

Hand was written in the "mad twenties." It seemed destined to be lost in the wave of books about sophistication and flaming youth, yet Lantern became a best seller and has been translated into many languages. "Regardless of the popular literary trend of the times, write the thing that lies close to your heart," advised Aldrich. The following is taken from A Lantern in Her Hand: Everyone was in want that year of 1874. In the early fall people began going past the house. "Going home," they reported. Many times parties of them stayed all night. They had their own quilts and would arrange their beds on the main-room floor. "They were beaten," they said. "One could stand a few disappointments and failures, but when everything turned against one, there was no use trying to fight." "Nebraska hasn't turned against us," Will Deal would argue stubbornly. "It is the finest, blackest land on the face of the earth. The folks who will just stick it out. You will see the climate change, more rains, not so much wind, when the trees grow. We have got to keep at the trees. Someday this is going to be the richest state in the Union, the most productive. I will bet anything, next year. Aldrich said that she set down life as she found it, "mingled happiness and sorrow, little pleasures and little disappointments, deep courage, high faith, grief, laughter, and love." Deep courage, high faith, grief, laughter, and love, that is truly what Bess Streeter Aldrich found in Nebraska. Nebraska was close to her heart.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you, Senator Warner. Since tomorrow will be the last day we meet this week, we will have two of them tomorrow, so that those two of you who will be doing this, please be prepared to do so the first thing tomorrow morning. Roll call please. Mr. Clerk, record, please.

CLERK: I have a quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Do you have any corrections to the Journal this morning, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: No corrections, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Any messages, reports, or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, your Committee on Enrollment and Review respectfully reports they have carefully examined and engrossed LB 122 and find the same correctly engrossed; 494