Drift Toward Cox Evident in Douglas County

Rumored Trend Exists Only in Minds of Democratic Politicians, Declares G. O. P. County Chairman.

"Now is the time for all good men and women to come to the aid of their party," is a slightly paraphrased familiar expression used Yesterday by W. G. Ure, republican county chairman.

"I fail to find any drift or trend toward Cox and the democratic ticket in Douglas county," he added. "I know that there is considerable inspired conversation from democratic headquarters about a 'drift to Cox,' but it is not actually visible. It does not exist except in the minds of those who are making these claims.

Will Win Handily.

"The republicans have a majority of registrations here and they will win handily, speaking of Douglas county where my activities are centered. Of course, it follows that every republican must see that he or she votes next Tuesday. In order to win, the republicans must get out the vote. Republicans are holding their own for their ticket and the situation looks favorable."

Mr. Ure added that Secretary Tumulty at Washington and local democrats are getting out a lot of "Tumulty stuff," in an 11th-hour appeal for votes.

"I assert this sort of campaign propaganda makes republican votes," he asserted.

Appealing to Reason

"The republican party is appealing to the spirit of reason rather than to emotionalism. They are making an appeal to reason and will come on that basis," Mr. Ure said.

The republican county central committee has issued a call for volunteer workers for next Tuesday at the polls. Men and women who will work all or part of the day are requested to communicate in person or by telephone to Thomas Lynch, secretary of the county central committee, in the basement of 1614 Harney street, telephone Tyler 5636.

The central committee is unable to pay for this service. They are confident that there will be many republican men and women who will consider it their patriotic duty to give some of their time next Tuesday to assist the cause of republicanism and Americanism in this manner. Many have already offered their services. Instructions will be given headquarters.

To Be Closed Monday.

The local republican campaign will be closed Monday night with a big rally in the Auditorium, where Congressman Albert W. Jefferis and others will speak.

Election Commissioner H. G. Moorhead will work on Sunday, getting his books ready for 164 voting precincts of the county.

Leaders of both democratic and republican county central committees declare that the campaign is practically over.

Landlord Will Sell Goods of Rent Jumpers

H. Wiskope, proprietor of the Sunshine apartments at Seventeenth and California streets, is holding a basement full of suit cases, bed clothing and odd articles of men's clothing for unpaid room rent, he told Constable George McBride, yesterday.

In an effort to find a child's tricycle which had been replevined from Wiskope by Mrs. Fannie Leihy, 1714 California street, the constable came upon the pile of goods being held by Wiskope.

"Yep, when they fail to pay rent, they fail to take their clothes with them," the proprietor told Constable McBride.

Wiskope declared he would auction off the goods.

Senate Committee Plans Hearing Here

Senator Calder of New York, head of the United States senate committee on reconstruction and production, will conduct a hearing in Omaha November 13, according to word received yesterday by Tmohas J. Fithmorris, secretary of the Nebraska State League of the Building and Loan association.

Efforts will be made to determine whether building business has been handicapped by lack of loans, transportation or labor, what prices for building materials prevail in the community, how great is the alleged shortage of housing and construction and what effect it has, if any, on industry and public welfare.

Prison Number Ten Looms for Man Held

"Robert Wilson, the man with "six alases," was held for district court yesterday by Judge Foster in Central police court. Bonds were fixed at $6,000.

Wilson was arrested last week after a car he had stolen from Frank A. May, 4819 Farnam street, collided with a street car.

Wilson has served "time" in nine penitentiaries.

Girl Places Handbag On Radiator, Turns, It's Gone

Mabel Hall, 421 South Thirty-sixth street, laid her handbag on a radiator on the fifth floor of the Y. W. C. A. Friday for a few minutes.

When she had scarcely turned around, she found it was gone. The bag contained a watch, ring, bank deposit book, four unendorsed checks for $200 and $1.50 in cash.

Two Highwaymen Stop Man and Take $72

Two highwaymen held up Charles Hunt, Owl hotel, at Thirteenth and Capitol avenue, Friday night and robbed him of $72, he reported to police.

Bee want ads are best business getters.

First Divorce Here Granted in 1856

Style of Hubby-Wifey Warfare in Pioneer Days Much Like Up-To-Date Brand.

Susan McEnheimer was a good wife to George McEnheimer. But George was a cruel husband. He cursed her, threatened her, failed to support her and their six children and consorted with another woman, according to testimony in court.

Susan and George were married in 1837 in Dalton, O. Martin Van Buren was president of the United States then.

Susan got a divorce from George in Omaha, March 29, 1856. It was the first divorce granted in the territory of Nebraska and a special act of the legislature was passed in order to assist her in getting freed from her brutal spouse.

"The evil that men do lives after them.

3,286 Suits Added.

The good is oft interred with their bones" says the poet. If the evil reaches the courts, it does, indeed, live after them. For the account of George McEnheimer's domestic misdeeds of 75 years ago, is in the records of the district court in the Douglas county court house. It is there forever with the record of the misdeeds and alleged misdeeds of thousands and tens of thousands of others.

The record vault is not a large room. But it is crammed full of the legal suits of 65 years. Last year 3,286 new suits were added.

And none of them are ever destroyed.

Covered With Dust.

There the papers repose, year after year. Petitions and answers, cross-petitions and affidavits, subpoenas and capiases, motions and counter-motions, all the legal papers known in disputes between man and his fellow-man, are there.

Thousands and tens of thousands of suits repose in this vault. They run from the year 1856 up to the present day.

Covered with dust are the old papers in spite of their steel protection.

They are yellow with age.

And those who disputed and quarreled and fretted and fumed and called each other unkind names and fought and warred in the courts amid hate and envy and jealousy back in the '50's—all are in the quiet grave. Their quarrels are forgotten.

Never To Be Destroyed.

"These records will never be destroyed. They will be kept a thousand years and longer, if possible," said Clerk of the District Court Robert Smith.

"But with all the litigants dead, why cumber space with the records?"

"Why, some of these records grow more valuable with the passing years," said Mr. Smith. "Many of those early suits were on real estate and titles. Some time such real estate may become very valuable and its title may be called in question. Then these records of the long ago must be referred to. Such records might be worth millions. They must be kept very carefully."

But let us return to the unhappy domestic drama of George and Susan McEnheimer.

Dead and Forgotten.

Though they are dead and forgotten, their domestic drama is today preserved in this "vault of 10,000 divorce suits."

Susan and George, as said before, were married about 83 years ago.

The petition for divorce and the affidavits and testimony "read" much like a present-day divorce case.

And here we may pause a moment to observe that "the good old days" were very much like today when viewed in the cold, unromantic light of legal papers.

Men abused their wives and cursed them then as many do now. Wives nagged their husbands as some do today. And the "eternal triangle" was already an old institution.

Picked a "Lemon."

Susan, as stated, picked a "lemon." She struggled along with him for 14 years before she finally left him. This was shortly after they had moved to the wild and woolly territory of Nebraska in 1854.

After she had been away six weeks George promised to do better and she returned to him. But George didn't make good on his promise and she finally left him "for good," January 2, 1855.

Susan was evidently a woman of force. She wanted a divorce. But there were no organized laws. Undismayed, she went to the territorial legislature with her trouble. And that body, on January 23, 1856, passed "An act in relation to the application of Susan McEnheimer for a divorce from the bonds of matrimony from George McEnheimer."

The case was then referred to the Hon. Fenner Ferguson, judge of the district court for the First Judicial district of the territory.

Still Easily Legible.

On February 1, 1856, Mrs. McEnheimer filed this petition, now yellowed with age, but still easily legible.

It comprises four sheets of "foolscap," written on both sides and tied with red tape.

She relates the time and place of their marriage, states that they have two boys and four girls, tells about leaving George twice and details his shiftlessness and cruelty.

She says he "left his wife and children to be provided for by their own exertions and through the charities of the neighbors." She returned to him, she says, "hoping and believing that the said George would conduct himself in a manner better becoming a husband."

Calls Him Cruel.

But "the said George" commenced a course of unkind, harsh and tyrannical conduct toward her which continued with very slight interruptions until she finally separated from him.

He was so cruel as to render it unsafe and improper to live with him.

About January 10, 1854, in their home he caught her by the throat and threatened to take her life, she relates.

"He is a man of violent passion and ungovernable temper," she declares and many times during their married life he addressed to her "opprobrious epithets and threats of personal violence and repeatedly threatened to take her life."

She charges him with unfaithfulness during their married life.

Signed With Mark.

Mrs. McEnheimer asks for a divorce and custody of their two girls, Sarah and Susan Ellen.

The petition is signed with her mark. It is witnessed by J. W. Paddock, clerk of the district court.

A deposition of Charles H. Anderson, taken February 7, 1856, in Mount Pleasant, Ia., is part of the ancient record.

He says McEnheimer was a cooper and in good health and could make a living "if he would work."

saying her husband wouldn't give her anything when she left him and therefore she was going to take the things.

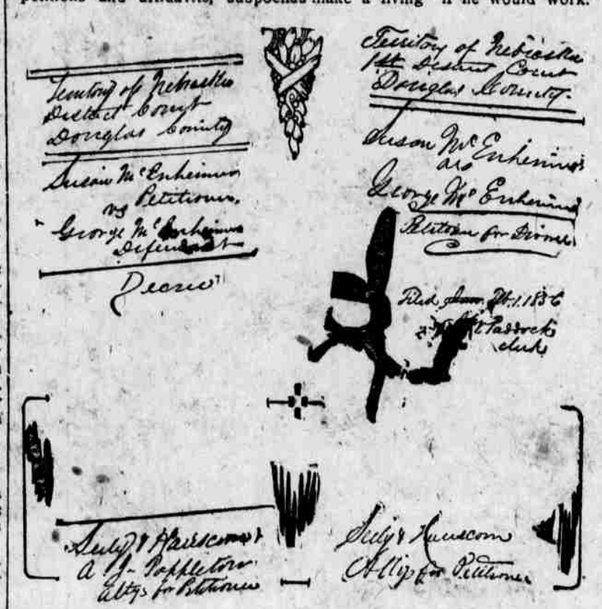
The decree of divorce was granted to Mr. Powers March 29, 1856, by Judge Ferguson.

The next divorce petition in the local court was that of George Bridge against Frances Bridge, filed March 21, 1856. On the same day Augusta Greenlee filed suit against James A. Greenlee for divorce.

That was a big day's business in the divorce line.

In the year 1919, there were 1,405 divorce suits filed in the local district court.

More than a dozen divorce suits were filed in one day on several occasions. Out of a total of 3,286 suits of all kinds filed, 1,405 or nearly half were for divorce.



Anderson states that he boarded with some "hands" at the McEnheimer home in the winter of 1853-54 and that Mrs. McEnheimer conducted herself "with propriety and prudence."

"But the said George McEnheimer," the deposition continues, "conducted himself toward her in a very outrageous and unbecoming manner, by abusing and ill-treating her; and on the occasion he, the said George, seized her by the throat in a very threatening manner, swearing at the same time that he would cut her G—— d—— heart out."

The bill of fees for taking this deposition which contains over 1,000 words, writing it with pen and ink and acknowledging it, was $1.

A Hard-Working Woman.

Altogether it appears that Mrs. McEnheimer was a hard-working but much-abused woman and it is pleasing to note that she got her divorce in Omaha, March 28, 1856. District Judge Ferguson signing the decree. George made no answer nor did he contest the suit in any way. George was found to be guilty of statutory offenses and of cruel and inhuman treatment. Mrs. McEnheimer was given custory of the two girls, Susan and Sarah Ellen

Seely, Hanscom & Poppleton were attorneys for Mrs. McEnheimer.

The industrious and upright Susan has returned to dust. So has the cruel George. So has Charles Anderson. So has Judge Ferguson. So have Seely, Hanscom and Poppleton, the attorneys.

A Mistreated Husband.

The next divorce case filed in the local courts concerned a mistreated husband.

Gardner Powers filed suit for divorce here February 22, 1856, against his wife, Sarah. A. J. Poppleton was his attorney.

The Powers had lived together, though not happily, for nearly a quarter century. They were married October 4, 1832 (the year after Napoleon Bonapartte died, if you please).

They were wedded in Charleston, Ind., and lived there until the fall of 1854 when they came to Cass county, Nebraska.

She Threatened Him.

"For 15 years," says Mr. Powers' petition, "the life of your petitioner has been rendered unhappy and unsupportable to such an extent that the welfare of your petitioner and Sarah, his wife, requires a separation since they cannot live together in peace and harmony."

Mrs. Powers evidently did not like the frontier, for she often threatened to leave her husband and return to Indiana. She threatened him with personal violence, he says.

James R. Humble testified at the trial. He said he had heard Mrs. Powers declare repeatedly that she would leave her husband and that "if she could get across the Missouri river he would never see her again."

Pulled His Beard.

Mr. Humble said he heard her threaten to burn down her husband's house and destroy his bees.

She was wasteful, unkind and ill-natured, he said. He saw her strike her husband and "pull him about the house by his beard," which she called "trotting him about the room right sharp."

She was a large and powerful woman, he said.

In July, 1855, Humble said, she took a large quantity of household goods to the east bank of the Missouri river and buried them there,

Youth's Career Ends With Reform School Sentence

Harold McLaughlin, Who Ran Away From Home, Sent to Kearney for Robbing Store.

Harold McLaughlin's meteoric career in Omaha ended yesterday, when he was sentenced to the Boys' Industrial school at Kearney for robbing a store on South Thirteenth street. Juvenile Judge Sears imposed the sentence.

Harold is 12. He arrived in Omaha a few weeks ago dressed in a Boy Scout uniform and told officers he was on his way to Chicago to meet his parents, who had sent him enough money only for railroad fare to Omaha.

Investigation revealed he had run away from his parents at Montrose, Colo., and he was sent to Riverview home. He escaped from Riverview two weeks ago and stole a horse and buggy to hasten the distance between himself and the home.

After his capture he escaped again and was caught after burglarizing the store. A letter received from his father by Rev. C. M. Worden stated that they could do nothing with him.

Home Is Ransacked

Burglars ransacked the home of Mrs. Al Klung, 2021 California street, Friday night and filled a suitcase and traveling bag with clothing, shoes and jewelry, making away with the whole works. Mrs. Klung reported the case to police.

Bee want ads are business getters.

After 24 Years "Abused Hubby" Airs His Grief

Mate Abused Him Before Fellow Workers and Has His $10,000, Husband Claims.

William Tracy is a downtrodden man, ground under the iron heel of woman. So he told the district court yesterday in a petition for divorce from his wife, Jessie.

For 24 long years William has been a worm, trodden under the foot of woman, he says.

William went on the theory that kindness brings happiness. He worked hard and turned over all his money to his wife. She has more than $10,000 in various banks in Omaha, all of it earned by him and given to her, he says.

Did kindness win? Nay, brethren. Despite the 10,000 simoleons, his wife frequently struck him. Once she even shot at him with a gun, he says. And she came to his place of employment and abused him before his fellow employes, he declares.

The worm has turned, after 24 years. William is after a divorce. The Tracys live at 1907 Center street.

Men Whose Car Killed Pony Owned by Boy Given Fines

James Sage, 518 North Twenty-third street, and Leslie Walters, 1814 Cuming street, occupants of a car which ran down and killed a pony belonging to Clyde Drew, 318 South Fifty-third street, on October 10 were fined $25 in Central police court yesterday.