

Hog wild

Pigheadedness prevailed as referendum called on penning up town's livestock

When the females of Bloomington took up the cause of getting domestic hogs off streets, alleys and lawns, the women were bucking odds stacked against them: an all-male City Council beholden only to the males who elected them. (It would be 37 years before females were permitted to vote.)

The male targets of the anti-hog crusade were Councilmen John Waldron, Nat U. Hill, John W. Shoemaker, Benjamin McGee, Andrew Hoover and M.D. Griffy. It was to the council that "An interested party" directed her letter in the Bloomington *Courier* on June 2, 1883.

Commented the writer, "The petition to have that (pen up pigs) law passed was signed by a majority of the very best men and property



Looking back

By Rose McIlveen

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holders of this place, and by many ladies, who, while not voters, are property holders and tax payers ... We are fully aware that the ladies have no right as voters to speak in this matter, but have their wishes no weight? Do you propose to ignore their good taste? They would implore you to listen, and if their voices cannot be heard in this, pray tell us why at every supper, dinner, banquet or on decoration

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