

"THIRTY" FOR THE EDITORSTwenty-Ninth Annual Convention
Closes Auspiciously.**NEW OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**Nebraska Press Association Adjourns
After a Successful and Profitable
Conference, Receptions for
the Delegates.

"Thirty on the hook!" called F. O. Edgecombe a few minutes after 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, whereupon the Nebraska editors arose and put on their hats and coats. After a most successful meeting the twenty-ninth annual convention of the Nebraska Press association was at an end. Most of the delegates and their wives remained at once to The Bee office to avail themselves of an opportunity to inspect a modern newspaper plant; others went to South Omaha to see how cattle are slaughtered in the Swift packing house, while still others visited the public library and other points of interest in the city. Many of the editors remained over last night to attend a reception at Schiltz roof garden, and will return to their homes today.

In Retrospect.
Looking back over the two days' session the mouldeers of public opinion of the state have every reason to congratulate themselves, as the returns show a most gratifying increase of membership and a substantial balance on the right side of the association ledger. There was manifest a wholesome spirit of good fellowship between the editors. If any were present who had felt the sting of unkind criticism, they promptly buried the hatchet for the time being, and the best of feeling prevailed throughout. The editors evidently intend to start in the new century right.

The first order of business of the afternoon session was the election of officers. W. M. Maupin of Omaha, G. W. Barnhart of the Auburn Herald and A. W. Ladd of the Abilene News, were placed in nomination for president, and Mr. Maupin was elected. Comparative little interest was taken in this item of the program. These were elected as vice presidents: First congressional district, Allan D. May, Falls City Journal; Second district, C. E. Byers, Valley Enterprise; Third district, Allice Hart, Dakota City Eagle; Fourth district, W. R. Fulton, Olinville, Iowa; Fifth district, U. J. Lodi, Republican City Democrat; Sixth district, C. B. Cass, Ravenna News.

Mr. Merwin Re-Elected.

F. M. Merwin of Beaver City, who has held the office of secretary and treasurer for the last five years, was reelected by a unanimous vote. All agreed that Mr. Merwin is the right man in the right place. He was voted \$50 more as a testimonial of esteem than as a salary.

E. E. Carrel, editor of the Hebron Journal, was reelected as corresponding secretary, the rules book suspended and his election made unanimous. The following gentlemen were appointed by the chair as an excursion committee: U. E. Foster, Plainville News; W. N. Huse, Norfolk News; H. P. Marble, Humboldt Leader; F. A. Brundage, Tecumseh Christian, and W. G. Purcell, Custer County Chief.

These committees were also appointed: Executive Committee—L. A. Williams, Blair Pilot; J. C. Seegar, Lincoln Journal and Western Post; J. W. Ladd, Abilene News, and D. H. Cronin, O'Neill Frontier.

Legal Committee—D. M. Butler, Legal News; W. H. Stowell, Auburn Post; D. J. Snyder, Abilene Argus; C. J. Bowley, Crete Democrat; and Adam Breed, Hastings Tribune.

An interesting paper on the subject of "Delinquent Subscribers" was read by Allice Hart of the Dakota City Eagle, followed by H. P. Macdonald of Grand Island with a reminiscent essay on the theme, "Old-Time Printers."

Interesting Papers Read.

"Brotherly Love" was the subject chosen by A. M. Church of the Naper News and "A Stick of Pled Type" was the text of S. W. Killey of the paper.

The matter of selecting a time and place for holding the next convention was left to the executive committee.

The afternoon session closed with the ever-interesting and instructive "Round Table," conducted by F. O. Edgecombe.

A striking feature of the morning session yesterday was a "guessing game," in which W. W. Haskell of the Ord Quiz and Robert Good of the Valentine Democrat won the

honors. This contest corresponds with the one a year ago, but which took the form of a proof-reading bout, in which S. J. Potter won a \$10 prize for finding the most typographical errors in a very poorly printed program. This year the point was to "lay" a cap case according to the diagram in the Great Western type foundry's specimen book. Each contestant was supplied with a blank form of the case and was required to mark into the boxes the characters which belonged therein. The smallest number of errors made was ten. Messrs. Haskell and Good each made ten mistakes and the \$10 prize was divided between them. The next lowest number was 11, then came 14, 16 and finally 60 mistakes. It was explained that the inability to lay a cap case correctly is not necessarily inconsistent with a thorough working knowledge of the case, as there are words of characters in the cap or upper case that are not used in ordinary printing once a year.

Mr. Haskell returned his share of the prize—\$7.50—to the association, with instructions to use it as prize money in another similar contest in next year.

Blacklist for Mileage Shakes.

At the opening of the session Wednesday morning the president announced that it would be advisable to depart from the regular order of business and hold the election of officers early in the afternoon instead of at the close of the afternoon session. The forum of the official paper—the Daily Nebraska Press—he said, would close at 4 o'clock and as the editor wanted to publish the names of the newly elected officers the program for the day would have to be altered. This met with the approval of the delegates.

Several invitations to receptions and offers of souvenirs to the women of the convention were read by the secretary. Among these was an invitation to inspect the plant of the Swift packing house, which included free street car transportation. This, however, could not be accepted officially because of lack of time.

F. M. Merwin, secretary and treasurer, read his annual report. He called attention to the fact that there was a \$150 surplus in the treasury and that the association was in a much better condition financially than ever before. There has also been a very gratifying increase in membership. Last year 125 names were enrolled, and at noon today there were 170, and more to come. Mr. Merwin recommended that in the matter of railroad transportation the association keep a blacklist of all editors or other persons in connection with country newspaper offices who abuse the privilege afforded them by the railroad companies. Any editor who sells, trades or gives away mileage, he said, should be deprived of the advantage of transportation.

C. J. Bowley, editor of the Crete Democrat, read a paper on the subject of "Natural Irrigation." He recommended that the newspapers of the state take up the matter and advocate the storing of surface water, to be used in time of drought.

Brings Out a Protest.

W. R. Fulton of the Olinville, Iowa, called attention to the fact that there was too much farm land in Nebraska now and that it gave rise to over-production of farm products. "Much of the farm land we have now," he said, "should be permitted to go back to its original state and become grazing land." This view of the situation called forth a torrent of protest—a half-dozen delegates taking the position that there could be no such thing as over-production of farm products so long as there were people on the earth who were starving to death.

This original poem was read by Allan D. May, editor of the Falls City Journal:

The Humbling of the Press.

The world is marching onward, taking ever-growing better as the ages pass away; On the mighty march of progress justice ever proudly rides, And the distant goal grows nearer every day.

As the evil spirit comes to rule the day, Stirs the nations as they never were before, 'Tis the organ voluntary that the gods of justice play.

With his torch reaching Time's remotest shore, It is the men of reason, it is showing them the plan.

That the great Creator made, and brotherhood, Oh, the destiny of ages and the brotherhood of man.

Is the rumbling of the press.

'Tis an ever changing rhythm that is fraught with awful might,

With the power to melt the heart of hardest stone.

Oh, that mightiest anthem throbbing through the universe today,

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