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WEEKLY REVIEW.

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—BY—

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ERNEST BRANDT,

Judge of Probate

In Sight of a Rope.

The Clifton Holden murder case is one notch nearer its end, and the indications are that it is one notch nearer the rope for the condemned man. The application for a commutation of sentence was made by his attorney, C. C. Wilson, of Rochester, before Gov. Merriam on Thursday. The result is that the governor has taken the matter under advisement, stating, however, that he would not interfere in the prisoner's behalf unless Judge Webber, who sentenced him, would recommend such action, and added to the discouragement by saying that even that might not save his neck. This makes it look pretty blue for Holden.

The grounds on which a commutation is asked for have been stated in the Review before. In brief, they are that Holden was convicted on solely circumstantial evidence and upon examination of the testimony there cannot be said to be absolute evidence of his guilt; that there are, in fact, points which give rise to a legitimate doubt; that Holden was a weak and timid man and had never before been charged with a crime; and that the fact that the jury asked to have the case submitted without argument from the attorneys was misleading and deprived the prisoner of a careful review of the affair, with immense amount of testimony, by a skilled lawyer. Affidavits were also sworn in, sworn to before the defendant's attorney, which were intended to prove the inconsistency of the story of the murder as given at the trial. However, there is nothing new brought out, and Attorney Madigan, in appearing for the state, urged the governor to be cautious. No executive clemency, he said, should be used unless new evidence had been produced. Of this, there had been none, and it should be the duty of the governor to go slow. He also presented a petition, signed by 148 of the business men of Redwood Falls, praying against a commutation. After all the attorneys had had their say, the governor then announced that he would take the matter under advisement. He would not act until he had learned the opinion of Judge Webber, and stated that even a favorable report from him might not be sufficient grounds to influence him to a commutation of the fearful sentence.

Beautify the Town.

Now that the spring time has come, let there come with it for New Ulm a season for general improvement; improvement in every direction. To a traveler, visiting the town, one of the first things to be commented on, is the general appearance and cleanliness. These are always sure to form an impression and that impression is generally lasting. It is carried away, where one of the solidity and business of the town would be forgotten. It is desirable therefore that the town appears at its best. To do this, there are a hundred ways. In the first place, clean up. Streets, alleys and back yards should all be put in trim, given a healthy appearance and beautified in every way possible. In this, it is not necessary for the city to take any great hold; it can nearly all be done through the efforts of private citizens. Let each one see that his yard is raked; that his lawn is removed of all rubbish and put in readiness for nature's coat of green; that his fences are up and not down; and that his whole premises are neatly and carefully looked after. Sidewalks should be kept in order and extended. It can be done at little expense and with well directed outlay. All this work, done at small trouble, will give the city a look of cleanliness, freshness and beauty, that every resident can point to with inward pride.

Then too, Arbor day is soon at hand, and every property owner should make it a duty at this time to plant trees. On this point we have urged often enough before. The need is apparent. Naturally, New Ulm's location is all that could be desired. A richer growth of well selected and well kept trees, would make it by far the prettiest town in the state. This is admitted on all hands and if it is so, why should we not allow the spring of the present year to go down as one in which more was done to beautify the town than ever before.

That the farmers of the northwest have a strong friend in Congressman Lind, of this district, there can no longer be any reason to doubt. He asks a reduction of at least one cent on twine and says that if the committee does not grant his request he will fight the tariff bill on the floor of the house.—HENDERSON INDEPENDENT.

Merchants Organization.

A goodly number of the Retail Merchants of the city met in the parlors of the Dakota House on Friday evening, and listened to an address by F. M. Folsom, of the Merchants Retail Commercial Agency, 53 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ills. The system in use by this Agency has for its purpose the protection of Retail Merchants. The legality, practicability and results of the system were fully explained. After consideration, a motion was made that those present proceed to organize a local branch of such Agency. The motion prevailed by a unanimous vote, and the following were chosen as officers: Jacob Klossner Jr., President; F. H. Retzlaff, Vice-President; Andrew J. Eckstein, Secretary and Treasurer; S. D. Peterson, J. F. Neumann, and Charles Wagner, Executive Board.

This Agency uses no dishonorable means to force collections or settlements, but the merchants propose to exercise their legal right to refuse credit to a person who gains the reputation of not treating a member of the Agency honorably.

There is no law compelling merchants to sell their goods on credit. There is no law forbidding merchants refusing credit to any person they see fit, and when a merchant sells his goods on credit it is as an accommodation to the consumer, and if such consumer has no appreciation of the favor extended and willfully neglects to make a reasonable and honorable adjustment of his indebtedness, then he should be compelled to pay as he buys. It is better for him and much more profitable for the merchant. Many a poor worthy man has been refused credit for the necessities of life because of the merchant's unpleasant experience with bad debtors, but this system will tend to obviate all that, because the man who does respect his credit will be known and have a standing among merchants, while the "dead beat" and others of his kind will also be known to the members of this Agency and be absolutely refused credit; no matter if he moves to another town or state, his reputation as poor pay will follow him and the merchants in such new place of residence will also refuse him credit. This Agency issues a regular and legal bill monthly abstract of unsettled accounts. Each member agrees to forfeit twenty dollars to his branch as a penalty, in case he extends credit to a person whose unsettled account appears in the abstract and no account can appear therein until the debtor has had a full and fair opportunity to go to the merchants he owes and in some way arrange such indebtedness. The man who can pay and won't pay and the man who cannot pay, but will not go to the merchant and state his condition and make effort to arrange, is the person this agency is after.

The agency does not interfere with the credit of men who deal honorably, no matter if they are slow; neither does it in any way regulate prices. Its sole object is to compel men to be honest with merchants or to pay spot cash for goods purchased. Something of this kind has been needed for a long time and this system will work. "In combination there is strength." The members have the success or failure of this system in their own hands. Wherever merchants have properly combined, the system has proven a great success. The west is being carefully covered by the agency, and the merchants in all small towns are visited and solicited to join the county branch.

Doings of the Council.

A regular meeting of the council was held April 8th. Present, as qualified members were, Chas. L. Roos and Wm. Frank from the first ward, Chas. Stuebe and Jos. Schmucker from the second, and A. C. Ochs and E. G. Koch, from the third. Councilor Koch, by a unanimous ballot, was elected president for the ensuing year.

The clerk reported that the newly elected officers had all qualified except constable Galles, after which the council approved the appointments of the following city officers, as recommended by the mayor, for the ensuing year: City Attorney, Jos. A. Eckstein; Assessor, Louis Schilling; City Surveyor, George Boock; night marshal, Anton Zieher; policeman, night duty, Charles Klotz and Arnold D. Gulden; street cleaner, John Macho; lamp tender, Gottlob Dittman; city scaler, Frank Friedman; keeper of public cemetery, Jacob L. Mueller; poundmaster, John Nun Sr.

On motion, C. W. Heidemann was reappointed as a member of the Board of Health for three years, his time having expired. The council then fixed the salaries of the various officers as follows: City treasurer, \$27 per month; city attorney, \$200 per annum; city clerk, \$40 per month; assessor \$200 per annum; city marshal, \$50 per month; policeman, night duty, \$40 per month; lamp tender, \$35 per month; street cleaner, \$25.00 per week.

The sum of \$100 per annum was also

allowed the mayor for incidental expenses in connection with his office.

The bonds of the City Justices, Francis Baasen and Albert Blanchard, City Clerk Schilling and John Nun Sr. were approved and ordered filed. That of the city treasurer was fixed at \$20,000.

On motion the New Ulm Review was designated the official paper for the ensuing year. In connection with this, it was resolved that only such abstracts of the proceedings as are of interest to the community be published in the Review and Post at the rate allowed last year, publications in the Post to be in German, but no fee for translation to be allowed.

The following standing committees were then appointed by the president, it having been resolved to appoint annually hereafter a standing committee on water works; Streets, Frank, Schmucker and Ochs; grave yard and parks, Stuebe and Schmucker; fire department, C. L. Roos; water works, Roos, Stuebe and Koch.

C. W. A. Krook appeared before the council and argued in favor of a sidewalk on Centre Street leading up to the college. Matter was referred to the councilors from the third ward for investigation and report.

An application from Edward Maltzahn for the temporary removal of his building to this lot across the street from its present location was granted with the provision that it be removed out of the fire limits on or before September first of the year. Building permits were also granted to August Fritton, F. Engel, and Julius Krause.

Councilor Stuebe then offered the following resolution: Whereas it has been stated that the vote for councilor in the second ward at the last city election had been incorrectly counted and returned, and in order that the correct result may be ascertained and known, it is resolved that a committee of two councilors be appointed, whose duty it shall be to recount the vote for councilor in the second ward east at the last city election, on the 9th day of April, 1890, 10 o'clock a. m., at the city clerk's office, and that the Judges of election of that ward, and Joseph Schmucker and Frank Schubert, candidates for the office of councilor at that time, be invited to be present at such count, and that said committee request the New Ulm Post to publish the correct result of such recount and report to this council. The resolution was carried and Roos and Ochs were appointed as such committee.

On motion, \$5 was allowed for the payment of one-third of the insurance on the school house in North German Park, the same being the increase in the rate on account of oil kept there. After levying a poll tax of one day on every person liable, the council allowed the following bills and adjourned: Administration, \$17.35; Street Fund \$17.94.

Another and adjourned meeting was held April 10th. All members were present except President Koch and in his absence Councilor Roos occupied the chair. The council at once proceeded to confirm the appointments of the mayor for the ensuing year, which were as follows: Poundmaster, F. S. Lehman, John Nun having refused to accept; Street commissioner, Wm. Koepke, with a salary of \$40 per month until Nov. 1, 1890 and \$1.50 per day thereafter for actual service. He must furnish bond in the sum of \$500 and pay over every month to the city treasurer all money collected on account of poll tax.

The clerk reported that Jos. A. Eckstein, city attorney, Louis Schilling, assessor, George Boock, surveyor, Anton Zieher, marshal, Arnold D. Gulden, policeman, Jos. Galles, constable, and George Dittman, lamp tender, had qualified and accepted office. The official bonds of Jos. Galles, constable, Anton Zieher, marshal, and H. G. Mueller, treasurer, were presented and approved. A building permit was granted to Charles Wagner and the committee on Grave Yards and Parks was authorized to make the necessary improvements and gradings in public cemetery.

The applications for liquor license were then heard, and, no objection being raised, the council, after approving the bonds, granted the same and ordered the clerk, upon the payment of the proper amount of license, to issue licenses to the following named persons, to wit: Jacob Hottinger, Joseph Flor, Ferdinand Gollnast, Isidor Haas, John Pecht, Weigand Hauenstein, Joseph Schnobrich, Joseph Schmucker, Math and Geo. Siebenbrunner, F. W. Baarsch, Fred Williams, Wenzel Schotzko, Ed. Maltzahn, Richard Geisinger, Anton Schwarzer, Andrew Amann, John Gabriel, New Ulm Turn Verein, Henry Grenholz, Charles Brust, John F. Neumann, and Wilhelm Amme.

Good society is that where women are not hastily judged, but when they are believed to be untruthful, deceitful and ill-bred, they are ostracized.



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