

**Hemingford Happenings.**

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Olds came over from Chadron Tuesday to attend the dance and visit with relatives for a short time.

We hear that C. A. Burlew has purchased the Wells place, formerly owned by H. E. Jones, and will take possession soon.

K. L. Pierce went to Omaha on business the last of the week.

Work has been delayed on the new telephone building on account of an undecided location.

The new store building of C. A. Burlew is going up fast, the foundation being laid.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Gilman were over night visitors with Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Wildy, coming up Wednesday.

F. Davison and Miss Lucy Hickey came in from Sioux county the middle of the week, Lucy staying to make Hazel a short visit before returning home.

Mrs. Curtis, mother of H. H. Pierce, has purchased the Fosket property in the west part of town.

The Methodist Aid Society met with Mrs. Wm. Johnson Wednesday. Quite a nice lot of aiders were present.

Earl Fosket came down from Marland Wednesday.

The salesman for the Geo. Darling Furniture Store was in town the last of the week.

W. H. Ward and Harry Pierce went to Alliance on business Thursday.

Wm. Fosket went to Alliance Saturday, going down to help Mr. Coursey with a sale Saturday.

John Anderson and F. Melick are putting up a small building for a meat market and bank between the Journal office and barber shop.

W. M. Corey has lumber on his lot for building as soon as the foundation is ready.

Otto Klemke came home from his vacation in the eastern part of the state.

Chas. Shindler has bought the hardware department of C. S. West and will put in a larger stock of hardware soon.

T. Foster, who has been sick for some time, went out home with Will Mosher the first of the week. Mr. F. has been taking treatments for some time and is some improved.

Mr. Schlaman, who went to Colorado some time ago, came back on business Sunday.

A. H. Pierce has been confined to the house for the past week, being sort of under the weather.

You can save \$100 on a piano by taking advantage of Prescott Music Co.'s great Discount Sale at Bennett's old stand.

John Pederson, the cement contractor and builder informs us that he will begin work on his new house north of Rowan's elevator, as soon as the weather will permit putting in the cement foundation. This is to be a frame house 30x80 feet, and will be built in the best possible manner. Mr. Pederson's business has grown to such an extent that he has found it necessary to take a partner, accordingly he has gone into partnership with Tom Lawler, and together they will engage in cement work, building and contracting, the coming season. The firm name will be Pederson & Lawler.

In the sale of the stallion Aleutian last Saturday, the property of the Squaw Mound Horse Co., previously advertised in the Herald, borsemen in this neighborhood evidently missed a bargain. This horse was purchased by the Squaw Mound Horse Co., for \$3500 and we are informed was a money maker for the company from the start, but owing to some disagreement between some members of the company, it was decided to sell the horse and dissolve partnership. That the horse was all right is indicated by the fact that he was bid in for M. H. Reed, a member of the company, who had charge of the horse and knows what he is. The selling price was \$4000.00.

**Argument for Adoption of Initiative and Referendum**

At the solicitation of Rev. John L. Vallow, pastor of the Alliance Methodist church, Ira E. Tash, postmaster at Alliance, delivered an address in that church on Sunday evening, Feb. 27, 1910, to a large and interested audience, his subject being the "Initiative and Referendum." Mr. Tash spoke for more than an hour, holding the interest of his audience to the close of his address by his statement of pertinent facts and logical deductions. His arguments were, first, for the general adoption of the Initiative and Referendum, and then, coming to local affairs, for its adoption by the city of Alliance at the special election to be held March 15th.

Following is a synopsis of the address, giving briefly the principal arguments presented, and deserving a careful perusal and candid consideration by every intelligent voter.

The initiative and referendum is the means to an end. It is the means, measure or procedure by which the people may secure direct legislation. It is simply the method by which the people may secure popular and representative government. It is in line with such progressive reforms as the Australian ballot, the direct primary, the recall and the commission form of government of cities.

Direct legislation, by means of the initiative and referendum, enables the friends of each reform proposed to unite all their votes in support of such measure, without regard to how many different political parties they may be divided into, or how widely their opinions may differ upon other questions not under consideration.

It will have a strong tendency to reduce or prevent political corruption, or grafting by dishonest officials, because they will know that the people will have the option to demand that any franchise ordinance or law passed, can be submitted to a direct vote before it becomes effective.

It will make it easier for men to vote correctly, and enables them to have their convictions enacted into law. It simplifies elections by separating the judging of men or candidates from the judgment of issues, and separates each issue from all other issues.

It will tend to prevent physical revolution, because it provides the people with a peaceful and legal weapon with which to obtain what is often sought to be brought about by force and violence.

It promotes education in the science of government, and makes the people more familiar with existing laws.

It embraces the correct principles of ethics and religion, because it fosters and promotes a kinder and more brotherly feeling among men, by placing them upon an equality in law making. The rule of the few is unchristian, antagonistic, mastery and not brotherhood.

It has a tendency to kill party prejudice, because political parties will lose much of their importance, when laws or measures can be enacted outside of parties, and without the use of permanent party organizations.

By it the people can reduce taxation to the needs of economical government and base it upon ability to pay rather than helplessness to resist payment.

It has been adopted by eight states of the union, Oregon being the leader in the movement. It has been adopted for the government of such progressive cities as Los Angeles, Calif.; Galveston, Tex.; Des Moines, Ia.; and Pierre, S. D. In Nebraska it has been adopted by cities ranging in size from Lincoln, the capital of the state, down to Havelock, a city of about 3,500 people which, on February 15, adopted by a vote of more than four to one. Beatrice, Kearney, Wymore and numerous other cities of the second class have also adopted it.

Having considered the question and its advantages in a general way, we will now consider it specifically as it applies to us here in the city of Alliance. To do this it will be necessary to first familiarize ourselves with the act and its general provisions which apply to the people in general and the proceedings which may be had under it if adopted. I will read you the title of the act which is as follows:

"An Act vesting a right in the voters of any city, county, town, village, school district, or other municipal subdivision of the state of Nebraska, to propose ordinances, contracts, agreements, or measures, and enact the same into laws for the government of such municipal divisions or subdivisions of the state, by a direct vote of the people who are qualified to vote in such respective jurisdictions; vesting a right in the voter of any such city, county, town, village, school district, or other municipal subdivision of the state of Nebraska to by a petition refer any ordinance, agreement, contract, or measure, enacted or proposed by the legislative body of any city, county, town, village, school district, or other municipal subdivision of this state to a vote of the voters of such jurisdiction and to reject the same by the ballot; to prescribe the manner of

such legislation and to provide punishment for all offenders against the provisions of this act.

Eliminating all surplusage and unnecessary legal verbiage, this caption or title of the act would read as follows:

"An act giving to the legal voters of the city of Alliance the right to propose ordinances, for the government of the city, and enact the same into law by a majority vote, and to have submitted to a vote, if requested, any ordinance passed by the mayor and council, before the same becomes a law."

Thus you see much that has lead the opponents of the measure to declare that it is "cumbersome" may be eliminated and its provisions made plain and easily understood. In fact the only real tangible objection made to its adoption was made by a local paper, which defined it as "cumbersome," and then printed the entire act on two sides of a sheet 8 by 12 inches in dimension. This printed sheet can be obtained by any voter by calling upon the city clerk.

**THE INITIATIVE**

This is the first part of the act and will be considered separate and apart from the referendum. Initiative, as you all know, simply means, to begin, to commence, to start something. This right to begin, or inaugurate some measure which the voters, or 15 per cent. of them, may desire to have voted upon with the view of having it enacted into law is conferred by Section 1 of this act, which is as follows:

(The Initiative.)  
Section 1. The right to propose ordinances for the government of any city, or other municipal subdivision of the state of Nebraska shall, in addition to being exercised by the mayor and city council of such city or the governing authorities of such other municipal subdivisions of this state, be vested in the voters thereof as hereinafter provided.

This simply gives the 700 or more voters of Alliance the right to share with the five members of the council the privilege of passing laws or ordinances for the government and regulation of the affairs of the city.

Section 2 simply defines the words "ordinance," "city" and "voters" as used in this act.

Section 3 specifies that the proposal shall be written or printed, and designates the number of signers required to a petition, and specifies the legal requirements necessary, to have the proposed measure submitted.

Section 4 provides that if 20 per cent. of the voters of the city sign a petition, it becomes mandatory, and compels the city clerk to call a special election.

Sections 5, 6 and 7 are directory and define the duties of the clerk, in reference to the submission of questions or proposals.

Sections 8 and 9 give the mayor and city council the right to alter or amend proposals, and submit to the voters the proposal in its original form, together with the amendment, these being designated as form A and form B. Voters then may vote for either proposal or vote against both.

Sections 10 and 11 prescribe the manner of voting and the counting of the votes.

**THE REFERENDUM**

It is unnecessary to explain to this audience of intelligence people that the term "referendum" means to "refer" something. In this case it means that any law, ordinance or measure passed by the city council may upon request of one-fifth of the voters be referred to a direct vote of the people if desired before it goes into effect and the provision for this is clearly defined and set out in Sections 12 and 13 of the act which reads as follows:

(Referendum)  
Section 12. No ordinance for the government of any city aforesaid in this state, except as hereinafter provided, shall go into effect until thirty days after the passage of the same.

Section 13. The voters of such city may, within the said thirty days, file a petition with the clerk thereof, requiring him to submit such ordinance to a vote of the voters of such city for their rejection or approval, as hereinafter provided.

Thus it is plainly seen that this is an optional referendum, and need not be brought into service in case a city council might be induced to pass an ordinance or adopt some measure which might be objectionable to a considerable number of voters. It is my judgment that this part of the act would be rarely used, for the fact that this referendum act was in force would have a restraining influence, and be a deterring force, that would act to prevent any council from adopting a measure that would not be for the public good and in the best interests of the city.

The provisions of Section 18 are important because they except all ordinances of an emergency nature, such as those relating to the public health, the appropriation of money for current expenses, from the provisions of this act, and leaves the same in the hands

of the council.

Sections 20 to 29, inclusive, prescribe form of ballot to be used, fixes penalties for the violation of this act, describes form of proposal and other clerical and ministerial acts to be performed under it.

Section 30, the final section, is important, inasmuch as it provides that this act shall not go into effect until it has been adopted by a majority vote of the qualified electors of this city, and upon this question of adoption or rejection the voters will pass at the special election to be held March 18. It also provides that in order that no unnecessary expense be incurred, that not more than one special election be held in any one year, unless the petitioners for the same deposit a sum of money necessary to defray the expense of holding the election.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, such are the provisions of this act, and some of the advantages to be derived from it, which I have tried, with brief preparation, to present to you in as straightforward, plain, candid way, as one common, plain, everyday citizen talking to a gathering of representative citizens. I am convinced for my own part that it is a good thing and I shall vote for its adoption. I have not referred to nor tried to answer some of the objections which have been offered to this act for I was led to believe that the other side of the question was to have been presented by a lawyer friend of mine, who I am sorry to learn is unable to be present. So I will briefly mention one or two of those which have come to my knowledge.

One of these assertions is that the hands of the council would be tied, and such small acts as the laying of a sanitary sewer lateral would have to be first submitted to a vote. This is absurd, ridiculous and untrue, because this is provided for in the statute authorizing the construction by cities of sewer systems, and even in this the vital principle of the initiative is involved, for under this law the city council cannot act until there has been circulated among the property owners of the lateral district a petition, and that signed by a majority of property owners of the lateral district a petition, and that signed by a majority of the property owners, asking for its construction, giving their consent thereto, and waiving all claims for damages accruing by reason of such construction, making affidavit thereto, and filing the same with the city clerk before the council can act. Even under this law and in this matter the people themselves must take the initiative.

The submission of any question to a direct vote under the initiative is absolutely fair to both sides of the controversy. This has been demonstrated at Lincoln, Nebr., where one year ago the advocates of the no-saloon policy had the question submitted under its provisions, and this year the advocates of the license policy have availed themselves of its provisions and have compelled its re-submission at a special election to be held April 5, 1910. This is a country where majorities rule, and the man who is unwilling to abide by the will of the majority, fairly expressed, is un-American and unfair.

In conclusion, I will say that the adoption of the initiative at the coming election is particularly desirable, because by this means in the future very much of the personalities, bitterness and partisan feeling growing out of local option campaigns, involving the question of license or no license, will be eliminated and avoided. The question can be considered and decided upon its merits, as a direct issue, without bringing into the election and obscuring the issue, the character, personality, popularity or unpopularity of candidates. Under this system men will be weighed and considered as men, and issues will be considered and determined as issues, and the one not confused with the other.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

In District Court Box Butte County, Nebraska, in Matter of the Petition of W. F. Hanley, Administrator, for License to Sell Real Estate.

Now on this 1st day of March 1910, this cause came on for hearing upon the petition of W. F. Hanley, administrator, praying for license to sell the following described real estate of the said A. D. Haas, to-wit:

Lot Eight, Block Eleven in town of Hemingford, Box Butte County, Nebraska, or a sufficient amount thereof to bring the sum of \$7500.00 for the payment of debts allowed against said estate and allowances and costs of administration, for the reason that there is not a sufficient amount of personal property in the possession of said administrator belonging to said estate to pay said debts, allowances and costs.

It is therefore ordered that all persons interested in said estate appear before me at Chambers in the City of Rushville, Sheridan County, Nebraska, on the 10th day of April, 1910, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M. to show cause if any there be, why a license should not be granted to said W. F. Hanley, administrator, to sell so much of the above described real estate of said decedent as shall be necessary to pay said debts and expenses. It is further ordered that a copy of this order be served upon all persons interested in said estate by causing the same to be published once each week for four successive weeks in The Alliance Herald, a newspaper printed and published in said county of Box Butte.

W. H. WESTOVER,  
Judge of the District Court.

**APPLES**

A Carload from Grand Junction, Colo., both boxed and in bulk.

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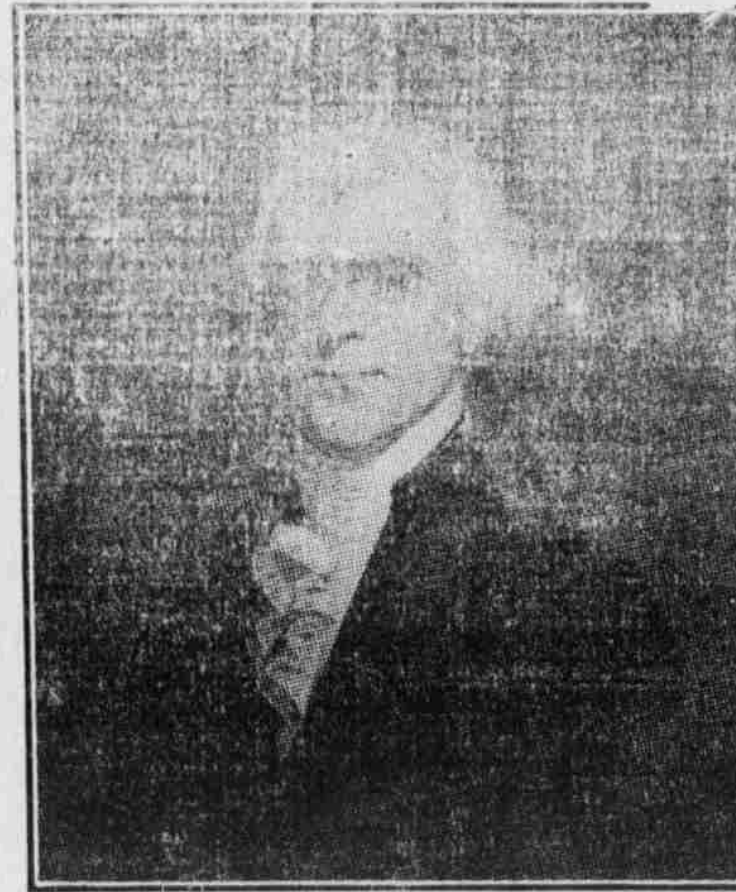
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Dear Sir:—I herewith enclose you my check and ask my name to be enrolled as a regular subscriber to your National Monthly. I have just finished examining the first number. It is a publication of stupendous merit, and it will exert a great influence for good in our country. It ranks with the best magazines that are printed in all respects, and its genuine Democracy gives it distinctive superiority. It will succeed for the Democracy is not dead, but very much alive. It will help save the country from capitalistic greed on the one hand and from the dangers of socialism and anarchism on the other. I am heart and soul with you in your new enterprise. Yours truly,  
FRED J. KERN,  
Mayor of the City of Belleville, Ill.

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