

DAVIDSON ACCEPTS POSITION

Topeka Man Delighted with Superintendency of Omaha Schools.

WATERHOUSE GETS RAISE IN SALARY

Edward Rosewater Calls Attention of Board to Pearce's Slander and Points Out Its Utter Falsity.

Superintendent Davidson was called up by telephone at his home in Topeka and told members of the Board of Education that he would be delighted to accept the position as superintendent in Omaha. He said the Topeka school board had not anticipated that he would be called away and no move had been looking toward his successor. However, he will lay his resignation before the members at their regular meeting Monday night and ask for release as soon as possible. He thinks it can be arranged so that he can come to Omaha and assume charge of the schools in about two weeks.

Superintendent Pearce will leave Omaha Saturday for Milwaukee to take active charge of the schools there Monday morning. Until Superintendent Davidson arrives Principal Waterhouse will be acting superintendent, and Miss Kate Mottish, assistant principal, will be at the head of the high school.

Although Principal Waterhouse did not get the superintendency, it has been announced that his candidacy will not be altogether without fruit. He is to have his salary raised \$300 a year, making it \$2,700. This is upon the authority of a member of the board, who is enthusiastically in favor of the increase. He says the body is practically a unit on the proposition and he does not anticipate a single vote being cast against the measure.

"When the high school was under Principal Lewis," said the same member, "it paid \$2,700 a year. There were only twenty-seven teachers then. Now there are fifty-five, and the responsibility and importance of the place has increased correspondingly. There is no reason why a good man should not be paid \$2,700 a year, and that is what we propose to do at an early meeting of the Board of Education."

Davidson Is Elected.

W. M. Davidson of Topeka, Kan., was elected superintendent of the Omaha public schools by the Board of Education last night. He was chosen by a unanimous vote of fourteen on the first ballot. Member Funkhouser being absent. The members previously held an executive session lasting more than an hour, during which the endorsements and qualifications of the various twenty-seven candidates were discussed. Ten members were for Mr. Davidson from the start and four for A. H. Waterhouse, principal of the high school. These latter votes were changed as soon as the majority had expressed its will.

The salary was left at \$2,500. Superintendent Davidson will be asked to take hold April 2, the date Superintendent Pearce leaves for Milwaukee, or as soon thereafter as he can arrange. Mr. Davidson was elected to serve until August 1, 1905, when Superintendent Pearce's term would have expired.

Davidson's Record.

W. M. Davidson has been superintendent of the schools at Topeka, Kan., for about twelve years. He is a graduate of the Kansas State Normal school and from the Kansas State university, which conferred upon him the degree of bachelor of arts. He has had about twenty years' experience in school work, most of it being in Topeka. He is a prominent member of the National Educational association and a member of the executive council of that body and is well known as a lecturer and conductor at teachers' institutes. His endorsements were chiefly from superintendents in the largest cities of the country and he was warmly recommended by President Eliot of Harvard. His campaign for the place was sharp and aggressive and conducted with skill.

Charlie Springs Conditions.

After the business of the special meeting had been transacted, Edward Rosewater asked permission from the board to address it.

Mme. Yale's Hair Tonic

FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS
ANTISEPTIC AND HYGIENIC

A Hair Invigorator.—Just what its name implies. It supplies nourishment, stimulates the growth, which, when absorbed by the hair, strengthens and beautifies it in the same way that sap glorifies the foliage of a tree. Even when the follicles are seemingly dead, if the scalp is massaged daily with Mme. Yale's Hair Tonic a vigorous growth will be produced. It has honestly earned its title of "the great hair grower." It stimulates the most stunted growth and makes the hair magnificently healthy and beautiful.

Mme. Yale's Hair Tonic is prized equally by men and women, particularly when the hair begins to weaken or fade. Dures baldness, grayness, splitting of the hair, dandruff and all diseases of the hair, scalp and beard. One application stops hair falling. A nursery requisite; no mother should neglect to use it for her boys and girls; when the hair is made strong in childhood it remains proof against disease and retains its vigor and youthfulness throughout life.

Mme. Yale's Hair Tonic is a colorless, fragrant, delightful hair dressing; neither sticky, gritty nor greasy; makes the hair soft, fluffy and glossy. Contains no artificial coloring; would not soil the whitest hair; restores original color by invigorating the scalp and re-establishing natural circulation and proper distribution of the live coloring matter. Beautiful hair redeems the plainest countenance, and anyone can secure it by using Mme. Yale's Hair Tonic. Now in three sizes—our prices, 50c, 75c and 80c.

Mme. Yale's Hair Tonic Is Sold by
Drug Dept. Boston Store

dress it. Member Detweiler made a motion that permission be granted, but Member Christie produced a typewritten resolution whereby it was stipulated that the board would listen to Mr. Rosewater only on condition that he agree to publish not only his own remarks but those made by members of the board and its officers be published also, in the manner furnished by a short-hand reporter provided by the board; further, that the mere act of Mr. Rosewater's addressing the board would mean the acceptance of these provisions.

Mr. Rosewater said that he had expected as much and spoke for about twenty minutes. He took up a certain section of the mimeographed address which Superintendent Pearce made before the Real Estate Exchange some time ago. This section called attention to the falling off in police court fines since 1903, and declared that since then the "police court machinery had been in the hands of the editor of The Bee and his political associates."

Challenges Pearce's Insinuation.

By Insinuation, Mr. Rosewater said, it was charged that money that belonged to the school fund had been in some way abstracted or appropriated by the editor of The Bee, or his associates and friends, and that a very large sum of money in consequence being withheld from the public treasury, and particularly the school treasury, and therefore a deficit had been created that has to be supplied by taxation.

Mr. Rosewater challenged Superintendent Pearce to produce a scintilla of evidence that these insinuations were true. He denounced the paragraph in question as a scurrilous and unwarranted attack and an attempt to disseminate misinformation—one that may have led many people to think that he or other persons are able and do obtain money that belongs to the school fund. As to the falling off, he told of the conditions existing prior to 1903, before Mr. Pearce came to Omaha, when about \$3,000 a year was obtained by regular fines of women in the proscribed district, and how this condition had been abolished through agitation led by Rev. Frank Crane. He pointed out the fact that during several years after 1903 Samuel L. Gordon was police judge, and declared that no one would think of charging him with having influence or political comradeship with Gordon.

"Well Defined Rumors" Scandal.

He spoke of the periodical reflection regarding the collection of money in the police court and the attempts to blacken the character of public officers by insinuations of protection and blackmail. These charges of "well defined" rumors had been investigated, both by the grand jury and by persons employed by himself, Mr. Rosewater declared, and found to be without foundation. Such searching investigations should have closed the mouths of every honorable man, he asserted.

Mr. Rosewater admitted that he may have made mistakes in his criticism of the management of the schools, but repeated that the columns of his paper are always open to corrections and explanations. He pointed out that the fact that he had always been a persistent and consistent friend of the Omaha schools and had fathered the law which created the school board and which put an end to the condition of two antagonistic bodies both trying to run the schools.

Insinuations Unwarranted.

The insinuations in the Pearce address, he said, were entirely unjustifiable and uncalled for, and no person, much less a public servant, had the right to circulate them. "I ask the members of this board for a single instance," he said, "when I have sought to secure the employment, promotion or even discharge of a teacher, or when I have interfered or sought to interfere with the government of the public schools during the time Superintendent Pearce has been here. I want to know if you members have any personal knowledge when I have sought to degrade the schools by dragging them into politics. I don't believe any of you here can say that I have attempted to drag the teachers, janitors or school employees for any kind of service as a primary election or any other place. I have tried for years to get the schools out of partisan politics and have always held against politics in the school board."

Pearce Makes Reply.

Superintendent Pearce replied to Mr. Rosewater at some length. He plunged at once into personalities, mostly intended to be satirical, and then stated that the Omaha schools were run as cheaply as those in the average American city.

He denied any intent to insinuate dishonesty in the handling of public revenues or that they had been in any way abstracted or wrongly diverted. He declared that Mr. Rosewater had been overly sensitive in interpreting what he said, and remarked later that he had no doubt or did not wish to cast any doubt, but that every cent of public money levied and collected had been turned into the public school treasury. He devoted a great deal of time to trying to show that somehow and some place in the chain composed of Mr. Rosewater, the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners, the police judge and the city prosecutor, all the lines that might have been leveled were not leveled since 1898, notwithstanding the fact that during much of this period the offices were held by men politically and personally at variance with the editor of The Bee.

Pointers for Pearce.

Mr. Rosewater replied briefly, describing some of the political conditions that have existed at various times and remarking that the former city prosecutor was for some years a member of the school board. Mr. Pearce had the last say, which was a reiteration of what he had said before.

The board acted favorably on a report brought in by the judicial committee whereby it was agreed to sanction the settlement of a case of the County against Moore along the lines of a case already decided, provided that at least \$5,000 be realized from both cases.

Superintendent Pearce reported that the case against Moore on March 18 was \$5,344, or 57c less than a year ago.

PASS LETTER TO BIG LEAGUE

North Omaha Improvers Receive Topics They Do Not Feel Compelled to Settle.

Among other things briefly discussed at the North Omaha Improvement club meeting last night of field corn within the city limits; the necessity of making an onslaught on the weed nuisance before it became unmanageable and the unsightly bill board nuisance. The proposition came in the form of a communication from C. L. Helmsman of West Ames street, and as they were too big to tackle the communication was referred to the Civic Improvement league.



SALE DOMESTIC RUGS

We are showing over 300 patterns in room size—rugs in every weave known to the trade—having many exclusive designs. And name prices for our competitors to follow—in sizes from 6x9 to 12x14.6.

Successors to
BAKER FURNITURE CO.

Furniture, Carpets, Rugs and Draperies

EASTER SALE

Cut Carpets

This line embraces all the leading manufacturers in Wilton, Axminster and Body Brussels, including a very large line of Bigelow Axminsters and Wiltons, the highest grade made in this country.

Measures and estimates furnished FREE OF CHARGE.

We will show some of the highest novelties ever exhibited by any furniture house in the city.

Exact Reproduction

Of the original Colonial and Sixteenth Century style by master designers of the period including the most noted Sheraton, Hepplewhite, Chippendale, the Louis' and many others.

United Craft Furniture

Our line of massive furniture for library, dining rooms and halls is now complete. The line handled by us is made by the original manufacturer of United Craft Furniture. Your inspection of the above lines is respectfully requested. Our floors contain all the correct ideas in medium and high grade furniture at CORRECT PRICES.

MOTTO—"Good furniture cheap, not cheap furniture at any price."

LOOK FOR BIG CURTAIN SALE.

MILLER, STEWART & BEATON

AFFAIRS AT SOUTH OMAHA

City Council Has a Busy Evening with Matters of Importance.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS HAVE THE FLOOR

Another Thoroughfare in Packing House District Is to Be Opened and Much New Grading Is Proposed.

A large amount of important business was transacted by the city council last night. Mayor Koutsky was in the chair and all members were present. One of the important ordinances on first reading was the declaration of the necessity for the opening of U street from the east line of Twenty-seventh street to the east line of Railroad avenue. This street is to be sixty-six feet in width, and the city attorney is to commence condemnation proceedings on tax lot 13 and a portion of tax lot 11. This ordinance, after its first reading, was referred to the judicial committee. It was stated by members of the council, in talking about this ordinance, that some street should be opened between Q street and the county road. As it is now, there is a space of ten blocks with no crossing or open street across the railroad tracks.

For the second time the claim of Patrick Kennedy was turned down. Kennedy has property interests in the old packing plant south of Swift's, and he asserts that by vacating Railroad avenue his property will be damaged. In January Kennedy put in his first claim, which went through the legal department and was turned down. Last night the city attorney reported adversely on the second claim filed by Mr. Kennedy and the report was adopted.

An ordinance was introduced creating improvement district "B," from Twentieth street east to Thirtieth. Another ordinance directed the city engineer to proceed at once and establish the grade in this new district. Both of these ordinances were sent to the judicial committee.

A petition was presented for the grading of Twelfth street from the city limits on the north to the south line of J street. Mayor Koutsky referred the petition to the city attorney and city engineer.

Two plank sidewalks were ordered laid on the west side of Twelfth street from I to J streets and on the north side of J street from Twelfth to Thirtieth streets. Salaries of the mayor, clerk, councilmen, firemen and police were ordered paid for the month of March.

Then came the question of registration and booths for Saturday, April 2. Members of the council stated that with one or two changes the places of registration used last year would be used this spring. Two or three vacancies in the registration board will be filled. City Clerk Shrigley will prepare a list of the places of registration, as well as the names of the registrars, for publication Friday.

Simple Ballots Issued.

City Clerk Shrigley was busy yesterday afternoon giving out sample ballots. The ballots were issued early Sunday morning, but none were distributed to the public until yesterday. The Republicans, of course, head the list, then the Democrats and the socialist ticket. Three candidates are mentioned for every office on the city ticket with the exception of the Third ward, where Councilman Mike Smith is running by petition. One remarkable thing is that there is only one candidate by petition this year. In previous campaigns it was nothing for half a dozen, or more aspirants for office to file petitions. As the campaign has been such a long one, starting in the middle of February, the candidates are all well known to the voters by this time, hence there is no necessity for reprinting the list.

Packing House Improvements.

Officers of the Omaha Packing company are making arrangements to enlarge the present plant. Sheds for the lading of cars are to be built as soon as the weather will permit. It is understood that these sheds will be 700 feet in length. The boiler rooms at this plant are to be enlarged in order to place the boilers recently taken from the Hammond plant. Plans for enlarging the ice machine rooms are being prepared and contractors will have a chance to bid on this work within the next thirty days. As the plans for the improvements contemplated have not been completed the estimated cost is not known.

Roofing Horse Pavilion.

A new roof is being placed on the frame horse pavilion at the stock yards. When the old frame horse barn was totally destroyed by fire during the winter the roof of the sale pavilion was badly damaged. General Manager Kenyon has caused the wreckage of the horse sheds to be removed and has directed that the old sale pavilion be repaired. This work is now going on and will be completed before the end of the first week in April. Cattle pens are to be built on the ground formerly occupied by the old horse sheds.

REPORTS FROM CONGO VARY

Belgian Government Has Evidence of Cruelty Based on Hearsay.

IS STILL INVESTIGATING SITUATION

British Consul is Alleged to Have Cut Investigation Short Owing to Preponderance of Evidence.

LONDON, March 29.—As announced in these dispatches yesterday the Associated Press addressed a telegram to Leopold, king of the Belgians, saying that it would be happy to cable to the United States any statement which his majesty might see fit to make in relation to the charges against the government of the Congo Free State, regarding atrocities committed on the natives made to President Roosevelt and Secretary Hay by a delegation from the missionary congress and in reply to which his majesty, through his secretary, promised to mail official documents from the Congo Free State in which would be found all the facts essential to a full and truthful statement of the case.

These official documents were forwarded by King Leopold and were received to-night by the Associated Press. They include papers issued by the government since June, 1903, in which the Congo Free State replies to the charges of oppression and of cruelty toward the natives and to criticisms of economic regime and the charge of a violation of the general act of the Berlin conference.

A synopsis of the contents of these papers has been published in a blue book and elsewhere from time to time as issued. They enter in closest detail into the various charges, replying to them in like detail and quoting at length from the reports from numerous investigations, especially that of Roger Casement, the British consul in the Congo Free State, whose report regarding mutilations and other cruelties is severely criticized.

Based on Hearsay.

In these documents it is asserted that Consul Casement gathered the details for his report largely from unsupported natives, a statement which afterward proved utterly untrue.

The documents forwarded to the Associated Press endeavor to demonstrate by careful detail that there is good reason to doubt that the reliability of these specific charges of cruelty and oppression, as given by Consul Casement and others because of their dependence upon hearsay testimony. At the same time it is pointed out that these replies to the charges are only a preliminary step and that a close investigation of the situation is still proceeding under the orders of the king of Belgium, and that after this investigation is closed the fullest report of it will be given the public.

NO OBJECTION TO EAST SIDE

Thompson, Belden & Co. Correct Statement Regarding Sixteenth Street Location.

OMAHA, March 29, 1904.—To the Editor of The Bee: In an article in this evening's Bee, signed by a Young Men's Christian association member and contributor, the statement is made that Thompson, Belden & Co. refused absolutely to locate on the east side of Sixteenth street at any price, meaning the east side of Sixteenth street. This is a mistake as we tried for a good many years to have a building erected on either the church or Halbach corner. At one time we thought that we had all arrangements completed for a building on the Halbach corner, but the party having the matter in hand failed to complete his arrangements as we had talked. Had he been able to have fulfilled, we would have been doing business there today. Will you please to give this as much prominence as the other article had? We ask you to publish this so that the public may know the truth of the matter.

THOMPSON, BELDEN & CO.

Movements of Ocean Vessels March 29.

At New York—Arrived: Lagascos from Havana; Columbia from Glasgow.
At Bremen—Arrived: Bremen from New York.
At Antwerp—Arrived: Kronland from New York.
At Copenhagen—Arrived: Kron Prince Wilhelm from New York; for Bremen.
At Hamburg—Arrived: Preoria from New York; for Hamburg and Genoa.
At Piraeus—Arrived: Grosser Kurfirst from New York.
At London—Arrived: Chabrier from New York via Marseilles and Genoa.
At London—Arrived: Minnesota from Philadelphia.
At Gibraltar—Arrived: Hohenzollern from New York for Wex and Genoa.
At Plymouth—Arrived: Kron Prince Wilhelm from New York for Cherbourg and Bremen.
At Havre—Sailed: L'Aquitaine for New York.
At Liverpool—Sailed: Caisedonia for Boston.

MAY REVIVE THE OLD PLANS

Council Likely to Solve Problem by Adopting Specifications of 1902.

CONCERN LIABLE TO SOLVE PROBLEM BY ADOPTING SPECIFICATIONS OF 1902.

Having specifications adopted and used in 1902 may be revived and used for public work in 1904, as a solution of the present difficulty attending the adoption of new specifications. This course was suggested to the council in committee session yesterday afternoon by Contractor C. E. Fanning. Fanning wanted to know what had become of ordinances providing for the paving of Twentieth street from Farmington to Dodge and Harney street from Ninth to Tenth, which had been held by Councilman Back of the paving committee for six months.

"Why, we have no specifications. What's the use of reporting on them?" asked Back.

The question was raised then as to why the 1902 specifications were not still good in the absence of others. Assistant City Attorney Heaton was called in, but was unable to decide without study. He will investigate today and make a report to the council tonight. In case he finds the 1902 documents will do it means the council will reject the latest concoction from the Board of Public Works and make the old become the new. He is everything that can be desired or not.

The council agreed to place the proposed contracts of the McDonald Garbage company and from James Whalen, for removing dead animals, on file.

The matter of the farm street viaduct was placed in the hands of the committee on viaducts, which will consult with the city engineer as to the practicability of the scheme.

Mayor Moore paid the councilmen a visit and asked that an automobile ordinance limiting the speed be drawn up and passed, and to this the council assented, as well as to an amendment to the anti-spitting ordinance. The amendment will make it a misdemeanor to expectorate on the sidewalks.

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL PLANS

Congregation Debates Situation and Finally Leaves Matter with Trustees.

The congregation of Kountze Memorial church spent three hours last night in the church parlors, trying to come to one mind in the matter of the new building and location. Only one thing was done, and that was to leave the selection of lots and the choosing of the design and the amount of its cost entirely to the church trustees. They will arrive at a conclusion as soon as possible. They will now have a fair idea of the opinion of the congregation, as much was said during the meeting in favor of one plan or another. The tabernacle idea, while not altogether abandoned, did not seem popular, and it is much more probable that some hall will be secured as a temporary meeting place. Opinion favors Chambers' dancing academy. The majority of the members expressed themselves as in favor of a location in the territory not further out than Twenty-sixth street and no nearer the business center than Twenty-third street, with a latitude of a few blocks.

Dresher Wins Case.

Judge Altstadt has rendered a decision in the case of the Dresher Bros., tailors, charged with having maintained a lottery by operating a suit club, holding them not guilty of the charge. It is probable that Dresher Bros. will now begin an action for malicious prosecution against certain of their competitors, who, they say, were instrumental in bringing the lottery charge against them.

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SALE ORIENTAL RUGS

We have just received a very large shipment of Orientals in room sizes, hall sizes, medium and small sizes. This is the choicest line of Antique Rugs we have ever exhibited and the prices we are naming are Very Attractive.

Successors to
OMAHA CARPET CO.

Draperies

The season 1904 finds us showing all the latest fashions in foreign and domestic lace, portieres and art draperies. (WE HAVE TAKEN THE CANDLE FROM UNDER THE BUSH.) Placing our drapery department on the first floor under new management and greatly enlarged the same. Having secured a first-class decorator from the East, we are fully prepared to give suggestions and furnish you with estimates on all kinds of house decorations. Measurements and estimates on shades furnished free of charge on application.

van Houten's Cocoa

A perfect beverage—rich in nitrogenous elements.

Best & Goes Farthest