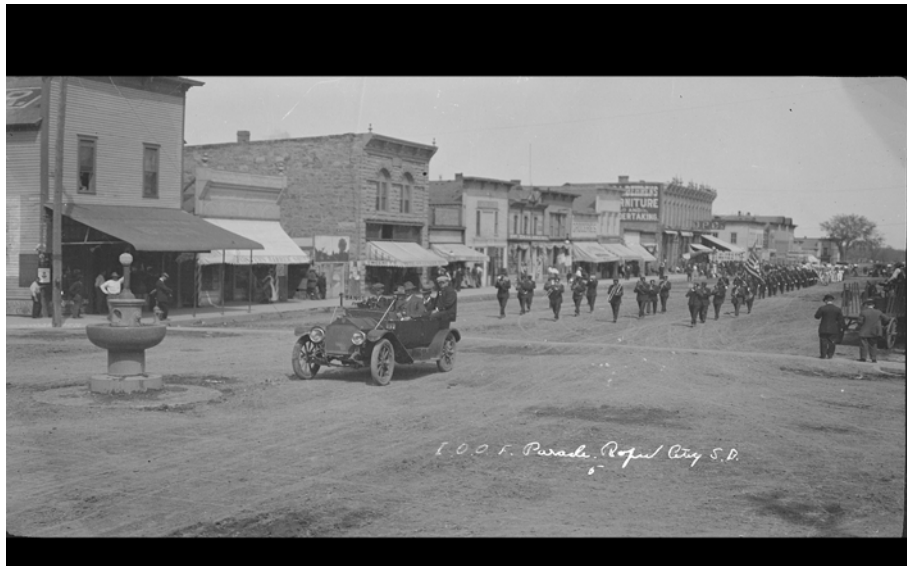


You Are Invited



The Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission
and
The South Dakota School of Mines and Technology

Invite you to a reception for the
Public Unveiling of the Lion Head Fixtures for the
Downtown Fountain Restoration Project

April 18, 2004
Dahl Fine Arts Center
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Please join us and learn about the history of the National Humane Alliance drinking fountain and the restoration project supported by the Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission and the South Dakota School of Mines Civil Engineering students.



Meet the
Artist

John
Lopez

DRINKING FOUNTAIN FOR STOCKMEETING

SKETCH OF LIFE OF MAN FROM WHOM THE GIFT WAS RECEIVED.

CREDIT DUE FORMER JOURNAL REPORTER FOR SECURING IT FOR THIS CITY.

As will be seen by a reference to last night's commissioners' proceedings arrangements have been made for the placing and piping of the handsome new drinking fountain recently presented to this city by the National Humane Alliance. The fountain will be placed in an accessible spot at the intersection of Main and Seventh streets and the work of placing it and making the water connections is to be completed so that the water may be turned in before the first day of Stockmeeting.

The credit for getting this handsome gift for Rapid City is said to be due to W. E. Adair, formerly a reporter on the Journal, who took up the matter with The National Humane Alliance and succeeded in inducing the Alliance to place Rapid City on file for one of the handsome gifts. In this connection it is also an opportune time to call attention to the founder of the National Humane Alliance. This man was the late Herman Lee Ensign.

He was born in Carbondale, Pa., on June 30, 1849. At an early age he moved with his parents to Sheffield, Ill. When fifteen years old he acquired a knowledge of telegraphing and soon became an expert operator. Soon after that he went to Davenport, Iowa, and later to Denver.

He was reared under religious influences, was a member of the Congregational Church, and when twenty years old decided to become a minister. With that object, he entered Phillips academy. His health or finances soon failed, and he left school and went to Chicago, where he began business with a bridge company.

During the great fire of 1871 he rendered important service to this company by saving from the office valuable books.

A few years later he became the manager of a brilliantly written paper called the Alliance, a weekly journal, mildly religious and widely humanitarian. His experience in journalism he turned to practical account by later engaging in the advertising business, following it with marked success, and acquiring a fortune in twenty years.

Fertile in fancy and quick in experiment, he devised a new form of newspaper advertising known as headline reading advertising. He also invented the stereotype plate with removable base.

In 1882 he moved to Rochester and two years later to New York, where he lived until his death in 1899.

Without advantages of birth or fortune, living the life of a quiet American citizen and dying before he was fifty, he had rounded out a notable life. To his business and general friends he was known as a genial and companionable man, successful in his affairs, light-hearted and satisfied with life. His more intimate friends knew that he had other interests and feelings, which represented the deeper and a more vital side of his nature. He had an eager and imaginative temperament, an instinctive love of what is good and true and a hatred of what is wrong. From childhood he was a lover of domestic animals. This

love made him detest all that was cruel or unkind in the treatment of animals by their natural protector, man. It became more than a sentiment—it became a passion growing upon him and at last dominating his life.

To him, animals were not merely inferiors or slaves, they were companions and friends, devoting themselves to man and dependent upon him for their lives and happiness. The ethics of the relations with lower animals have seldom had more practical and forcible expression than from this humane man. He was an ardent disciple of Henry Bergh, and felt that if he could leave behind him such a record as did Mr. Bergh, he would regard it as the best monument that he could desire.

He accordingly founded the National Humane Alliance to carry out his ideas for the welfare of animals. He intended to give his time and fortune to the work. But just as it was started he died. He left his fortune for this work, and the society is administering the trust of Mr. Ensign on the lines of his ideas, for humane work, educating children in kindness to animals and other similar work.

The Human Alliance has offices at No. 520 United Charities Building, New York city. The officers are: Harrison Grey Fisk, president; Frederick B. Tilghman, vice president; Lewis M. Seaver, secretary and treasurer.

[Editorial Note: the typographical error in the last paragraph is in the original.]