

From the Wadena Tribune: Cemetery Association

May 11, 1899: A meeting of the Ladies Aid to the Cemetery Association took place Tuesday evening in the lecture rooms of the Congregational church. Comparatively few members attended, but considerable business was, nevertheless, transacted.

It was decided to name Monday, May 15, on which all interested in improving the cemetery should assemble for work upon the grounds, bringing suitable implements with which to work. Teams are especially to be desired. Should the weather be bad on Monday, the workers are requested to come on the following day, Tuesday, the 16th. Inst. It is proposed to clear the individual lots and sow grass upon the same; also plow and grade the streets.

The ladies are hopeful of a large force of workers being on hand and expect to accomplish much from this one day's work. It was further arranged at Tuesday evening's meeting to give a supper on Friday evening, May 19, the same to take place at the home of J. Swindlehurst.

July 7, 1899: Saturday evening the Ladies Auxiliary society met at the Congregational church and further considered the work of cemetery improvement. It was decided that the society employ one man to work in the cemetery for one month.

The ladies will put in another pump and the curbing around the one now in use in the old portion of the cemetery, will be replaced. The alleys will be spaded up and grubbing done wherever necessary.

It was the sense of the meeting that a lawn social be given by the society sometime in the near future, but the date and place of holding the same will be fixed later.

The attendance of ladies at the meetings of the society is not so large as it was expected to be, now that both the old and new cemeteries are receiving equal attention.

Before the purchase of the Miggie cemetery, there were those who would lend no aid, giving as their excuse of standing back, that they would lend their aid only in case work was prosecuted in both cemeteries. Since the purchase of the Miggie section these ladies can not stand back on this pretext.

November 22, 1899: There will be a meeting of the Ladies Aid to the Cemetery Association tonight (Thursday) at the home of Mrs. P. V. Coppernoll. The ladies of the association have requested the Tribune to state that the dollar contributions or any amount the donor may see fit to give, are now very badly needed and the public is earnestly requested to contribute as soon as possible. Mrs. C. C. Eastman will receive funds at the postoffice and receipt for the same. The ladies have gone to a great deal of expense in prosecuting the work of cemetery improvement and they stand in great need of funds at present. Evidence of the effective work already done is seen in the greatly improved appearance of the cemetery and the ladies should not be hindered in their commendable efforts by a lack of money.

April 19, 1900: The social to be given at the home of Mrs. G. A. Whitney tomorrow evening, April 20, for the benefit of the cemetery association will be a very enjoyable affair, and all should make arrangements to attend. Supper will be served for 25 cents. Don't forget to attend.

May 3, 1900: The council has agreed to lay a water pipe to the cemetery. Whether there will be a sufficient flow of water through a small pipe a half a mile long is doubtful and the matter is being investigated.

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From the Wadena Tribune of April 26, 1900

The Cemetery ladies cleared about \$43 as a result of the supper given Friday evening at the home of Mrs. G. A. Whitney. The supper was very well patronized and the ladies feel very much encouraged.

May 17, 1900

At the last council meeting the question of supplying water for the cemetery was taken up. The proposition of laying a water main to the cemetery has practically been abandoned and the council is now considering the plan of buying a wind mill. Dr. Babcock offers to sell the city his mill and tank for \$50 and Wm. Rawson has one for sale for \$60. It is quite probable one or the other of these wind mills will soon be purchased

May 31, 1900

It was no easy task H. W. Gehr undertook to move the wind mill to the cemetery, but the work has been accomplished and the mill has been placed at a point almost midway between the new and old cemeteries.

September 13, 1900

The Ladies Aid to the Cemetery Association report that the Masonic order of this city has presented to their society \$5 to aid in the work of cemetery improvement. The ladies are very thankful for this gift and they desire the Tribune to extend their thanks to the Masons for this substantial evidence of appreciation of the noble work the ladies society has undertaken.

The Wadena Pioneer Journal May 24, 1901

Nest Monday a rally will be held at the cemetery and all who can contribute teams and work will confer a great favor. Several of these rallies have been held in the past, and the responses have been liberal, and it is to be hoped that the one of Monday will be equally successful. A good deal can be accomplished toward having the cemetery present a good appearance on Memorial Day.

July 12, 1901

The ladies of the cemetery association have been having two men, Messrs. John Henselin and Henry Gash, working in the cemetery since early spring and many improvements have been in the appearance of the grounds. It will still take several years of good hard work to get it in the shape desired. The ladies are now running short of funds, and Henry Gash has therefore been laid off for a while, but it is to be hoped that sufficient money will be raised soon to have him at work again.

July 19, 1901: The ladies of the cemetery association are planning on giving a supper Wednesday evening, Aug. 7, at some convenient place down town, and it is especially desired that the public patronize them liberally upon this occasion. The ladies are doing work in beautifying the cemetery, and they are certainly entitled to encouragement. They especially invite the public to visit the cemetery during the next few days and note the improvements made. When they took hold of the management two years ago the cemetery was in a decidedly untidy condition, and since that time it has been cleared up, and now commences to present an inviting appearance. In a few years thanks to the enterprising ladies, it will be as much of a credit to the city as is the city park. For these reasons the public should patronize the ladies liberally at their supper Aug. 7.

Pioneer Journal of May 2, 1902: A RALLY THURSDAY

Each year it has been the custom of the ladies of the cemetery association to hold a rally, at which time all who feel like contributing work assemble and assist in making improvements.

This year the rally will be held next Thursday, and all who have teams and wish to contribute a day's work are earnestly requested to be on hand. In stead of plows bring cultivators. The new part of the cemetery will be worked in mostly. The ladies expect to furnish all present with refreshments.

Pioneer Journal May 16, 1902:

The ladies of the cemetery association will give a supper Friday evening, May 23, for the purpose of raising money to carry on the work of improving the cemetery. The ladies always give first class suppers and the public will accord them generous patronage.

Pioneer Journal of March 20, 1903:

The rummage sale of the ladies of the cemetery association is now in progress at the sample rooms of the Commercial hotel, which were kindly donated for this purpose by Col. Askew. The sale is being well attended, although the weather is not very favorable for it. It will continue over tomorrow. All should attend.

Pioneer Journal of March 27, 1903: The ladies auxiliary of the cemetery association will serve dinner and supper in the Schaff building, next to the Pure Food store, Friday, April 3. They will serve excellent meals, and the price will be only 25 cents. The ladies do not want the public to think that they are too anxious for public patronage. They realize that they have just had a successful rummage sale, but it takes a good deal of money to carry on the spring work at the cemetery, and knowing this they believe that the public will not tire of extending patronage to them.

Pioneer Journal of June 19, 1903: The cemetery association have taken down all of the picket fences around the lots in the grave yard and wish to dispose of them at a reasonable price. For further particulars inquire of G. A. Whitney.

Pioneer Journal of January 15, 1904: INVITE ALL TO HELP.

To the Public and Citizens of Wadena in Particular: As is well known, about six years ago there was organized in the court house at Wadena what was known as Wadena Cemetery association, composed entirely of the public spirited men of the town. The part of the cemetery known as Miggie's addition, was purchased and steps begin to improve what was conservatively speaking a neglected wilderness, causing those, whose burial place was the Wadena cemetery to feel that they had left their loved ones in any but a resting place. For some reason the association did not seem to progress in the work of beautifying, when the ladies formed an auxiliary as aid to the association, which was received with much favor. However as has been erroneously stated the ladies did not presume to assume the work of the association but as an aid to raise funds to help. The association being composed of very busy men they virtually said "we are glad to have the ladies take up this work, now go ahead and we will assist you with our means and help in ways

such as contributing to, and patronizing meals and entertainments given for the cause." The auxiliary desires to thank the public in general many in particular for the cheer and encouragement, with which their hard work has been received, but alas! The "kicker" as is always the case with those who work for any public good, is ever present and wonders "why all such things are run by a few. Now good people here are the facts, the auxiliary to the cemetery association, always has and ever will gladly welcome any who will come, take hold, put their sensitive feelings away as an unbecoming dress, work with hearty good will and fellowship for this to us most worthy object. It was once said by a traveler, "Nations are judged by the keeping of their cemeteries. Nowhere localities judged accordingly, what would, at least six years previous, have been said of Wadena? The work speaks for itself and as there is yet much to be done, only a beginning has been made. Realizing it to be simply impossible to carry on the work without funds, the auxiliary have planned for a sale of fancy and useful articles same to be held about March 15. The public are most cordially invited to contribute articles for the sale, anything which may please the donor. The town and country will be solicited, but if for any reason, you may not be at home, and the committee fails seeing you personally please consider this an invitation to help with your mite and influence, a good work. Send articles no later than March 1, either to Mrs. Coppernoll, Mrs. G. A. Whitney or Mrs. W. R. Baumbach. Further notice will be given of time and place. Meals will be served. Thanking the public for many past favors, soliciting more in the future, we are yours for improvement.

LADIES AUXILIARY TO CEMETERY ASSOCIATION.