

OMAHA'S PIONEER COUNCIL

Trials and Tribulations of the Early Day Lawmakers.

PRAIRIE FIRES A PUBLIC MENACE

Frontier Municipal Fathers Make Laws Against Fire and Adopt Other Measures that seem Queer in These Days.

When Omaha's pioneer council gathered around a large table in Jesse Lowe's office, a one-story brick building at the northwest corner of Twelfth and Harvey streets, there were no discussions concerning the salaries which should be paid from general funds or the estimates of the expenditures for different departments of the city government.

The body had before it the task of creating a government and of outlining the plans for a future city. But little money was available for improvements and some idea of the wild condition of the territory may be formed from reading in the records of the council that one of the earliest ordinances introduced in that body was designed to prevent the setting of fire to grass within the city limits on account of the danger of prairie fires.

It was March 5, 1857, that Omaha's pioneer council held its first meeting. Mayor Jesse Lowe and the nine councilmen were elected on the first Monday in March. The result of the balloting had scarcely been announced until a meeting of the city fathers was called.

It is my recollection that there were but few votes cast at this election. There wasn't any trouble with stuffing the ballot box or getting a cross in the wrong circle on the ticket that was used, said William P. Snowden, who was an old settler at that time, having been in Omaha for nearly three years. "There were just eight of us whigs in the town and the rest of the voters were democrats. We had a kind of a caucus and put up a ticket without paying any attention to party lines. A year later, however, the whigs and democrats began to line up against each other and politics entered into the election."

Full-Fledged Government.

The territorial legislature of Nebraska approved a charter for Omaha February 2, 1857. A supplementary act was passed February 7 and the little western city had a full-fledged city government before another month had elapsed. The officers elected were as follows: Jesse Lowe, mayor; H. C. Anderson, recorder; Lyman Richardson, assessor; J. A. Miller, marshal; A. D. Jones, T. G. Goodwill, G. C. Bevey, H. H. Vischer, Thomas Davis, W. U. Wyman, W. N. Byers, C. H. Downs, Thomas O'Connor, aldermen.

Of the original officers only two—Lyman Richardson and A. D. Jones—are now living in Omaha. Jesse Lowe, T. G. Goodwill, Thomas Davis, W. U. Wyman and Thomas O'Connor are dead. W. N. Byers is in Kansas, H. H. Vischer is in California and it is not known what became of the other men.

The first action taken by the aldermen was the adoption of the rules of the council of the legislative assembly. Following this the councilmen announced ordinances which they would introduce in a short time. Among the proposed measures was an ordinance dividing the city into three wards, a division which was maintained for many years.

Another ordinance afforded protection for the city marshal in the execution of his duties. This was a measure of great importance, as the frontier town was visited by a rough element and the disputes caused

cerning claims were not settled in a gentle manner.

"Board of Aldermen" was the dignified name given to the first council. The country was a little new for dignified airs in those days, however, and at the second meeting of the council the order was extracted to write the names of the city fathers without the prefix "alderman."

They Make More Offices.

Among the first acts of the body was the creation of two additional city offices, city engineer and city attorney. Charles Grant was elected city attorney March 12, and in June he resigned and was succeeded by James M. Woolworth. A. S. M. Morgan was Omaha's first city engineer.

On March 13 the council met with the county commissioners and ratified a contract which looked to the county a portion of Washington Park, on the condition that a court house be erected on the land and that the city officers be allowed the use of part of the building. The county building was erected on the ground which is now occupied by the Paxton block, at the corner of Sixteenth and Farnam streets.

It also fell to the lot of the first council to foster a plan for the construction of a good hotel in Omaha. The city needed a hotel and had nothing to offer to prospective builders but land. Many offers were made by capitalists who were willing to undertake the building. Dr. George L. Miller offered to erect a \$75,000 hotel for a smaller bonus of land than any of the other bidders and he was awarded the contract, which resulted in the construction of the Herndon house, which now forms a part of the Union Pacific headquarters.

The council was also confronted with the task of erecting a capitol building on the site now occupied by the High school. All the money that came into the city treasury was expended on the capitol, lands were sold and every available means of raising money was resorted to. Appropriations were made from time to time until \$110,000 had been put into the new state building with the understanding that the government would refund the money to the city.

Forced to Issue Scrip.

Finally the council was forced to issue scrip. June 23 was the date upon which \$20,000 worth of the city money was put into circulation. In all \$50,000 worth of scrip was issued. The issue of scrip had a depressing effect on the money market and the scrip was practically worthless. In December of 1857 an election was held at which the voters decided that bonds should be issued for the redemption of all scrip.

Two members of the pioneer council, A. D. Jones and W. N. Byers, were surveyors by profession. Mr. Byers went from Omaha to Denver, where he established the Rocky Mountain News. C. H. Downs was captain of the ferry boat which was in operation at that time and was a member of the original town site company. H. H. Vischer and Thomas Davis were carpenters and Mr. Davis afterwards went into the saw mill business. G. C. Bevey was a brickmaker and contractor.

Omaha has never had a council which devoted so much time to the city's affairs as did this pioneer body. For months the councilmen held a meeting every day and spent most of their time in devising plans for improving the frontier city. And when the present of the body was changed at the end of the year a new hotel, a county building and a capitol had been secured for Omaha.

COLORADO MINES TO RESUME

Independent Companies Concede Ten Per Cent Increase—Northern Company Will Concede Nothing.

DENVER, Feb. 2.—Independent northern Colorado coal mines will resume operations Monday under an agreement signed by the United Mine Workers' representatives and the operators. The basis of the settlement is an increase of 10 cents a ton for mining, eight hours' work a day, and a bi-weekly pay day.

There have been heretofore employed in these properties between 200 and 300 men and their output has aggregated about 1,000 tons a day. The operators expect to double this output by doubling the number of employees. The Northern Coal company, which contributed three-fourths of the output before the strike, has definitely refused to concede anything to the strikers.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to earnestly thank all of our friends for the thoughtful kindness and expressions of sympathy shown to us during the sickness and after the death of our beloved daughter and sister, Grace. Our hearts appreciate the beautiful floral offerings, as they symbolize the bright cheerfulness and pure nobility of her earthly life. We are thankful for this. Some of her last expressions gave promise of a blessed immortality with her Saviour and we pray that her testimony may strengthen others to lead a true, Christian life.

MRS. L. A. EDWARDS AND FAMILY.

HOMESEEKERS' TICKETS.

Via Rock Island Route. Tickets on sale February 5 to points in Oklahoma, Indian Territory and Texas. Shortest and quickest line to Oklahoma; no change of cars. City Ticket Office, 1323 Farnam st.

Dance program and wedding stationery.

A. I. Root, printer 414-416 South 13th.

Have Root print it.

DIED.

POGLACK—Josephine, February 1, 1901, aged 35 years.

Federal Sunday at 1 p. m. from residence, 209 N. 20th street. Interment, Pleasant Hill cemetery. Friends invited.

BROSIOUS—Daniel, February 2, 1901, at 11:45 a. m., at his late residence, 424 North Seventeenth street, aged 78 years 9 months and 25 days.

Funeral notice later. Mr. Brosious had been a resident of Omaha for thirty years.

BURLINGTON ROUTE.

Low Rates West and Northwest. At a time of year when thousands will take advantage of them, the Burlington Route makes sweeping reductions in its rates to the west and northwest to Utah, California, Montana, Washington, Oregon and British Columbia.

Dates: February 12, 19 and 26. March 5, 12, 19 and 26. April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

Rates are shown below: To Ogden, Salt Lake City, Butte, Helena, Anaconda and Missoula, \$23.

To San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Jose and many other California points, \$25. To all points on the Northern Pacific, west of Missoula, including Spokane, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, as well as Vancouver and Victoria, B. C., \$25.

To all points on the Spokane Falls & Northern P., and the Washington & Columbia River R. R., \$25.

Tickets 1502 Farnam st., and at Burlington station, Tenth and Mason streets.

Free Homes.

If you desire full information in regard to the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Wichita and Caddo reservations in the Indian Territory, send 30 cents for book with quarter-section illustrated map and full description of the lands to D. P. BROWN, 1323 Farnam St., Omaha, Neb.

Hamilton Warren, M. D., eclectic and magnetic physician, office at the Central hotel, corner North Fifteenth and Dodge streets, till a suitable location can be found. Special attention to all long standing or lingering diseases and to diseases of women and children.

Card of Thanks.

We desire to thank our many friends for the kindness shown us during the sickness and death of our mother, Mrs. Mary L. O. BARNUM. MRS. P. A. SIDELL, MRS. F. S. STANFIELD.

For policies that are sight drafts at maturity apply to H. D. Neely, manager Equitable Life, 206 and 208 Bee building.

There will be an important meeting of the board of trustees and the executive committee of the Associated Charities in the parlors of the Commercial National bank on Monday, February 4, at 4 p. m. THOMAS KILPATRICK, President.

Watch work, Skilled workmen. A. B. Huberman, 1318 and Douglas. No come-backs.

New wheels, \$15. Omaha Bicycle Co.

"New Orleans for the Tourist"

Is the title of an illustrated booklet, issued by the Illinois Central railroad, describing points of interest in New Orleans, La. For copy, address W. H. Brill, D. P. A., Omaha, Neb.

Lathrop's Cold Cure, sure, 24 & Hamilton.

HOMESEEKERS' TICKETS.

Via Rock Island Route. On Tuesday, February 5 to points in Oklahoma, Indian Territory and Texas. Shortest and quickest line to Oklahoma. Through cars. City Ticket Office, 1323 Farnam st.

HAYDEN'S High Grade Dress Goods

The Leading Dress Goods House of the West.

New arrivals in dress goods every day.

On Monday we will sell 50 pieces of our \$1.25 new spring prunella 50 pieces of the very finest French venetian goods made, to sell at \$2.50 50 yard, 54-in wide and 16 new spring shades, to sell at \$1.50 25 pieces of English melton, in all the new spring shades and grades, regular \$2.95 goods, our price will be only..... \$1.98

Black Dress Goods.

Priestley's new spring weights in plain black in challis, voiles, prunella melroese, drapes, etc., at \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, up to \$5.00 per yard..... \$1 to 5

A large line of new French flannels, in all the plains, dots, Persians, etc, 25c to \$3.00 per yard.

French Challis

We carry the largest line of French challis to be found in any house in the west. 200 pieces of all wool strictly new goods, in all the finest figures, stripes, etc., worth up to 60c per yard..... 39c

500 pieces of new spring challis, in all the finest designs, satin..... 45c

High grade Persian 4 to 6 prints, in as many colors, these challis are sold in Chicago at \$1.00 per yard, our price will be only..... 59c

100 pieces of gros Roman Paris challis, the very finest cloth and colors and is sold at \$1.00 to \$1.25 per yard our price will be only..... 65c

Hayden's New Wash Goods.

New imported Irish dimity, 500 styles to select from, 25c yard.

New imported Scotch madras shirtings, 150 patterns, 25c to 30c yard.

New imported French silk mouss de soie, (19 colors), 45c yard.

New imported French foulard sublime, (185 styles), 30c yard.

New imported satin stripe dimity, (50 patterns exclusive) 50c yard.

New imported Scotch madras zephyr, 22-inch wide (110 styles), 25c yard.

New imported Scotch corded novelties, for waists (40 styles), 30c yard.

New imported Irish shirt waist linens, (50 styles), 25c yard.

New imported foulard satens, (65 styles), 25c yard.

Everything new and nobly in finest wash goods manufactured. Special daily sale Monday.

Linen Prices.

10-4 fringed crochet spreads, at 55c each.

11-4 fringed crochet spreads, very heavy, at \$1.25 each.

Big Silk Special, Monday

Thousands of yards of finest black taffetas, in 19-in., 27-in. and 26-in. widths, \$1.00 and \$1.25, all go on sale Monday, at 25c, 50c and 95c.

Monday will be special foulard day, pretty styles, all new spring silk, worth \$1.00, on sale at 59c.

Beautiful foulard, worth \$1.25, go at 65c. Black peau de soie, black satin, fancy silks for waists, all kinds and colors, all colors and black crepe de chene, all worth up to \$1.25, will go at 69c.

Read the Big Shoe Sale on page 13.

HAYDEN BROS.

HAYDEN'S HAYDEN'S

Monday's Meat Sale

Best Brand Small Hams..... 12c

10-pound cans Best Lard..... 95c

New Bologna Sausage..... 50c

Boneless Corned Beef..... 7 1/2c

5-pound pails Best Lard..... 12c

Fancy Chopped Beef..... 10c

Boneless Cottage Hams..... 7 1/2c

Fresh Pork Sausage..... 7 1/2c

Fish Specials for Monday

3 large Herring for..... 10c

50 Mackarel, each..... 9c

Norway Hoki, pound..... 12c and 15c

Norway Anchovies, pound..... 8 1/2c

New Sauer Kraut, 3 pounds for..... 10c

Finnan Haddies, pound..... 10c

Grocery Specials

Can Corn..... 5c

Can String Beans..... 5c

Can Pumpkin..... 5c

Can Lima Beans..... 7 1/2c

Can Tomatoes..... 7 1/2c

Can Baking Powder..... 5c

Can Syrup..... 5c

3-pound can Grated Pineapple..... 12 1/2c

Michigan Jelly, in cans..... 5c

Fern Brand Condensed Milk..... 9c

Interesting Prices in Cheese

Western Reserve Full Cream, fancy, 12 1/2c

American Club House..... 10c

A Fancy Virginia Swiss..... 16c

McLaren's Imperial Cheese..... 15c

Specials in Teas and Coffees

A beautiful china cup and saucer given free with one pound of any of our teas.

Basket Fined Japan Tea, extra choice, 25c

Sun Dried Japan Tea only..... 25c

New Tea Siftings, first crop, only..... 25c

Moyune, Gunpowder and English Breakfast..... 45c

fast..... 45c

Good Broken Coffee only..... 10c

Whole Coffee only..... 12 1/2c

Government Mocha and Java Coffee..... 25c

Mandling Mocha and Java..... 35c

3 pounds for \$1.00.

Butter and Egg Sale

Fine Country Roll Butter..... 11c

Fancy Separator Creamery..... 21c

strictly Fresh Eggs..... 12 1/2c

Read the Big Shoe Ad on Page 13.

HAYDEN BROS.

An Examination of the Teeth

regular intervals by an expert DENTIST will prevent premature decay. The teeth can be kept free from tartar and other foreign matter, cavities filled and gums cleansed and strengthened.

The cost of having this done will be slight if attended to before the trouble has got a firm hold. Difficult or delicate work receives the most skillful treatment.

BAILEY, the Dentist

312 Paxton Block, 16th & Farnam Sts. Phone 1085. Lady Attendant.

THE SMOKERS PREFER

MERCANTILE

BECAUSE THE JOBBERS' PROFIT IS ADDED TO THE QUALITY UNION MADE

Three Telephones Now

We have THREE telephones now—and THREE messenger boys with wheels to quickly deliver the orders for drugs which are coming over the phone. If you have a prescription to fill, our boys will call for it, and deliver the medicine without extra charge. CUT PRICES ALWAYS.

The Carter's Little Liver Pills..... 25c

Apollonia Water, bottle..... 25c

\$1.00 Perina, we sell..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c

\$1.00 Puhkama's Compound..... 25c