

## Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association

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A department devoted to the interests of the volunteer firemen of the state of Nebraska.

Edited by Lloyd C. Thomas, state publicity chairman.

### PUBLICITY COMMITTEEMEN

Albion—H. E. Hallstead.  
 Bertrand—C. H. Frakes.  
 Bloomfield—Harry Henatsch.  
 Franklin—Alvin Bloedorn.  
 Gothenburg—Arthur Johnson.  
 Howells—Frank Luxa.  
 Kearney—E. F. Winn.  
 Neligh—Jay Ames.  
 Lynch—A. C. McFarland.  
 Hampton—Alvin Gausmann.  
 University Place—Leslie A. Thomas.  
 Pullerton—John C. Chapman.  
 Ulysses—B. S. Oglesby.

Neligh—Jay Ames.  
 Ord—O. P. Cromwell.  
 Verdigré—H. H. Bruce.  
 Overton—James M. Pullen.  
 Schuyler—F. W. Shonka, Jr.  
 Snyder—Geo. W. Meyers.  
 Stromsburg—Al Westenius.  
 Tilden—R. G. Whitney.

Departments are requested to forward names as fast as publicity man is appointed.

The Alliance Fire Department is looking for a big time the evening of June 19, Friday, when Governor Morehead will be the guest of the department at a smoker. Visitors are expected from over the western end of the state. North Platte has signified their intention of sending a delegation and other delegations are expected from the North Platte valley, Crawford, Chadron and other western state towns.

H. E. Hallstead, publicity man for the Albion fire department, is a live wire. He conducts the Print Craft Shop, doing commercial, poster and color printing. He gives plenty of time to publicity work for his department, seeing that the local papers contain news, as well as furnishing it to The Herald. It takes me nof his caliber to help make a success of a department and we congratulate the Albion boys on having him with them.

Clean-up campaigns are being inaugurated in many of the towns in Nebraska. The work State Fire Commissioner W. S. Ridgell is doing in promoting these campaigns is resulting in the saving of millions of dollars worth of property in avoiding fires which start in trash piles and dirty basements and cellars. It is the duty of the chief of the fire department to see that alleys, back yards and cellars are kept clean.

A letter from A. W. Bloedorn, publicity man for the Franklin fire department, says: "I herewith enclose clipping giving account of a recent fire in our town. The Franklin Volunteer Fire Department is in a flourishing condition with twenty-three members and a good supply of enthusiasm. We meet regularly once each month and have practice drills on Thursday of each week."

J. J. Schock was recently elected publicity man of the Wymore department. He writes that he will be glad to keep the other state departments posted on the Wymore department through The Herald.

Dr. Guy Brown was recently elected publicity man for the Emerson department. He furnishes us with a good bunch of news and promises to keep us fully posted.

John P. Delaney, secretary and treasurer of the Bellwood department, writes as follows: "The volunteer fire department of Bellwood has always had much trouble in keeping up a good attendance at regular meetings and regular practices. Having many members whose records show that they attended about one-half the meetings, we are anxious to know whether we will be able to issue a good and valid certificate at the end of their five years of service, giving due consideration to their poor record of attendance." In answer to this, we will state that this depends upon their constitution and by-laws. If these state that a member missing a certain number of meetings or not attending within a certain period of time is delinquent, he should be dropped and not accorded the privileges of the department until he has been re-instated. If a member is in good standing at the end of five years and has not been dropped, he should be issued his certificate. If a member has been dropped for non-attendance and then re-instated, he cannot be issued his five-year certificate until five years from the time of his re-instatement. The roll-call record of the secretary should be kept strictly up, the roll being called at each meeting. Some departments call the roll at the beginning and at the end of the meeting. As soon as a member becomes delinquent through non-attendance he should be immediately dropped and not allowed the privileges of the club rooms and membership until he has been re-instated. This will have the tendency to increase the attendance at meetings.

The Neligh department has a typhon syren alarm, guaranteed by its makers to be heard for a distance of four miles. The boys have no trouble in hearing their alarm when a fire is called.

Read the letter published in this issue of The Herald from C. J. Anderson, of the Anderson Company, of Omaha. The bill, of which he gives a copy, should be passed. The support of the Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association, if given unitedly, will pass this bill at the next session of the state legislature. The departments should interview their candidates for the legislature and get them to pledge themselves to support and vote for this bill.

### LETTER FROM ANDERSEN

Following is given a letter from C. J. Andersen, of the Anderson Company, Omaha. The letter explains itself. Following the letter is given a copy of the proposed bill now before the state legislature:

"I am herewith enclosing you copy of Senate File No. 228, introduced by Senators Hoagland of North Platte and Bartling of Nebraska City. This bill was introduced to give relief to a great many small towns in the state of Nebraska, and had same been passed as it should have been, small towns that are now suffering from fire loss would have been in a much better position than they are now.

We have in Nebraska some 250 towns and villages that are without fire protection and where insurance rate is so high that it is almost impossible for merchants to carry the full amount of insurance on their

stock, but owing to the fact that the levy for all purposes is 10 mills per annum they never have enough money to purchase any fire department equipment. Heretofore, when it has been necessary to figure on water to put out fires, it has been an expensive affair to start water works in any small towns. But as you know, in late years, chemical engines as they are now manufactured are doing more efficient work in putting out fires than water ever did.

Statistics show us today that 80 per cent of all fires in the United States are put out with chemicals. It is the very simplest method, and where a small town now purchases two chemical engines, say of 40-gallon size each, the insurance companies allow the same reduction as they would if the water works plant was installed. If this was brought to the notice of the officials in towns

where they have no fire protection, they would not hesitate to get together enough money to purchase two of these engines, but you fully realize that it can never be done by the manufacturer of chemical engines. It is always looked upon as a selfish aim.

I had in mind, at the time this bill was introduced, had same been passed, to extensively advertise this matter throughout the state of Nebraska and I sincerely hope that next spring when legislature again meets, that someone will introduce the bill and push it through.

Personally I am a candidate for the legislature for this one purpose, but being a candidate is one thing, and being elected from a city like Omaha is another. At any rate, I would be very glad for you to assist the firemen in the state of Nebraska in this matter. Every fireman in the state should be urged to lay this matter before his legislature member, whoever he may be, and endeavor to show him it is the very best thing he could do for his town and for the majority of towns, not alone those that have no protection, but many towns who have no protection but no money with which to complete their equipment—they would all appreciate any assistance that such member would give to the passage of a bill that is of so much importance to the state of Nebraska.

Our mutual friend Mr. W. S. Ridgell did everything in his power to have this bill passed in the House, but after the passage in the Senate it was so late and so many bills were clogging up the machinery, that I am sorry to say not enough support from the firemen was given, by reason of their not knowing about it, to give us any great assistance in getting the bill passed. But surely, Mr. Ridgell will again take this matter up and I know that he will do everything in his power to have such a bill passed.

It shall be my aim from now on to speak to every candidate wherever I may meet him, to urge upon him to have such a bill passed. I also think that this bill should be given to the officers of the Nebraska Volunteer Firemen's Association to have it carefully looked over, and perhaps revised before again introducing it, and with that end in view, I would suggest that when you publish the bill as it now is, that a copy of your paper be sent to the attorney for the association.

Thanking you in advance in behalf of the firemen of the state for any assistance that you will give us in this matter, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,  
 (Signed) C. J. ANDERSEN.

### LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA Thirty-Third Session SENATE FILE NO. 228 A BILL

For an Act to authorize the Mayor and City Council or Board of Trustees of Cities of the second class and Villages to establish, equip, and maintain Fire Departments and to levy a tax for the purpose of equipping and maintaining the same.

Introduced and read first time January 29, 1913. Read second time January 30, 1913. Referred to Committee on Municipal Affairs. Sent to printer January 30, 1913.

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS BARTLING OF OTTOE AND HOAGLAND OF LINCOLN.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Nebraska:

Section 1. That the Mayor and City Council and the Board of Trustees of cities of the second class and Villages are hereby authorized to organize Fire Departments to be composed of volunteer members, or of paid members, a part of whom shall be paid members, and a part of whom shall be volunteer, and to equip the same with fire fighting apparatus and to maintain the same.

Section 2. The Mayor and City Council and Board of Trustees of such cities of the second class and villages are authorized to levy and collect a general tax not to exceed three mills in the same manner as other municipal taxes may be levied and collected on all the property in such cities or villages taxable according to the laws of the State of Nebraska for the purpose of organizing such Fire Departments, equipping the same with fire fighting apparatus and maintaining the same.

Section 3. The provisions of the preceding sections shall apply to all cities and villages which have heretofore organized and equipped Fire Departments, and they are hereby authorized to levy a tax, as above provided, for the purpose of equipping and maintaining the same.

### RESERVOIR FOR ALBION

The following report is furnished by H. E. Hallstead, publicity man, Albion fire department:

At a special meeting of the Albion Fire Department, at the call of Chief Lester Martin, in the City Hall, the company listened to the needs of water supply and storage as seen by

Mayor Poynter, and unanimously endorsed the plans of building the reservoir on the Flannigan hill one and one-quarter miles south of the city.

That the present water supply and storage room are entirely inadequate and daily taxed to their capacity, is not disputed by those who have information on the subject, and the fact remains that some action must be taken to properly supply the city with water and as protection against calamity by fire.

There seems to be two plans to submit to the citizens of the city of Albion in reference to added water equipment. One, that a stand pipe holding 164,000 gallons of water be erected immediately north of the present tank, and directly over the entrance to the mains that led from the former old wooden tank which was displaced by the present steel tank; the other, to sink a cement reservoir holding 250,000 gallons, on the hill near the Flannigan farm, south of the city. The department disapproved of the first plan for these reasons: First, and most important, that a solid foundation could never be had, due to the fact that there is too much sand there, and that it would be but a short time until the pipe would need attention and expense in reconstructing a solid foundation. Men who helped carry the burden of keeping the old wooden tank from collapsing state that it was necessary several times to go up there with jacks and blocking and reinforced the foundation. They were told that at one time during the history of the wooden tank the mains leading to the city were entirely exposed due to the fact that the sand in the earth constantly caved away and thus weakened the foundation and exposed the mains. Should the people of Albion choose to erect a tank there in preference to the reservoir, it would be but a short time until the same would need attention. With increased pressure and the nature of the soil there it would be a matter of a year or so until the tank would begin to show signs of decadence. In the opinion of the Department as a whole, it seemed unwise for the people of Albion to put their money into this first proposition which from several angles seems unsubstantial.

However, the Department endorsed fully the other plan, viz., to erect a cement reservoir on the hill south of the city. The Mayor gave an estimate of the cost of constructing a 250,000 gallon storage. He states the reservoir itself would cost approximately \$5400 and the furnishing and laying of the mains a little larger sum. These facts remain: the city would be supplied with water for all time, and the unsightly pipe would be hidden.

Under the present system the property of the entire city is in jeopardy.

### SAVED PRINTING OFFICE

A town without a newspaper is like a bird without a wing. The town of Franklin came near being without its newspaper on May 22, when the Progress office caught on fire. The editor of the paper said: A little blaze and a lot of smoke in the Progress office about 3 o'clock last Friday morning was responsible for calling out the fire department and fifty or sixty other anxious citizens at that unseemly hour. The fire had gained no headway and the fighters soon put the fire's to it with extinguishers without resorting to the use of the hose.

We are unable to state positively how the fire originated, but it is presumed that spontaneous combustion or heat from the gasoline engine (which had been shut down less than an hour when the fire was discovered) fired some combustible matter and waste near the engine. Mrs. Barker was awakened by a cracking sound, and the smell of burning rags was unmistakable in our sleeping apartments contiguous to the office. So dense and stifling was the smoke in the office that it was impossible to breathe it and the deadly fumes extinguished a lighted lamp. Access to the telephone for the purpose of turning in an alarm could only be gained by breaking in a front window. The door, which was fastened on the inside, could not be opened until another window was broken in. The broken lights, a small hole burned in the floor and some well rusted machinery caused by the action of the chemicals constituted the entire damages.

The prompt response of the fire department saved the building and plant from destruction, and to the loyal and efficient firemen we are indebted and deeply grateful. There is a labor of love, and while we are sensible of the fact that empty thanks in no wise compensates them for their invaluable and most excellent services a few words of commendation, it is hoped, will convey to them the realization that their efforts are appreciated and highly pleasing. Gentlemen of the Franklin Fire Department, we thank you.

# Land Sale

I will sell the old Ben Curtis Ranch consisting of

## 1000 Acres of Land

and located 22 miles south of Hemingford, Nebraska, and 30 miles north of Scottsbluff, Nebraska, at auction, on

Tuesday, June 23, '14

This land is all of excellent quality and very light rolling. It is under a 3-wire fence and cross fenced and upon the place are two full sets of improvements and two wells.

For particulars, address either of the undersigned.

## J. W. Cameron

Scottsbluff, Nebraska  
 WRIGHT & LEWIS, AUCTIONEERS, Scottsbluff, Neb.

# BOWERY DANCE

at the  
**GADSBY HALL**

Given by the  
**Traveling Men**  
 Post M., T. P. A.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday,  
 June 18, 19, 20

Music by Fort Robinson Military Orchestra

Everybody Come  
 10 Cents Each Dance  
 Come Early for a Good Time

# 2500

The Alliance Herald has a guaranteed circulation of 2500 copies per issue, the largest in western Nebraska. Alliance and surrounding territory are covered more thoroughly than by any other two newspapers combined.

## Advertisers

should place their advertising where it has the circulation that reaches the people. If you want your money to bring you results see that your next ad is placed in

## The Alliance Herald

Published every Thursday. In order to insure insertion copy for display advertising should reach the office not later than Wednesday. Phone 340 and our advertising man will call on you.