

WORTHINGTON ADVANCE

Oldest, Largest and Best

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Worthington District Fair, Sept. 12, 13, 14. Liberal Premiums, Good Races, Fine Exhibits

WOMEN MAY VOTE IN NOBLES

At Primary Election for Nomination of Superintendent of Schools.

Such is the Decision of County Attorney Crandall in the Following Opinion

At the request of County Auditor Pannell as to whether or not women would be entitled to vote at the primary election upon the question of selecting a candidate for county superintendent of schools, County Attorney Crandall, in the following opinion, filed on Wednesday of last week, decides that they are entitled to a voice in the selection of candidates for that position.

Sir:—I have before me, your inquiry dated Aug. 13th, 1906, reading as follows:—"Will you please advise me whether, in your opinion, women who are legally qualified voters can vote for candidates for nomination for the office of County Superintendent of Schools at the primary election to be held September 18, 1906?"

The right of franchise is a privilege granted by the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, and not by legislative enactment, therefore, the right to vote at any election must be predicated upon such constitutional provision, and no legislative act can diminish or increase such privilege and an interpretation of the statute must be with the purpose in view of carrying into effect the privilege granted by the Constitution.

In the instance before us, that privilege is found, if at all, within Section 8 of Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, which was duly adopted Nov. 2nd., 1875, and amended Nov. 8th., 1898, and reads as follows:

"Women may vote for school officers and members of library boards, and shall be eligible to hold any office pertaining to the management of schools or libraries."

"Any woman of the age of twenty-one (21) years and upward and possessing the qualifications requisite to a male voter, may vote at any election held for the purpose of choosing any officers of schools or any members of library boards, or upon any measure relating to schools or libraries, and shall be eligible to hold any office pertaining to the management of schools and libraries."

Prior to the amendment adopted Nov. 8th, 1898, this section of the constitution was neither self-executing or mandatory. It was merely permissive, and left it wholly with the legislature to determine whether or not it would give women the right to vote at school elections, or to hold exclusively school officer, and, if so, to what extent. This amendment however, absolutely granted the privilege to women and placed it beyond the power of the legislature to say whether or not women could vote, thereby granting the right as absolutely to women as the right to vote was and is granted to men, limiting it only to matters pertaining to schools and libraries, hence we start with the premises that women has a constitutional right to vote in such instances.

The next question that may present itself is:

"What are the qualifications requisite to the male voter?"

Section 1 of Article 7 of the Constitution defines this and reads as follows: "Every male person of the age of twenty-one (21) years or upwards, belonging to either of the following classes, who has resided in this state six (6) months next preceding any election, shall be entitled to vote at such election in the election district of which he shall at the time have been for thirty (30) days a resident, for all officers that now are or hereafter may be, elective by the people."

1. Citizens of the United States who have been such for the period of three (3) months next preceding any election.

2. Persons of mixed white and Indian blood, who have adopted the customs and habits of civilization.

3. Persons of Indian blood residing in this state, who have adopted the language, customs and habits of civilization, after an examination before any district court of the state, in such manner as may be provided by law, and shall have been pronounced by said court capable of enjoying the rights of citizenship within the state."

The next question presented is, "Who are Citizens of the United States Without any action on Their Part?"

They are 1. Persons born in the United States, and not subject to the jurisdiction of some foreign power; that is persons born in the United States, no matter what the nationality of their parents unless such parents were here in some capacity as representatives of a foreign nation.

2. Children born in foreign countries whose fathers became full citizens of the United States before such children reached the age of twenty-one (21) years.

3. A foreign born woman who marries a citizen, or whose husband becomes fully naturalized, is thereby made a full citizen.

It is a fact, that before the adoption of the constitutional amend-

ment defining the qualifications and granting the privilege of franchise to both male and female voters, there was nothing upon our statute books in the form of a "Primary Election Law", and neither in the statutes creating the primary election was there an exception made of either male or female voters. Neither does the constitution mention either general or special or primary elections. In the instance of the male voter it reads any election, as found in S. 1, Art. 7 of the Constitution. In the case of female voters, it reads "may vote at any election, etc."

The law referring to primary elections is found at paragraphs 181 to 208, inclusive, R. L. 1905.

Paragraph 181 reads: "On Tuesday, seven weeks preceding any election, and election of party nominees, hereinafter designated as the "primary election", shall be held in each election district for the selection of party candidates for all elective offices, except offices of towns, villages and cities of the fourth class, and state office, and members of school, park and library boards in cities having less than one-hundred-thousand inhabitants."

Paragraph 182 defines how nominations shall be made by candidates for election or selection at the primary election.

The law then defines election districts, when the names of the candidates shall be placed upon the ballots for the primary election, order of filing fees how disposed of, voting to be by ballot-sample ballot, preparation of ballots-rotation of names, election of officers, and registration.

Primary election day is also registration day.

Paragraph 190 provides: "So far as they shall be applicable, all provisions of this chapter relating to the location and arrangement of polling places, peace officers, procuring registers, ballots, boxes, and other supplies, opening polling places, and in reference to challengers, gatekeepers, shall apply to primary elections; except that only one ballot box for men and one for women shall be required."

It is self evident, that the legislature at the time of the enactment of this law, had in mind the right of women to vote at the primary election, or such a provision as the last in this section would not have been included.

Paragraph 192, defines the qualification of voters and manner of voting, and reads: "Every person qualified as a voter may register therein and vote at such primary election."

This you will notice makes no distinction between male and female voters.

Again, in paragraph 186, R. L. 1905, we find a provision as follows: "At the foot of the ballot shall be placed the heading 'Ballot for Women', under which shall be placed the names of candidates to be voted for by women"

These sections also indicate that the legislature had in mind the right and privilege of women to vote at such primary election when it enacted the laws containing these special directions.

Again, in paragraph 195 pertaining to the preliminaries of the canvass we find the following provision: "Poll-list statement of primary election held in (name of election district) giving date, etc." It shall read substantially as follows:—"The number of persons whose names appear upon the register as present at the above named primary election was...., of whom.... were women. The number of ballots cast by men was...., and the number cast by women was...."

This also indicates that the law is applicable to women.

Again, par. 3, paragraph 199, reads: "A statement of the whole number of votes registered, and the number of ballots cast at such primary election (shall be canvassed and returned) men and women separately."

In interpreting and construing this statute, it must be done in harmony with the intent and purpose of the constitutional privilege, and it also should be in a reasonable if not a liberal manner as it pertains to an elective or political policy which is of the greatest of public importance and the intent as manifested by everything relating thereto should control. It is a question involving the right of franchise and, to be reasonably construed, every section of the act when viewed in the light and intent of the constitutional provisions should be considered.

With these ideas in view and being of the opinion that women have as perfect a right to vote as men within the limits of our constitution, I am of the opinion, that women, who come within the

classes defined by the constitution, "are entitled to vote for candidates for nomination for the office of County Superintendent of Schools at the primary election to be held September 18, 1906 under the laws of the State of Minnesota"

I am not unmindful of the peculiar reading of paragraph 8, Art. 7, when compared with paragraph 1, Art. 7, of the constitution, yet it is my opinion that the privilege intended and granted by paragraph 8, is one that can be exercised in all things that pertain to the selection and election of county superintendents of schools, either at the primary or general election.

Respectfully, C. M. Crandall County Attorney.

A MODERN POST OFFICE

Worthington Soon to Have One of The Finest in Southern Minnesota,

Postmaster Coughran informs us that the government has entered into a contract with the State Bank of Worthington, the terms of which insure for Worthington a modern postoffice, equipped with up-to-date furnishings and equal in every respect to the finest in this part of the state. By the terms of the lease the new office is to be ready for occupancy November 1st.

The room to be occupied is that in the rear of the State Bank, formerly used as a postoffice. This room is to be entirely remodeled, a new set of boxes fitted and an automatic locking device, is to be placed in the building and all furnishings are to be new and of the latest approved patterns. The frame containing the boxes will be surmounted by glass reaching to the ceiling.

The public lobby will be tiled, while the floors of the working department will be covered with linoleum. Entrance will be through a revolving door.

By this new arrangement Postmaster Coughran will be left with a complete equipment on his hands, but he says he is willing to make a sacrifice in order that the public shall have the benefit of a post-office suited to the needs and importance of our city.

MYERS-HANSBERGER

Family Reunion to be Held at the Home of John Hansberger.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. John Hansberger in Lorain township, east of the city will be the scene of a merry gathering on Thursday of next week, at which time a general reunion of the Myers-Hansberger families is to be held. The clansmen will gather from east and west, north and south, and from present indications every branch of the families will be represented. Such a reunion cannot be other than enjoyable, and arrangements are about complete for making the event one that shall long live in the memory of those who participate. A program has been prepared for the day, and there will be a "flow of soul and feast of reason" as well as bounteous feast for the body.

Twine For Corn Harvest.

We have a small amount of twine left that we do not want to carry over, we will sell at Chicago prices and we pay the freight. Sial and Standard 10c. Manila 12 and Pure Manila 13c. If you need any call quick as we have but as small amount left. J. H. Bryden & Son, Rushmore Minn.

St. John's Church.

Regular services will be held at St. John's Episcopal church next Sunday evening at 8 o'clock, by Rev. R. C. TenBroeck, rector.

For County Commissioner

I wish to announce to the voters of the Third commissioner district that I will be a candidate for the Republican nomination for County Commissioner from said district. W. F. Moss

NOBLES COUNTY S.S. ASSOCIATION

Twenty-Fifth Annual Convention To be Held in First Baptist Church

Tuesday and Wednesday of Next Week. The Program Full of Interest.

The twenty-fifth annual convention of the Nobles County Sunday School association which is to be held in the First Baptist Church of this city on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week will probably be very largely attended by delegates and workers from the various schools, as a most interesting program has been prepared for the various sessions. Among those of prominence in Sunday school work who will be in attendance are A. M. Locker, general secretary of the state association, and Miss



Miss Grace Longfellow.

Grace Longfellow, of Minneapolis, an expert upon the question of teaching and managing the primary department of the Sunday school. Every session will bring out profitable and helpful hints for workers in this field which they should be present to secure and enjoy. The program in detail is as follows:

- Tuesday Afternoon
2:00 Praise Service... Rev. Bailey
2:30 "The Problem of Discipline—How to Meet It."
3:00 "Winning Fathers and Mothers—The Home Department."
3:30 "Our Junior Boys and Girls."
4:00 Appointment of Committees and Social Greetings
4:15 Conference of County and District Officers with Gen. Sec'y.
7:30 Praise Service...
7:50 Address of Welcome...
8:00 "The Sunday School as a Training School for Christian Workers."
8:30 Offering and Pledges for State Work
Wednesday Morning
9:30 Praise Service... A. T. Latta
9:45 "Grading and Supplemental Work."
10:15 "The Beginners and Our Work With Them."
10:50 Reports from County Officers
11:20 Plans of Work for the Year
11:40 Election and Installation of New Officers.
Wednesday Afternoon.
2:00 Praise Service... Rev. G. G. Smith
2:15 "A Normal Outline Study of the Old Testament"
2:45 The Teacher Preparing to Teach...
a. Personal Preparation... F. W. Stanton
b. Professional Preparation... L. E. Fitch
c. Pastoral Work... W. W. Loveless
3:15 The Training of the Teacher, Miss Grace Longfellow
3:45 Devotional Half Hour... Rev. G. A. Cahoon
Wednesday Evening
7:30 Praise Service... Rev. Darnell
8:00 "The Boy Problem."
8:30 "Importance of Bible Study."
Rev. F. F. Fitch

Advertisement for Sterling Bros. clothing store. Features 'THE NEW CLOTHING STORE' with various items like suspenders, suits, hats, and caps. Includes an illustration of a young boy in a suit. Text: 'A pair of suspenders free with each suit purchased here.' 'Boys' K. E. waists, shirts, knee pants, ties, hats & caps.' 'Young Men's Suits' \$5.00 to \$15.00. 'Boys' Knee Pants' 50c to \$1.50. 'Boys' Hats & Caps' 25c to 75c. 'Shirts and Ties' in light and dark patterns. 'K. E. Blouse Waist' so much in vogue. 'TIES. to suit everybody'. 'Our Boys' Department is complete, and we want to show you our fall line and will give you the BEST BOYS CLOTHES that money can buy at RIGHT PRICES. See our window display this week. YOURS TRULY, Opposite Worthington Hotel. WORTHINGTON, - MINN. STERLING BROS.'