

# THE FALLS CITY TRIBUNE.

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## Democratic Convention.

The democratic county convention was called to meet at the court house last Saturday afternoon, but the rains came and the floods descended and when the hour, of the convention arrived, few of the delegates had arrived and such as were here seemed lost in the vast emptiness of the district court room. The convention was called to order by John Gagnon, chairman of the central committee and C. H. Nolte was made temporary chairman, H. C. Davis was made temporary secretary. When chairman Nolte had finished his speech of acceptance, Edwin Falloon moved that the convention select delegates to the state convention and then adjourn to meet on next Monday afternoon. Mr. Falloon explained his motion by saying that the inclement weather had kept so many delegates away that it would not be fair for the few present to proceed with the nomination of a county ticket.

A delegate from Humboldt opposed the motion and said that those present and braved the wrath of the elements and should be allowed to proceed to business under the call. Clarence Gillespie supported the motion of Mr. Falloon in a rousing speech and declared that if the democrats were to elect their ticket this fall they must present a united front to the enemy and the convention could not afford to take snap judgment on any man. Therefore he was in favor of the postponement as proposed by Mr. Falloon.

It had been whispered among the delegates that the leaders really desired a delay in the proceedings because a crack had appeared in the slate and that an immediate proceeding might result in the placing of men on the ticket whom the leaders did not want there. So strong was this sentiment in the convention that when Mr. Falloon's motion was put to a vote the chair was left in doubt as to the result. A standing vote was ordered and the chair announced that the motion had carried. The delegates present proceeded to select delegates to the state convention and then adjourned.

And so on next Monday there will be another democratic convention to name a county ticket and then we shall see what we shall see.

## The Shakespeare Club.

The Shakespeare club opened its season with a meeting on Friday afternoon, September 15th, with Mrs. C. F. Reavis. The members were out in force, and enthusiastic and interested in the year's work as outlined.

Three new names were added to the membership and all will take up with eagerness the study of Julius Caesar with its unrivaled presentation of Roman life and manners and the quotations so frequently used.

At the business session, Mrs. T. J. Gist was elected delegate, and with Mrs. C. F. Reavis will represent the club at the State Federation meeting at Lincoln in October.

## A Big Investment.

Benton Maret, former secretary of Ex-Governor Holcomb, was in the city Tuesday. Mr. Maret is interested in a big copper mine in the west and is authority for his statement that Joseph Miles, John Morehead and A. J. Weaver subscribed \$70,000 of the stock.

Wm. Spragins accompanied a crowd of home seekers to northern Kansas this week.

## The Old Mill.

I have just returned from a trip to the Falls Mill. I have revisited, for the first time in several years, the haunts of boyhood days and the places that were so familiar in the days of old and the years that are past and gone. It has been one of those early autumn days in which the slanting rays of a descending sun intensifies the yellow of the sunflowers and deepens the red of the shumachs that drowsily nod besides the roadway that I have traversed on this little journey back into the past, back to the old mill and the environment that I have long since outlived, and whose only remaining influence is that of the half waking, half dreaming reverie that steals into the consciousness when old scenes are revisited and old memories are awakened.

I have passed out over the brow of the Newcomer hill, and down across the railroad tracks and past the old cemetery, where, for over a half century the dead have been sleeping. I have passed across the level stretches of the bottom road, leaving the town father and farther behind and watching the dark green line of the timber draw nearer and nearer, like a great cloud that approached out of the south to envelope me in its own denseness, yet a cloud that attracted rather than repelled, that lured me on with visions of its cool fastnesses, and the lullaby of chattering bird and droning insect. By and by I came to the turn where the road just skirts the outer edge of this great green cloud and following around the bend, I saw the old mill and at the same moment I felt the strange touch of that unutterable longing that must come to one who, wandering through a graveyard, sees graven upon a headstone the name of one, of whose death he had never learned and whom he supposed to be living. I did not know that the old mill was dead. I was not prepared to meet a skeleton face to face in the road. The windows, whose panes I have seen reflect the glories of more than one sunset have been broken and the empty cavities that they occupied seem to grin in horrible mockery. In one side of the building a great hole has been torn, as though the structure were an animal which, brought to bay by its pursuers, had been slain and disembowled and the carcass left to rot. A brisk wind was blowing out of the north, but the weather vane on the comb of the roof pointed steadily to the south in which direction it had been turned by some kindly southern breeze that blew long ago, and kissed the first violets of a forgotten spring and set the leaves of elm and oak dancing to the soft melody of its passage. Why should man climb to the roof of an abandoned and forsaken mill to set right a misguided weather-vane, and why should a weather-vane forsake its faith in a wind that blows only over a dreary waste of forgotten hopes and ambitions unsatisfied?

I climbed down the steep bank and stood on the end of the old dam and watched the water roll and tumble into the whirling eddies below. I have stood on this spot when the splashing spray was very cooling to bare feet, but then the roar of the water was mingled with the rumble of the mill, the mill

that is today so silent and so empty and deserted. Here on the bank beside me is a great iron shaft that used to turn and turn while I watched it with a child's curiosity and wondered what made it go round.

And then I wandered inside of the great empty building and a bat came out of the darkness on the left and disappeared in the darkness on the right and a rat sat for a moment on a half decayed timber and, alarmed at my too near approach, dived into the mass of cobwebs and dust and darkness that lies beneath floors that no longer vibrate with the tread of men or the reverberation of machines.

Up in the busy town that lies over on the hill they have builded a new and more modern mill. There steam does the work that the waters used to do but when the last grist had been ground at the old mill and the machinery was moved out and the building abandoned, the hands that did this sacrilege did not carry away the sacred traditions and the fond memories of the man who, as a barefoot boy, watched the cork on his fish line dance in the eddying whirl below the dam, and felt himself lulled into blissful repose by the whirr of wheels and grew dizzy as he watched the iron shaft that turned and turned and was only aroused by a consciousness that the shadows on the opposite bank were growing very long and the night was coming on and that he must hurry as fast as bare, chubby legs would carry him, if he would pass the old burying ground on the hill before the darkness came.

## A Birthday Party.

On Saturday evening at St. Thomas rectory Lelia Smith entertained about twenty young folks in honor of her twelfth birthday. One of the pleasantest features of the evening was the big fish pond. After the fly was cast each child anxiously waited to see what prize he or she might draw. Among the favors were dolls, pipes, French harps and perfumes. Mrs. Smith served dainty refreshments. The guests were: Beatrice Bowman, Marion Horrocks, Lela Powell, Wilma Myers, Nellie Rule, Margarite Rowley, Margarite Haner, Edna Miles, Sue Miles, Marcile Burckhard, Lilly Lane, Helen Lyford, Bessie Ramsey, Grace Hayes, Ruth Bohrer, Lothair Schoenheit, Wilson Maddox, Tom Hargrave, Jack Jellison, Wilbur Beaulieu, Tom Horrocks, Willie Pillsbury, Lelia, Mary and Francis Smith.

## Important Notice.

There will be a meeting of the Falls City Commercial club at the court house on Monday evening, September 25, 1905.

The following questions will be considered: Election of officers, Missouri Pacific division at Falls City, Falls City water works, public roads, etc. All merchants, professional and business men of Falls City be there.

Mrs. Ira Houtz came down from Verdon yesterday.

J. F. Crandall came over from Reserve Wednesday.

A severe hail storm during the past week did considerable damages near Barada, Shubert and Stella.

Tom Whitaker accompanied a crowd of home seekers to southern Kansas where he will secure for them fine homes before he returns.

## The M. E. Conference.

The forty-fifth session of the Nebraska Annual conference is in session at St. Paul's Methodist church in this city. Bishop Hamilton, of San Francisco, is presiding. The district represented in this conference includes that part of Nebraska lying south of the Platte river and east of Furnas and Buffalo counties. It includes 161 charges and about 300 preaching appointments.

There are about two hundred ministers present at the conference and from the time that the gavel of the presiding officer fell a spirit of intense interest has pervaded the gathering, and earnest interest has been manifested in every phase of the deliberations.

The conference met at eight o'clock Wednesday morning and the sacrament of the Lord's supper was administered, an atmosphere of deep solemnity surrounding the service. At nine o'clock a formal organization was effected. J. W. Scott was elected secretary and O. T. Moore, H. G. Wilcox and N. A. Martin, assistants. E. D. Gideon was elected statistical secretary and A. C. Crosswaite conference treasurer. A. E. Chadwick is acting as conference postmaster.

The organization having been made, the conference proceeded with the regular order of business.

On Wednesday afternoon a statistical session was held and at 3:00 o'clock Rev. John Stewart preached the conference sermon. Evangelistic services were held at 4 o'clock conducted by Rev. N. A. Martin. The evening session was devoted to the board of church extension anniversary under the leadership of Rev. Rob't. Forbes, D. D.

At 8 o'clock Thursday morning there was evangelistic service and at 8:45 a conference session. At this session presiding elders from other districts presented reports and papers of general interest were read. During the morning considerable important committee work generally was well up with the program. At 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon the Women's Home Missionary Society held executive session in the lecture room of the church. Rev. F. A. Colony delivered a missionary sermon at 3 o'clock and evangelistic services were held at 4 o'clock.

The conference will remain in session until Monday evening and the program for the remainder of the week includes a number of important sermons and addresses and a great deal of routine work. It should be remembered that the general public is invited to attend the sessions of the conference, and that the casual visitor will, at all times, find something of interest and profit in the proceedings.

The visiting ministers will remain in the city over Sunday and will occupy the various pulpits as follows:

Methodist church—6:00, prayer meeting, Rev. W. H. Prescott; 9:00, conference Love Feast led by Rev. A. L. Folder, Rev. A. C. Crosthwaite, alternate; 10:30, sermon, Bishop Hamilton.

Presbyterian church—10:30, Rev. M. Bamford, D. D.; 8:00, Rev. D. L. Thomas, D. D. Brethren church—10:30, Rev. Chas. M. Shepherd, D. D.; 8:00, Rev. D. B. Lake.

Christian church—10:30, Rev. R. N. Orrill; 8:00, Rev. George W. Isham, D. D.

German Evangelical church—Services in German; 10:30, Rev. J. D. Hammel; 8:00, Rev. Henry Zinnecker.

Baptist church—10:30, Rev. J. R. Woodcock, D. D.; 8:00, Rev. Leander Morrison.

On Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock will occur the memorial services led by Rev. E. L. Barch, and at 4:00 ordination and consecration services will be conducted by Bishop Hamilton. These services will be held in the Methodist church.

## CONFERENCE NOTES.

A feature of the conference has been the trial of F. D. Blake, more of Tecumseh, against whom charges have been preferred and who has been suspended from the ministry pending the decision of the ecclesiastical court. The cause came on for hearing on Tuesday and the procedure is much the same as that which obtains in our civil courts. A committee of fifteen ministers is appointed to act as jurors. The bishop presiding is the judge and the secretary of the conference is the clerk of the court. A stenographer is employed to take the testimony. The sessions of the court are held behind closed doors and the accused is given every opportunity to prove his innocence. In this case a great mass of testimony has been introduced and a decision will be reached before the adjournment of the conference.

Among those present are some of those men who have aided so materially in the upbuilding of the Methodist church in this city. Among them we ought to mention D. R. Rodebaugh, A. C. Crosswaite, John Gallagher, G. W. Abbott, J. S. W. Dean and W. B. Alexander. It is good to see these men again and to feel the inspiration of their presence. The splendid church in which the conference is being held is a monument to such men as these, because they gave of their best efforts to make Methodism in Falls City what it is today—a power for good and a blessing to the community.

Bishop Hamilton is a splendid presiding officer. There is something about the personality of the man that attracts and one cannot long remain in his presence without feeling his influence. The most striking feature of his personality is his abundance of snow white hair—hair that has grown white in the years of his service in the vineyard of the Lord. His profile is striking and his countenance bears the stamp of intelligence and a singular beauty that has been placed there by years of godly living.

## A Big Show Coming.

The next attraction, a rural comedy, entitled Si Plunkard, will commence a one night's engagement at the Gehling theatre on Thursday, Sept. 26th. This is one of the most laughable plays ever put upon the stage, but at the same time it has an interesting plot. It is presented by an excellent company with the famous Yankee comedian, J. C. Lewis, in the title role, and a company of twenty talented artists. The piece is the production of a clever comedian, who knows the public wants and has set himself at work to meet the demand. The result is a Rural Comedy full of queer situations and quaint sayings, and enlivened by that indefinable snap and go, which is the life and soul of a rural comedy. The company carries a fine orchestra and its program introduces many musical novelties.

That man has missed the best of life who said "the leaves of memory make a mournful rustling in the dark."

## Died.

F. M. Barnard died at his home in Barada township on September 15, 1905. The cause of his death was typhoid malaria and his last illness covered a long period of time. The deceased was a native of Nebraska, having been born in this state July 25, 1879, and spent the most of his life in the state of his nativity. At the time of his death he was living on the James Wheeler farm. He was married November 12, 1899, to Miss Eva Parrish, who, with two small children survive him. Mr. Barnard was a hard working, honest man and one whose relations to his fellow men were ever cordial and sincere. He had not accumulated great store of this world's goods, but at the same time he had lived a life more free from blame than that of many who leave fortunes behind them and vast estates to be partitioned and divided. His funeral was held at Barada on Sunday and considering the inclement weather and the bad roads, the services were very largely attended. To the wife and the little children, the many who knew and appreciated the deserving traits of the husband and father, extend sympathy and condolence.

Mrs. Morris Bringaman died at her home one mile north of town yesterday morning at the age of 25 years. She was married three years ago and leaves a husband and two children. The funeral will be held this afternoon from the Evangelical church, Rev. Manshart officiating.

Mrs. W. R. Allen died at her home in Salem on Monday at the age of sixty years, her death having resulted from a complication of disease. The deceased had spent the best years of her life in this county and was a woman of high Christian character. She leaves a husband and four daughters, Mrs. Rodgers of Belleville, Kan., Mrs. Timmerman of Colby, Kan., and Alvira and Ada Allen of this county. They have the sympathy of many who knew and respected the deceased for her many excellent qualities. The funeral was conducted from the home on Wednesday, the services being conducted by Rev. Cronenberger, of the Christian church in this city.

## Young Man Robbed.

Henry Stone joined the Sells & Downs circus in this city and departed with the aggregation and when the show reached Nebraska City, he was assailed by some of his fellow employees, and after being badly beaten was robbed of about eight dollars in money and some jewelry and clothing. He failed to identify his assailants and at once left the employ of the show and returned to this city.

## Death of Aged Couple.

On Tuesday of last week William Frakes died at his home in Salem and on Monday of this week, the death of his wife occurred. Mr. Frakes was 84 years and Mrs. Frakes was 79 years of age. They had lived in this county many years and were among the most respected residents. The surviving relatives have the sympathy of a wide circle of friends.

We have heard the word brother more this week than in all our life before.

"All I want is my chicken," has been the favorite tune in many Falls City homes this week.