Place of Fred H. Gorder.

Henry C. Backemeyer, 60, prominent resident of Elmwood precinct, was named Saturday night to fill the vacancy on the board of county commissioners occasioned by the resignation of Fred H. Gorder of Weeping Water.

There were twenty-two candidates for the appointment and which numbered some of the most prominent residents of the west part of Cass county and from these it was a difficult task to determine just who should have the position.

The appointment was made as provided by law by the county clerk, county treasurer and county attorney.

The appointment will run until the next general election in November, 1938, when the term of Mr. Gorder was expired.

The new commissioner is well known over the entire county and particularly in the west section where he is an extensive land owner and one of the very successful farmers of that section. Mr. Backemeyer was the republican candidate for the commissionership against Mr. Gorder at the previous election and made a very good race for the office.

The selection of Mr. Backemeyer changes the political complexion of the county board as it now consists of two republicans and one democrat, Mr. Gorder having been a democrat, but in the operation of the board there is little partisanship shown.

FLOWER SHOW ON

The members of the Plattsmouth Garden club have arranged a very attractive winter flower show that is being held in the room in the Bekins building formerly occupied by the bakery.

The members have arranged a most interesting setting and which features large groups of the cedar trees as a background of the showing. Branches of trees with bird nests in them are displayed as a part of the general setting of the floral display.

It is a fine tribute to the Garden club which has already held a spring and summer show that they have such a keen interest that they have created this winter show.

The visitors to the show find among the exhibits collections of seeds of various plants, bird nests of a number of varieties of our feathered friends and a collection of pictures of birds which were exhibits of Miss Anna Harris, Mrs. P. T. and Margaret Heineman and A. L. Tidd.

Three shadow boxes are shown, one of a fine collection of fruit, one dedicated to China and one in the Christmas theme.

There is a fine group of the dried plants and grasses that have been very cleverly arranged and are most attractive.

Collections of vegetables contributed by Mrs. L. W. Egenberger offers a fine note to the show and showings of fruit also makes a very colorful touch to the scene.

One of the unusual plants shown is an "air plant" which is shown by Mrs. L. L. Wiles.

Those who attend the show are well rewarded for their time and trouble.

PAYS OUT LARGE SUM

In the expenditures of the city each year is the appropriation of \$2,900 for street lights and which covers the electrolights and overhead street lights. This is the same amount that the Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power company pays out in taxes in this city, school and city being \$2,900 according to Manager F. I. Rea of the company. The district headquarters is in this city and which makes the tax larger than usual and which is in fact an exchange of checks between the power company and the city and board of education.

See the goods you buy. Catalog descriptions are alluring enough, but how about the goods when you get them?

BANK HAS MEETING

From Friday's Daily—
The stockholders of the Plattsmouth State bank held their annual meeting at the bank last evening to hear the reports of the officers and to elect the directors.

The bank has had a good year and the condition one of the very best of any banking house in the state as the report showed under the efficient management of the officers.

The directors elected were H. A. Schneider, Henry Horn, Frank A. Cloldt, Carl J. Schneider.

The officers elected from the directors were H. A. Schneider, president; Henry Horn, vice-president; Frank A. Cloldt, cashier and Carl J. Schneider, assistant cashier.

Weeping Water Meeting Against Crop Control

Last of County Meetings in Opposition to Compulsory Features of Law Goes on Record.

The last of a series of three county meetings held in opposition to the proposed compulsory farm control bill, was staged at Weeping Water Thursday afternoon. Philpot hall being filled by some 500 of the residents of that section.

The meeting was presided over by Carl Tefft, chairman of the organizing committee, and was one of the best held so far and with real interest shown in the proceedings.

As at the Murray and Alvo meetings, the proposed house bill was read by Troy L. Davis of Weeping Water, who was one of the committee in opposition to the legislation.

The meeting by a raised hand vote went on record as being against any compulsory features in a farm bill by a vote of 241 to 42, one of the most decisive decisions against the bill that has been recorded.

The sentiment was also very much against any form of farm legislation as shown from expressions of the audience.

W. F. Nolte, of near Mynard, was one of the chief leaders in the speeches against the suggested farm control and denounced Secretary Henry Wallace for plans to regulate the crops of the nation. Attorney D. O. Dwyer of this city also spoke against the bill as did Harold Fleischman of Nehawka, Mrs. W. O. Troop of Nehawka and Mrs. Myrtle Woods of Wabash.

Those who supported the farm measure as necessary for the stabilization of farm prices and crops included Alfred Gansemer, well known farmer of near Murray, William Metzger of Cedar Creek, one of the active leaders in the support of the senate bill and Mrs. Ida Reed of Cedar Creek, who was heard in the course of the debate.

The local committee that has been leading the fight against the suggested legislation, has received invitations from several other counties where opposition is sought to be organized.

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

The commissioners at their session this week opened bids on several lines of county work for the ensuing year.

The printing of commissioner proceedings and notices was let to the Weeping Water Republican, who have the present contract. The Elmwood Leader-Echo was the only other bidder.

Streight & Streight, morticians, were low on the burial of the poor.

The various officers filed their quarterly reports as follows: County judge, \$1,025.70; clerk of the district court, \$888.40; register of deeds, \$312.90; county clerk, \$243.75.

FUNERAL OF BABE

The funeral of Roger, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Recek, was held on Thursday afternoon at the Sattler funeral home at Fourth and Vine streets. Father J. R. Sinkula, pastor of the Holy Rosary church, gave the prayers for the departed and brought a message of hope and comfort to the bereaved family. The interment was at the Catholic cemetery in the west part of the city.

Chamber of Commerce Holds Annual Meeting

J. H. Davis Is Named as President of the Organization for the Coming Year.

The annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of this city was held at the dining room of the Stewart cafe Thursday night and with a very pleasing number of the members present.

President Carl J. Schneider presided over the meeting and with Secretary E. H. Wescott on the job.

The selection of the officers of the club resulted in the following being named:

President—J. Howard Davis.
Vice-President—F. I. Rea.
Treasurer—L. O. Minor.

The secretary and members of the board of directors will be announced later.

There were many interesting reports and discussions enjoyed relative to the business of the past year and the outlook for 1938 and all held a very bright view of the future.

J. Howard Davis, who has been serving as acting treasurer, reported that on January 1, 1937, there had been a balance of \$156.07, that during the year the sum of \$2,323.32 had been collected, \$197.10 being expended in the general items of the civic body and \$2,000 had been contributed as a share in the WPA dock and highway project.

H. A. Schneider of the roads and highways committee reported that the strip of road on No. 34 east of Elmwood had been closed with a surfacing of black top. The south Platte territory was urging more development and surfacing of their road system. He reported No. 34 had surfaced with the exception of four miles clear to Grand Island. He also reported that the highway to the bridge had been surfaced with the black top. Mr. Schneider urged that the Cedar Creek road west from this city be surfaced with gravel or crushed rock.

D. S. Sumner, Missouri Pacific passenger agent was introduced by Elmer Sundstrom and Mr. Sumner urged that the Chamber of Commerce take up with the railroad the matter of stopping of the present through trains on the Missouri Pacific.

E. H. Wescott stated that the fact that the station was closed and no lighting at the Burlington station at night, made it very inconvenient to those who were going or coming on the Ak-Sar-Ben.

Tells of River Work

T. H. Pollock, chairman of the Missouri River improvement committee, reported that the lock and warehouse was now all completed, work on the highway was under way, a concrete bridge leading to the dock being in and the road grading on its way. The committee had attended the meeting of the Associated Industries of Nebraska and found many encouraging inquiries as to the state. Pictures of the dock had been sent the Waterways Journal and the Marine News of New York. There was a lack of education among the people on river navigation that should be remedied and they be prepared to take full advantage of its possibilities. Many had held that the Missouri river would be more successful for navigation than the Mississippi. Several concerns had written here inquiring as to locations for plants of various kinds.

Superintendent L. S. Devoe of the entertainment committee, reported that the entertainment of the year was the sixth annual Korn Klub show, and the Santa Claus visit. Mr. Devoe urged that an athletic banquet be held in the city at the close of the basketball season and that schools and athletes from various schools be invited in for the event, a speaker of outstanding athletic record be secured. He urged the members of the Chamber of Commerce to get out and attend the basketball games. He also reported the Plattsmouth city band as showing fine progress and would have a membership of forty-five or fifty for the summer.

A. L. Tidd called the attention of the members to the interest that the Plattsmouth Garden club had attracted over the state and residents of

many other places had attended the local shows. The local club had received many inquiries as to their work from other towns that desired to stage flower shows.

For the city planning committee, S. S. Davis reported plans for advertising and selling the community to the outside world. He called attention to the excellent feeling here now among the residents compared with that when he had moved here in 1922-23. Mr. Davis also gave several incidents of the farm meeting at Weeping Water which was held under the auspices of the committee of which he is a member. He also called attention of advertising the tax rates as a means of locating others here.

Elmer Sundstrom presented Rev. J. C. Lowson, new Methodist pastor to the members of the club and he responded with a few words of greeting.

Advertising of State and City

H. A. Schneider thought that the state advertising of the Nebraska tax situation was good and the showing that the city had made was excellent. It was in 1909 at the behest of John P. Sattler that the city had started their sinking fund that had enabled the gradual retirement of the bonded debt. If the present policy were carried on for the next ten years, Mr. Schneider said we should have a city free of bonded debt. In the last four years the city had paid off \$50,000 of bonds and had reduced the interest rates. This would eventually lead to a very low tax for the operation of the city.

Mr. Tidd urged that the members of the Chamber of Commerce save the ads of Nebraska that appeared in the Journal and turn them over to him for sending out over the nation to advertise Nebraska. He also reported that several concerns had written here as to locations and he believed that a sympathetic follow up of the ads of the state would bring good local results. Mr. Tidd thanked the county commissioners and the city council for their cooperation in the dock proposition, the commissioners aiding in the dock while the city had joined in the plan by having Lincoln avenue rocked and which would probably start this week. He also stressed the fine spirit shown in raising funds for the dock. Mr. Tidd pointed out that many big men had confidence in river navigation and the Ford company was having steel barges constructed for lake and river traffic.

John P. Sattler told of the small towns of Pekin and Peoria, Illinois, in his youth and which river navigation had built up to cities of 20,000 and 125,000, due to the opportunities afforded by the Illinois river.

Tells of City Condition

Mayor George Lushinsky gave a very fine statement of the city finances that was much appreciated and showed the care and attention that had been given to the reducing of city debt and the raising of the financial standard of the city as follows:

Taxes for the fiscal year 1937 and 1938 will be \$2.40 per thousand assessed valuation than the year 1936, and \$4.00 less on the thousand valuation than 1932 and 1933. That year a combined city levy was 25 mills. Each year since then there has been a small reduction in the mill levy as follows: 1932-34, 24.40 mills; 1934-35, 23.80 mills; 1935-36, 23.60 mills; 1936-37, 23.40 mills; 1937-38, 21.00 mills.

This year's reduction is by far the largest in spite of the fact that a one mill levy is made for poor relief. Also beginning this year there will be a decided decrease in the principal payment on outstanding bonds and interest that will permit reduction in the city's levy to make present payment of principal in the sum of \$12,000.00, and interest amounting to \$10,000.00. Beside the \$23,000.00 bond and interest requirements other large items in the city budget include fire hydrant rental fund which is \$5,750.00, street lighting \$2,900.00, police department \$3,300.00, also library, general fund, cemetery fund and various other funds with the same expenditure which is required which is necessary even in these times of curtailing and keeping within the limit of the budget.

Approximately 84 per cent of your tax dollar goes to meet your fixed and contracted expenses which must be met.

Outstanding indebtedness of Plattsmouth has been reduced \$59,500.00

in the last six years, which we can well be proud of, taking into consideration the depression we have had and is still with us. The net bonded indebtedness of the city at the present time is \$232,000.00. All our city obligations have been met promptly when due and the same policy should be met within the next five or six years which should then eliminate this bonded indebtedness.

Arrangements should be made to meet the following payments as they come due: 1938, \$13,000.00; 1939, \$9,000.00; 1940, \$4,000.00. Interest not included.

County Problems Discussed

County Commissioner G. L. Farley discussed many of the problems of the county and to which the years of the depression had added that of relief. The demand was for better roads and which also cost money for surfacing and maintaining. In the face of these the valuation of the county had been reduced from \$54,000,000 a few years ago to \$35,000,000, taking away some \$20,000 from taxing purposes. The fact of extreme dry weather had cut down some road expenditures but on the other hand the lack of crops had made it impossible for the residents to pay their taxes.

County Treasurer John E. Turner called the attention of the members of the Chamber of Commerce to the fact of the supreme court affirming the law repealing the penalty interest tax up to the 31st of December, 1938.

George W. Olson suggested that while there was no money available for WPA work, that plans be made for projects so that they might be ready when funds were allocated.

The retiring president, Carl J. Schneider, closed the meeting by thanking all who had assisted him in the two years that he has served in the office.

TABLES TURNED

An authenticated story having to do with the rail crossing on the O street highway north of Avoca appears in this morning's Nebraska City News Press. It seems state patrolmen have been halting trucks who failed to stop for the crossing, as now required by law. A few days ago a truck driver came to a quick stop just a few feet short of the rails, and observed a crash from behind as the radiator was smashed from the impact. Getting out he found—the car behind was one of the new highway patrol cars. The trucker offered apologies, as he indicated his knowledge of the law by saying, "You know the statutes require us truck drivers to stop at all rail crossings." The patrolmen will doubtless maintain a greater distance between their car and the one in front in the future, especially when approaching a grade crossing.

MURRAY CHURCH GROUP MEETS

The Y. P. C. U. organization of the Murray United Presbyterian church held its monthly business meeting at the home of Mrs. Margaret Todd, Friday evening, Jan. 7. The meeting was very well attended, with twenty-two members and guests present.

A special program for the public will be presented by the young people on Young People's Day, Jan. 20, at 7 p. m. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Three one-act plays will be given on the evening of Feb. 11. The casts for these plays will include all members of the Y. P. C. U. society.

Following the business meeting, the group joined in a very entertaining social hour led by Mrs. Margaret Todd.

MOVE TO NEW LOCATION

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Albee, whose home was destroyed by fire Thursday afternoon, have located in a residence property on South Fourth street, where they will remain for the present at least. They were able to save a great deal of their household goods from the home and which will permit them to start housekeeping at once.

GO TO NEW YORK

Ernest C. Giles and Mrs. George C. Sheldon of Nehawka left Friday night for Plattburg, New York, where George C. Sheldon is in the Physician's hospital with pneumonia.

VISIT AT TECUMSEH

Wednesday evening William A. Robertson, grand master of the Nebraska Masons, with R. C. Cook, deputy grand custodian, W. F. Evers, superintendent of the Masonic Home and Attorney J. Howard Davis, were at Tecumseh to attend Masonic meetings.

Mr. Cook served as the installing officer for Tecumseh lodge No. 17 and inducted the officers into their stations.

Mr. Robertson, who is also the grand senior warden of the Knights Templar, served as the installing officer for the newly elected officers of Mt. Horeb commandery No. 10 and also for Furnas Chapter No. 9, Royal Arch Masons.

Farmers Co-Operative Creamery Meeting

Dividend of \$5 Is Paid to Stockholders as Result of Able Handling of Business.

The stockholders of the Farmers Co-Operative Creamery Co., held their annual meeting at the community hall at Mynard on Friday night. It was attended by some 200 persons, the wives of the stockholders being present.

The building was erected and opened in this city in 1928 and for the first years the going was not so good until some seven years ago when George K. Hetrick came to this city and took over the operation of the well equipped plant. Under his very able management the creamery, which is known as the Plattsmouth Creamery, has steadily advanced until it ranks as one of the best in the eastern section of the state.

The stockholders had a pleasant surprise offered them as the result of the able management of Mr. Hetrick, a dividend of \$5 being presented to the stockholders—the first that has been received from the investment and which followed the wiping out of all outstanding indebtedness.

The meeting was presided over by W. F. Nolte, president of the Farmers Co-Operative Creamery Co., and the reports of the officers received.

That the creamery plant is a real community asset was shown by the figures given by Mr. Hetrick on the amount of business that had been handled in 1937.

The creamery paid out in the year \$93,000 and of which \$88,000 was paid out in Plattsmouth and the adjoining territory in the purchases for the plant and labor costs.

The butterfat purchased during the year amounted to \$51,000, and \$8,000 was paid the farmers for chickens at the creamery plant. One of the large items was \$24,000 that was paid for eggs and which represents a large volume of business, a hundred cases or better usually being handled out of the plant.

For the labor at the plant the sum of \$3,000 was paid out in the year just closed.

The report brought out several speeches of commendation and appreciation of the fine manner in which the creamery has been developed and its value as a community asset. H. L. Gayer, of the Farmers Co-Operative creamery and H. A. Schneider, president of the Plattsmouth State bank gave words of praise for this important community business institution.

In the election of officers W. F. Nolte, H. F. Nolting and E. H. Spangler were re-elected as members of the board of directors and the board later will name the executive officers of the company.

The ladies of the Mynard Community club served a fine luncheon at the close of the meeting.

CARD OF THANKS

We desire to take this means of expressing to the many kind friends and neighbors our deepest appreciation of the many acts of kindness shown us in the death of our little son, Roger. Especially do we wish to thank Mrs. Joseph Kvapil and Mrs. John Kalasek who were with us at the hour of his death and those taking part in the services.—Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Recek, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles.

Fine Art Collection to be on Display Tuesday

Rare Treat Will Be Afforded the Art Lovers of Community at the High School.

The University of Nebraska Extension Art Exhibit, which will be held in the high school gym on January 11, consists of more than thirty pictures representing the widest possible types of pictorial art.

There are full color reproductions of paintings which the whole world acclaims as masterpieces of European art, from the German Holbein's portrait of a merchant prince, to the Spanish Goya's magnificent grandee, Don Manuel de Zuniga.

The lovely Italian Madonna of Cimabue, and Rembrandt's "Christ of Emmaus" breathe forth the spirit of Christ's birthday. The French moderns are represented by a typical colorful landscape by Cezanne, and the French classicists by Corot's study of a "Young Girl."

The established American painter, Winslow Homer, is represented by three paintings; the delicate art of the Chinese Kung Chi, who lived nearly a thousand years ago, is shown in a little pastoral entitled "Three Rabbits."

There is also a collection of original drawings and etchings owned by the university including Lionel Barrymore's "Quiet Waters." When Mr. Barrymore learned that his etching had been purchased to hang in the Nebraska art gallery, he could not wait to write of his pleasure; he telegraphed it from Hollywood.

But the unique feature of this exhibit is the collection of original oil paintings which are being loaned, paintings by American artists, who have achieved distinction in their several fields. Botke, Curran, Parker, (Nebraskan), Stoll and Wood are names that mean fine achievement in the world of painting. Of all these Wood is perhaps the most famous.

Grant Wood is a middle westerner, now in residence at Iowa City, in the magnificent new art center dedicated just last fall. His picture, "Arnold Comes of Age," which is included in this exhibit, has been loaned for exhibition to the Whitney Galleries at New York, and to the San Diego Exposition, and points in between. The University of Nebraska has refused \$1,500 for the canvas.

This is not a large nor startling picture. It is just a portrait of a boy who has reached that moment where he accepts the responsibilities of manhood; a fine, clean youngster whose idealism is as yet untried, whose courage is high, and who is ready to take up his part in the making of a better world. In the background other youngsters are at play in a gay landscape; this boy faces away from them toward the future, as if he said, "I have become a man. I have put away childish things." It is a picture to be looked at again and again, not so much for the arrangement of light and color in it, but for the ineffable lift of spirit which the artist has somehow caught on the canvas.

This exhibit is being directed by Miss Lois Brandhorst of the Plattsmouth high school. She is anxious that a large number of patrons attend and the admission is free. The doors will be opened at 7:00 o'clock with the program starting officially at 8:00 o'clock.

SKATING HARD ON HEAD

From Saturday's Daily—
Burton Rishel, Main street and first ward carrier of the Journal, was unable to carry his route, as the result of a fall sustained last night. Burton, with several companions was skating and he fell, striking his head on the ice. Since the accident he has been suffering from the effects and was forced to remain home today.

ATTENDS CONVENTION

From Friday's Daily—
Glenn Vallery will return home today after spending a week attending a convention at Moline, Illinois and visiting the John Deere factories at Moline and Waterloo, Iowa.

PHONE NEWS ITEMS TO NO. 6.