

REPUBLICANS IN CAUCUS

FOUR COUNCILMEN ARE PLACED IN NOMINATION.

CITY CONVENTION DELEGATES

All Four Wards Have Named Strong Men for Places on the City Council. No New Developments Regarding Mayoralty.

[From Tuesday's Daily.]
Republican nominees for the city council:

- First ward, S. W. Garvin.
- Second ward, W. H. Bridge.
- Third ward, J. H. Lough.
- Fourth ward, Pat Dolan.

Republican ward caucuses, meeting according to call last night, selected delegates to tomorrow's republican city convention and placed in nomination a candidate for the city council in each of the four wards of the city. The caucuses contributed little or nothing toward clearing the political situation. Members of the party were still at sea last night as to finding the right citizen who could be prevailed upon to accept the nomination for mayor. Among those in attendance at the several meetings little was said about possible candidates for offices other than mayor, save that the suggestion of B. C. Gentle for city clerk met with general favor.

First Ward.

The first ward caucus after canvassing various names placed S. W. Garvin in nomination as a member of the city council. The caucus met at the city hall and was presided over by M. D. Tyler as chairman and B. C. Gentle as secretary. The following lists of delegates to the city convention were selected by acclamation: C. C. Gow, P. H. Spitzer, H. J. Cole, J. S. Mathewson, M. D. Tyler, W. H. Widaman, N. A. Huse, B. C. Gentle, C. S. Parker, W. P. Logan and G. T. Sprecher. J. S. Mathewson was chosen ward committeeman. Mr. Mathewson, who is a retiring member of the city council, refused to accept a renomination.

Second Ward.

W. H. Bridge received the republican nomination for councilman in the second ward. The caucus met in the law office of Mapes & Hazen. E. A. Bullock was chosen chairman, W. R. Hoffman secretary. Councilman A. H. Kiesau was called on and positively declined to consider a renomination. After bringing out several names in an informal ballot, the caucus united on W. H. Bridge on the first ballot for the nomination of councilman. A. H. Kiesau was picked as ward committeeman. A committee report nominating the following men as delegates to the city convention was adopted: John R. Hays, E. A. Bullock, W. R. Hoffman, A. H. Kiesau, G. D. Butterfield, A. H. Kiesau, H. G. Bruggeman, W. H. Bridge, Will Darlington, Martin Kane, L. M. Gaylord, John Bridge and Guy Barnes.

Third Ward.

The third ward caucus nominated J. H. Lough for the city council. W. A. Witzigman was chairman and C. L. Anderson secretary of the meeting, which was held in the city hall. R. H. Reynolds was chosen to represent the ward on the city central committee during the coming year. The list of delegates to the city convention follows: W. A. Witzigman, J. D. Sturgeon, A. H. Viele, R. H. Reynolds, C. P. Parish, Geo. N. Beels, V. V. Light, S. T. Adams, and C. L. Anderson.

Fourth Ward.

Pat Dolan was nominated by fourth ward republicans for councilman. The caucus was held at Hershiser's drug store at 8 o'clock and was presided over by Chairman W. H. Livingstone. The following delegates were named for the city convention: Pat Dolan, W. H. Livingstone, C. J. Hibben, Howard Beymer, J. A. Grey and J. L. Hershiser.

TUESDAY TIDINGS.

- J. O. Odder was up from Fremont today.
- S. Beck went to Oakdale at noon on business.
- W. J. Johnson of Naper was in Norfolk today.
- C. Charlton of Blair was in Norfolk last night.
- Herman Bergman went to Madison at 11 o'clock.
- A. H. Oleson of Wisner was in Norfolk over night.
- J. E. Morrison of Gandy was in Norfolk yesterday.
- J. J. Saxe of Williams spent yesterday in Norfolk.
- Constable G. F. Bilger is home from a trip to Hoskins.
- Ed Mahr of Platte Center was in Norfolk yesterday.
- Attorney M. C. Hazen returned last night from Wayne.
- Wenzel Koryta of Pierce spent yesterday in Norfolk.
- H. Finke and A. Wallmeier of Overton are in Norfolk.
- Ed Ashley of Grand Island was in Norfolk over night.
- Miss Helen Bridge is visiting with Mrs. Malone at Enola.
- Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Greene spent yesterday in Madison.
- M. J. Kinan of Wayne was a Norfolk visitor yesterday.
- E. Crook of Meadow Grove spent yesterday in Norfolk.
- J. E. Needham was a Gregory, S. D., visitor in Norfolk today.
- Mrs. A. H. Bohannon of Oakdale was in Norfolk yesterday.
- John Adams of Newport transacted business in Norfolk yesterday.
- S. S. McCabe of Laurel was in Norfolk between trails yesterday.
- Miss Fredia Pohlman and Henry Pohlman of Stanton were in Norfolk

yesterday.

H. Evert of Lennox, S. D., was in Norfolk for a few hours yesterday.

A. G. Rolf of St. Edwards was in Norfolk yesterday between trails.

Mrs. R. C. Simmons returned yesterday from a short visit with her sister at Beemer.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Weaver returned yesterday from a Sunday visit at Meadow Grove.

County Superintendent Frank S. Perdue of Madison was a business visitor in Norfolk today.

Paul Nenow of Battle Creek was in Norfolk yesterday on his way to visit a claim which he has in Cherry county.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Olmstead returned from Wayne, where they attended the funeral of Mrs. Albert Berry on Sunday.

Miss Reynolds, who is to serve as trimmer this year at Mrs. E. F. Stear's millinery store, has arrived in the city from Chicago.

Mrs. Dillenbeck is slightly improved after being quite ill last week.

Mrs. H. L. Whitney of Omaha, formerly of Norfolk, has obtained divorce from her husband. She is to get \$3,000, \$35 per month and the custody of her daughter, Bernice.

The Ladies Missionary society of the First Congregational church met with Mrs. W. H. Johnson at 3 o'clock. The subject of the meeting was "The Chinese Empire and Its People."

E. C. Gay, a deputy in the Royal Achatas lodge, and who made his headquarters in Norfolk last summer, has just sent word to friends here of the death of his father. His mother died while he was stationed here last August.

Articles of incorporation for the Yankton & Southwestern railway, capitalized at \$100,000, have just been filed with the secretary of state at Lincoln. This is the line which has just been surveyed through Norfolk enroute from Yankton to the gulf.

Tuesday the ruins of the high school building were still on fire. Water has been unable to extinguish the smoldering heap of coal in the southeast corner of the basement. A constant stream of water was kept on the fire a considerable part of Sunday and Monday.

Through the generosity and thoughtfulness of Mrs. B. W. Barrett, Norfolk fire ladders who had grown fatigued and chilled while fighting flames in the Norfolk high school, were given a genuine treat at her home in the way of coffee and sandwiches. The firemen have unanimously expressed their appreciation of the act.

C. W. Roland yesterday took possession of the general merchandise business of J. B. and J. W. Dickover at Third street and Norfolk avenue. J. B. Dickover is expected in Norfolk from Santa Barbara, Cal., during the week. Messrs. Dickover after selling their business last week announced their intention of making their future home on the Pacific coast.

The Norfolk city library will receive \$8.50 as the result of the concert given at the Auditorium last week by the Oriole Concert company. C. S. Hayes, who had charge of the local arrangements for the concert, gives the following financial statement to The News: Total receipts, \$94.00. Expenses of Oriole Concert company, Auditorium rent, advertising, extra help, amounted to \$85.50. Cash for library fund, \$8.50.

Roland Langer of this city has just received word of the very serious illness of his brother, Ray L. Langer of Seattle. Mr. Langer was formerly in a bank at Humphrey and is known in this section. He recently made a trip to Italy and other European countries in behalf of the bank in which he is employed at Seattle and since his return he has been doing two men's work. Mrs. Langer telegraphed that it was feared he could not live.

Seeking to prevent the firm of Campbell & Niebrecht from shipping a carload of their clothing stock from Norfolk, Millard Green appeared in the justice court of G. C. Lambert yesterday with Barnhart & Koenigstein as attorneys. Green claimed that the amount of \$28.50 was due him from the clothing firm for moving their stock of goods from their store to the Union Pacific depot on March 7, 8 and 9. He sues for that amount.

"I might state," said Mayor Friday yesterday, "that the original proposition made by Spitzer & Co. for the purchase of the Norfolk sewer bonds at par involved the payment of \$6,200 to the firm. I informed their representative that this proposition could not be considered by the city. After investigating the local situation the agent appeared before the council with a proposition calling for the payment of \$1,350. This amount as you know was finally reduced to \$3,800, of which sum the contractor pays \$3,200."

The Woodward Stock company, who conclude an engagement of nine repertoire performances in Norfolk tomorrow night, have found the theatergoers of this city to be unusually cordial and appreciative. Miss MacKimm, the leading lady, in speaking of this fact, said: "I have been surprised and very much pleased, of course, at the warm welcome given us by Norfolk audiences. They have been as cordial as in any of the larger cities where we have played and become well known, and I hope that we may return to this city for other engagements in the future."

SYMPATHY FOR NORFOLK.

Niobrara People Extend Kind Words to Norfolk in Misfortune.
Niobrara, Neb., March 12.—Special to The News: Many of the people of Niobrara express sympathy for Norfolk in the loss of that city's handsome high school edifice.

SCHOOL BUILDING BURNS

NORFOLK'S FINE HIGH SCHOOL IN RUINS TODAY.

IS A LOSS OF ABOUT \$40,000

Origin of the Fire is a Complete Mystery, Though it Apparently Started in the East Basement—Slack Coal May Have Been Responsible.

Fire breaking out in the Norfolk high school building at an early hour Sunday morning spread beyond the control of the firemen, leaving the building practically a wreck. Saved for three heat cracked walls and the basement foundation the building and contents are a total loss. The loss to the Norfolk school district is estimated at from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Insurance protection to the amount of \$15,000 was carried on the building. The board of education will formulate plans for the future at once.

The high school building at Phillip avenue and Sixth street, now little more than three bare walls, was completed in 1890. Built of pressed brick and stone, plate glass for windows, with two floors for class rooms and a large basement, it was one of the largest and imposing school buildings in northern Nebraska.

Discovered at 5:20 a. m., the fire burned its way through the building for two hours with undiminished vigor. Starting apparently in the

basement the flames in the east wing upward, then spread along the second floor and roof until the whole structure was one flaming pit. The northeast wing was the last to burn. The halls and air shafts in the building rendered the march of the flames easy.

The alarm was turned into the fire department about 5:20 o'clock by J. T. Wolfkiel from the Barrett home opposite the high school building. The fire was called to his attention by Roland Langer and F. G. Fox, also roomers at the Barrett home, who were leaving the house preparatory to taking the Bonesteel train out of Norfolk. This train is due at 5:45 a. m. They saw the flames and sparks shooting upward from one of the chimneys. A burning flue was the first thought, but closer examination showed a faint light in one of the second story windows and a glow in one of the east basement windows.

The Mast hose company was the first to reach the scene. It was followed by the Queen City company, the Pioneer hook and ladder company and the West Side hose company. The early hour and the rough roads occasioned delay. Broken harness held the hook and ladder company back, forcing the firemen on the scene to work from the ground floor during the first critical moments. By the time the men were in position to reach the fire with three streams of water the situation had passed out of their control. Fire Chief McCune took charge of the companies.

Poor water pressure marked the first part of the contest with the fire. The telephone operator after considerable difficulty had secured the water station, but not until the fire was well advanced did the pressure come up to standard.

Engineer Gus Graul of the pumping station says that the water pressure was on full force at the waterworks, as shown by the gauge. Water Commissioner Brummond found the gauges up to maximum. Mr. Graul says he heard the first telephone ring but when he answered the central operator did not respond and he says that it was because she did not answer that there was some delay in the whistle.

At 6:10 o'clock the heavy slate roof fell in turning the full force of the flames loose and reddening the sky for miles. Up to that time the vicinity of the burning building had been touched by only an occasional flash of light. With the crashing in of the roof, the firemen were forced to withdraw from the now dangerous wall. In a few minutes one of the chimneys fell carrying the greater part of the south wall with it. Warning had enabled the firemen to withdraw from the scene of danger.

All hope of saving the building had now vanished. The air was filled with burning pieces of wood and flying members. Although there was little or no

wind, nearby houses were threatened.

The fire department divided its efforts between saving these houses and protecting the north wall of the high school building.

Crowd Watches Flames.

The spectacular part of the fire did not come until after 6 o'clock, when the flames broke through the heavy slate roof, illuminating the whole sky. Soon a solid mass of flames was shooting more than fifty feet above the walls of the doomed building. Many who had not heard the alarm now rushed from their homes augmenting the crowd.

had first gathered. In the crowd were men, women and children breathless school children. Members of the school board canvassed the situation and determined to take prompt action to meet the emergency. Citizens estimated the loss to the district. There was deep regret that a fresh burden should be placed on Norfolk at a time when all her energy is needed for new movements along the line of civic improvement and business advancement.

School Girls in Tears.

As the news spread about the city the school children flocked to witness the destruction of their school building. Many of the girls were in tears. The boys were less affected by the conflagration, the minds of some turning to the joys of a possible vacation from school work. Several high school boys were eager to force an entrance into the burning building at an early stage of the fire in an effort to secure personal effects left in their desks Friday. Such a course would have probably meant death in the smoke clogged hall and the special police forced the

ing and contents. The high school building in addition to the high school held the seventh and eighth grades and part of the sixth. Students to the number of 325 attended the school. The building contained twelve class rooms.

First Close Range View.

Val V. Light, mailing clerk at the Norfolk postoffice, was probably the first man to obtain a close view of the fire. His story to The News follows: "I went to work at the postoffice early Sunday morning, passing the high school building just about 5 o'clock. At that time I saw no signs of anything unusual. I was

near the school building as I saw something was falling. In company with J. W. Barrett, driver of the mail wagon, I left for the Northwestern's uptown depot at 1:20 o'clock. From the postoffice we saw sparks and flames issuing from one of the high school chimneys, but it had merely the appearance of a flue burning out. The alarm sounded we passed the school. There was no sign of fire in the building until I reached the east side of the school, where the flames could be seen through the south basement window opening into the ash pit room. No one was on hand so I started up town, meeting one of the fire companies on the way. Returning I found the flames breaking through the basement into the upper floor in the east wing. We soon had a stream of water on the fire. The smoke was too dense to effect an entrance, but I think that if we could have had our ladders in time and could have had strong water pressure, the fire might have been held to the east wing of the

building. I do not think that the fire started in the coal room."

Mr. Light is president of the Norfolk fire department.

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WILL RUSH NEW BUILDING

NEW AND BETTER HIGH SCHOOL BEFORE SEPTEMBER.

FOR HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS ONLY

An Improvement Will be Made Over the Old Plans—New Structure to be More Compact—Bonds at Spring Election—Quick Work of Board.

Instruction in the Norfolk schools will not be seriously interrupted by the fire of Sunday morning. The board of education and the school teachers under them are exhibiting the proper kind of Norfolk spirit. All classes in the Norfolk schools will be receiving instruction within a week. Norfolk will have a new and a better if not more expensive high school building within the next six months. Almost before the red tongues of flame had forced their way through the state roof of the doomed high school building Sunday morning, City Superintendent E. J. Bodwell and members of the school board were laying plans for the emergency.

Meeting of Board.

The city board of education held an emergency meeting Sunday afternoon at the office of the president, Dr. H. J. Cole. Every member was present and all took an earnest part in the discussion. It was decided that Norfolk must have a new high school by next September. Bonds for this purpose will be asked for at the coming spring election. Steps were taken to carry on all school work with as little interruption as possible.

New Building Different.

The sentiment of the board at the Sunday meeting was unanimous in favor of rushing forward the rebuilding of the high school building in order that it may be ready for use in September. In this connection it can be said that the new building will not follow the plan of the old structure, the internal arrangements of which proved unsatisfactory. The members are inclined to favor a smaller, more compact building to be used only for high school purposes. Additional grade room would be obtained by adding additions to one or two of the present grade schools. The board adjourned until 8 o'clock Monday morning when they proposed to take definite action

toward financing their entered building operations.

\$24,000 Bonds Asked.

The board of education asks the voters of the Norfolk school district to approve the issuance of \$24,000 of school bonds to help carry on the necessary building operations forced on the board by Sunday's fire. This was definitely determined on at a second special meeting of the board held early Monday morning in the president's office. The board proposes to issue \$24,000 of thirty year five per cent. bonds with the option of payment at the end of twenty years. This proposition will be submitted in the voters of the school district at the coming city election on April 2. Under the law Tuesday, March 12, is the last day on which legal notices of a bond proposition could be given to the voters.

Bonds to the extent of \$35,000 stand against the school district at this time. Against this, however, there is over \$20,000 in the school sinking fund that will be used in taking in that amount of bonds sometime within the next year or two. Consequently the amount of indebtedness against the district will not be increased by the proposed bond issue, though that indebtedness will of course be extended over a considerably longer period.

Secretary H. C. Matraux stated to the board that the school district would probably have \$5,000 worth of salvage in the stones and bricks in the walls of the high school building. The board has \$15,000 of insurance on the burned building. Against this is the loss of the high school building and the total loss of equipment in the building.

Turning to their task the board voted to carry through certain temporary arrangements to care for the classes from the high school building. The new Lincoln building will be vacated for the high school classes, unless the high school is installed in the Congregational church. Places must be found for the seventh and eighth grades from the burned building. Of the different grades to be provided for, two will be sent to the Junction school, one to the Methodist church, three to the Congregational church and one to the Baptist or Presbyterian church. The superintendent will announce the definite arrangements in this respect at once.

To Buy New Books.

The committee on text books was given authority to buy needed books and school supplies. Those will be obtained this week. The bill will amount to several hundred dollars. No attempt will be made to rent the high school laboratories until next summer.

Superintendent Bodwell reported that all school records had been destroyed in the fire. This loss is a serious one. It will also result in considerable inconvenience and extra work for the superintendent.

Superintendent Bodwell held a special meeting of the high school building teachers Sunday morning. Plans for the future were outlined. It was decided to have all pupils at the high school building hand in any school books in their possession to the superintendent at his new office in the Lincoln building Monday afternoon. Announcement to this effect was made in the churches and Sunday schools Sunday.

In addition to Superintendent Bodwell, who lost books and other personal effects, many of the teachers suffered considerable loss in the high school fire. Miss von Goetz, principal of the high school, had a loss which can not be replaced. In addition to some sixty books, the fire destroyed notes on German and mathematics taken by Miss von Goetz while a student in Vienna. Trip diaries, photographs and text books, which she had collected in Europe, were also consumed. Miss O'Connor, another instructor, lost seventy-five books belonging to her personal library, and several steel engravings.

A. H. Viele was elected vice-president of the board at the Monday meeting to fill the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Vice-President Johnson some months ago.

The board will hold a special meeting in a few days for the purpose of getting preliminary plans for the new building. At this time the board has reached no definite plan concerning the new building.

Omaha papers Sunday said that Superintendent E. J. Bodwell of this city was there for the meeting of the Schoolmasters' club Saturday night. Mr. Bodwell, however, was in Norfolk and was one of the first persons to be at the fire.

STOLE DINGLE'S OVERCOAT.

Contortionist Robs Leading Man of Stock Company—is Caught.

Disregarding the ties that are supposed to bind the highest and lowest members of a profession together, a foot loose circus actor in Norfolk Monday seized an opportunity to make away with a fine overcoat belonging to Charles Dingle, leading man in the Woodward Stock company now playing in Norfolk. The man was located in Tilden Tuesday morning and placed under arrest. Mr. Dingle will be satisfied with recovering his coat and will not prosecute. The overcoat was valued at \$30.

The circus man was stranded in Norfolk Monday but members of the stock company came to his relief. The aid given was to have been increased by a collection after Monday evening's play, but the wayward showman did not wait. Leaving an old coat in the cloak room at the Oxnard hotel he walked forth finely clad in Dingle's overcoat. Trace of him was obtained at the Pacific hotel and resulted in the arrest at Tilden Tuesday morning.

The circus man is a contortionist. He left his wife at Hoskins and walked to Norfolk.