

Election debates cause brawl

Looking back, from page C1

bystanders offered to help, but two other officers by the names of Norman and Mathews came to the rescue. For his pains, Norman, too, received a head wound after being struck twice.

"Desperately, fighting, three were forced amidst the excited crowd to jail, the father, the remaining son following, where the father was also placed behind the bars," the *Telephone* continued.

Seeing an opportunity to escape, John Jr. got as far as the west side of the square. He did not choose to go quietly and another fight broke out, involving Marshal Johns and Mathews, who was already nursing bruises from the first encounter.

At that point, the friends of the David family got involved, trying to help John Jr. escape, and several were clubbed for their interference. Fortunately, the officers did get some belated help from bystanders.

But John Jr. had one more vicious trick up his sleeve. "Young David," reported the newspaper, "after making futile efforts to get away, laid down within the surging crowds. At this point David gave a vicious kick, striking Mathews in the chin and fracturing his jaw bone."

Enough was enough. The young man was finally subdued and dragged off to jail "with a pair of nippers on each wrist."

A truly innocent bystander, or rather by-rider was Miss Merle Parks, who was driving by in a buggy. She was hit by a rock in the mouth, but not seriously injured.

Concluded the *Telephone*, "The Davids were all released from jail Sunday morning, having been furnished bonds by friends. There were a number of other fights later in the evening, but no serious trouble resulted."

No doubt the Bloomington police were glad elections didn't happen more than once or twice a year.