

## Short Sketch of Sherman County and the Present Officials

By PEARLE NEEDHAM.

Sherman county is located in the east central part of Nebraska, and the Middle Loup river like a silver thread winds in and out, from the northwest corner to the southeast corner of the county, making a broad fertile valley with rolling plains sloping on either side. Forty odd years of habitation and cultivation have changed the desert waste to a flourishing garden. The strong arm and dominant will of the sturdy pioneer have wrought the transformation. Where once were the sod farms and dugouts, the early homes of these people, we see large modern farm houses, ample barns, and granaries filled to overflowing with the products of the soil. Where a few short years ago we saw the roaming buffalo, and elk, the cattle feed upon a thousand hills, and they are fat, too.

Not long since, the farmer plowed his weary way back and forth across his field behind a yoke of oxen dragging a plow, turning one furrow at a time; now, while his blooded horses rest in their comfortable stalls, he sits beneath an umbrella, on the tractor seat, turning from three to six furrows each time across his field.

The automobiles are fast taking the place of the good old driving teams of the farmer. When he wants to go to town, his team rests and he is whizzing away to the city in about the length of time it used to take him to get his team ready. In fact if Henry Ford should come to Sherman county, he would think this a small Detroit. The cities of the county are enterprising, progressive, and wide awake. Many industries we find, employing several men, and it is not surprising with such a people, that the wealth of the county has increased so rapidly in the past ten years. In 1905 the valuation of all property, real and personal was approximately \$5,850,000, while in 1915 it was \$16,600,000, showing almost a threefold increase.

It is surely a credit to the people who have made it. It is the industry, and the stick-to-it-iveness of the early settlers that have made this a land of plenty, and marvelous growth. The splendid improvements we find in the towns and on the farms testify to the up-to-date-ness and progressiveness of this people. Only one spot left to mar the beauty of the "land scape" hereabouts.

The old county court house is standing there still; But the days of its youth have fled. For the last forty years it has stood in that block. And the people who built it are dead.

The floor boards are warped, and bent out of shape. The walls are all molded and gray.

The windows all rattle, and the doors all squeak And the joists have begun to decay.

The stairs are all shaky and fill one with dread, Although we must climb them each day.

The roof leaks a stream when ever it rains And the outside is fast crumbling away.

Its dear to our hearts is the old county court house, As it stands there so bleak and forlorn

We have had it so long that its hard to give up, But if a new one were builded—who'd mourn?

But with the paying off of the county indebtedness, which will be done with the 1915 levy, we are sure the good people of this county will show the same sturdy true-hearted spirit that has characterized the settlers from early days on down, and erect a court house that will be a credit to them and to the generation to come.

**SHERMAN COUNTY OFFICERS.**  
If any one in the good old state of Nebraska can produce a more genial or more handsome bunch of county officials, why we're from Missouri.

Always they treat the public with the greatest courtesy, and are ever obliging, and send their callers away with a smile that repeats the spoken invitation, "Come again."

Since gray hairs should be honored first, let us introduce to you our sheriff "Dad" Williams as he is familiarly called. Since 1853, he has been a resident of the county. A civil war veteran, of two enlistments, the first in the 7th Wis, and later in the 43rd Wis, of which he was made lieutenant. His reputation for marksmanship makes the culprit hide in fear and trembling and keep shy of his jurisdiction. He has served as sheriff since 1904.

F. M. Henry came to Sherman county about 1898. He was with the Ravenna Creamery company for several years until in 1912, he left their employ to assume the duties of custodian and collector of the county's funds, which is not an envious position for the County Treasurer, regardless of everything gets the blame for high taxes, dear readers.

E. A. Smith, 13th County Judge of Sherman county, in 1883 in company with H. L. Bell of Webster township, arrived in this, the garden spot of Nebraska, on board a Prairie Schooner, the chief mode of travel in those days. Since that time he has been farmer, merchant, attorney, shoe maker and school teacher; the vicissitudes of a pioneer life which is the making of the true sons

## Board of Supervisors of Sherman County

of Nebraska. Since 1910 he has been meteing out justice to the erring ones of the county, and his judicial mein and wisdom give him the appearance of a supreme justice, all he lacks, being the robe.

Charles Bass of towering stately form and bass voice is custodian of the records of the district court. He doles out judgments and divorce decrees with a sparing hand and has become an expert at deciphering court proceedings. His merry "good morning" will drive away the "blue devils," and he is the proverbial

roads and carried more chains than any other surveyor of Sherman county. But when all is said and done, when E. B. Corning cannot locate a government corner there is no use for any one else to try.

Dr. A. S. Main has been a practicing physician of Sherman county for a number of years. The arduous duties of County Coroner rests lightly on his broad shoulders, and he reports vital statistics, looks into the causes of violent deaths, with the calm dignity of one to the manor born.



DAN McDONALD  
District No. 4.



F. T. RICHMOND  
District No. 7.



JOHN WELTY Chairman  
District No. 2.



WENZEL REWOLINSKI  
District No. 1.



W. O. BROWN  
District No. 3.



E. F. KOZEL  
District No. 5.



HIYO ADEN  
District No. 6.

"Happy Hooligan" of the court house, and he's never been known to have a grouch on since he came to Sherman county in 1887.

E. B. Corning, our genial County Surveyor, has occupied that position since Christopher Columbus discovered America, or perhaps it has been only since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. At any rate he has located more corners, set more stakes, straightened more

Attorney, being a graduate of the University of Nebraska, one of the best Universities in the United States. A young man of sterling worth, he will no doubt occupy a high position in the realm of law, some day in the future.

L. H. Currier, Superintendent of public instruction, has been prominent in educational circles of the county for several years. The schools of the county are in a flourishing condition as a result of his efforts. That he is very popular with the school ma'ams of the county is evidenced by the large institute attendance each year.

County Assessor W. T. Owens has lived in Loup City since August 1885.

He is a veteran of the civil war. Enlisted in Company I second Wisconsin Cavalry and was never killed, wounded or taken prisoner that he can remember of. Before entering the army he had served three years apprenticeship learning the carpenter trade, to which occupation he returned on his return home when that little unpleasantness was over in December, 1865. In 1871-2 he was along the Missouri river, building churches on Indian reservations; then went to Chicago to help rebuild that city after the fire. Then he returned to Wisconsin for a few years in the winter of 1878-9 he went to Leadville, Colorado, to try the game of get rich quick, but old Dame Fortune wouldn't smile on him. On arriving in Loup City in August, 1885, he went into the contracting and building business which he followed until he was appointed postmaster at Loup City and filled that position from January 1, 1899, to February, 1909. He was elected and served as city assessor in 1910 and 1911 and was elected county assessor in 1912 for four years and is ready now to draw cuts with Teddy to see who will take the head of the ticket next year.

S. H. Richmond the latest acquisition to the court house bunch, fills the office of deputy County Clerk. He came to Sherman county about ten years ago and has since made it his home. His cheerful smile and ever willingness to oblige makes him a very efficient deputy.

Mrs. Anna May, the pleasant little lady, who as clerk assists in the clerical work of the County Judge's office, is getting to be an expert in the issuing of marriage licenses. When in need of same, call upon her, she will help you into difficulties.

Pearle Needham, a native born daughter of Sherman county, has years. She very smiling and graciously relieves all callers at the office of their spare change, and although they often glare at her wrathfully, they haven't the heart to grumble much because she's so extremely polite about it.

R. M. Hiddleston, ex county treasurer, helps out at the treasurer's office, once in a while during the busiest seasons. He is an old resident, having come to this county in 1880. He is jolly and good natured and ever ready to please.

The county board of supervisors is composed of seven members; they are all farmers and are splendid representatives of the county's industrious tillers of the soil, except E. F. Kozel of Rockville, who is a

merchant, but interested in the farming business, anyway.

There is Welty who graces the chair And assumes a most dignified air. And there's Brown who is jolly and fat—

No one need ever deny that. McDonald, who's lanky and lean— But you never dare say that he's mean. Rewolinski of Polish decent, Who is ever on business intent. And Richmond who wears a broad smile, Regardless of weather, it's there all the while.

The handsomest man on the board is Kozel, But don't let him know it or his head might swell. Then Aden, who does not know how to frown— Everyone is aware when he reaches town. This is the roll of the board, tried and true. The best bunch of fellows you ever knew.

### NEBRASKA.

By Carl E. Herring, in the National Magazine.

The sun never shone on a country more fair Than beautiful, peerless Nebraska; There's life in the kiss of her rare-fied air.

Nebraska, contented Nebraska. Her sons are all valiant and noble and bright, Her beautiful daughters are just about right, And her babies, God bless them—are clear out of sight; That crop never fails in Nebraska.

Her homes are alight with the halo of love, Nebraska, prolific Nebraska; They bask in the smiles of the heavens above.

No clouds ever darken Nebraska; Her grain waves as billows of gold in the sun, The fruit of her orchards are equalled by none, And her melons, some of them weigh 'most a ton, They challenge the world in Nebraska.

Her girls are sweet models of maidenly grace, In that modern Eden, Nebraska; They're perfect of figure and lovely of face, That's just what they are in Nebraska.

Their smiles are bewitching and winning and sweet, Their dresses are stylish, yet modest and neat; A Trilly would envy their cute little feet, In beautiful, peerless Nebraska.

When the burdens of life I'm called to lay down, I hope I may be in Nebraska; I never could ask a more glorious crown

Than one of the sod of Nebraska. And when the last trump wakes the land and the sea, And the tombs of the earth set their prisoners free, You may all go aloft, if you choose, but for me, I think I'll just stay in Nebraska.

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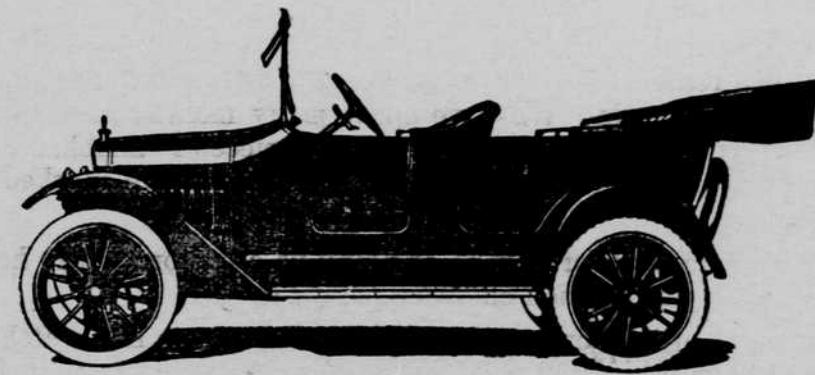
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