

FIRST MEETING FRIDAY NIGHT

Enthusiastic Bunch of Business Men
Attended First Smoker at City
Hall Last Week

Although the attendance was rather small, the bunch of boosters who met at the Commercial Club smoker at the city hall Friday evening was enthusiastic and every one present expressed himself as being glad he attended. The meeting was of a "get together" nature and was presided over by President Guthrie. A letter was read from Attorney J. L. McIntosh, of Sidney, expressing his regret at not being able to be present.

Secretary Fisher presented his report for the months of August and September. Before making the report he told of the encouragements and discouragements. He stated that dues amounting to \$2,024.30 had been collected since May 1. He told of the large amount of publicity being secured for Alliance, of the cooperation given by the Burlington railroad officials, of the fact that the club is now starting on its second lap and that the course pursued and results accomplished in the next few months depends upon the members. Mr. Fisher's report was as follows:

Report for August and September

Secured the District Lutheran convention which will be held in Alliance in November.

Secured the County Sunday School convention for next year.

Furnished autos to entertain the delegates attending the District Epworth League Convention.

Was instrumental in securing the new curb ordinance and since its passage by the Council over twenty blocks have been signed to install this uniform curbing.

The cluster lights will be extended one block north on Box Butte, the secretary securing the required signatures for same.

Gave \$150 towards paying the expenses of the Agriculture exhibit for Box Butte County at the State Fair.

Issued twenty thousand pamphlets advertising Box Butte county at a cost of \$371, and no subscriptions papers were passed around.

The council has received estimates of a 500,000 gallon reservoir. This proposition was indorsed by the directors and a petition was circulated by the secretary.

Entertained the District Retailers Convention, it being one of the most successful meetings ever held in this district.

Held the first free Labor Day picnic ever held in Alliance. 3,500 people enjoyed this entertainment and we have received numerous compliments regarding this picnic both from our citizens and farmer friends. The Commercial Club paid from the treasury the entire expenses, except part of the prizes which were donated by our businessmen.

Have made a request of Postmaster Tash to install a mail box in front of the post office or else keep the post office open in the evenings, and Mr. Tash promised the Committee to remedy this matter at once.

Entertained President Miller and Vice President Holden of the Burlington when they stopped off for a few hours in our city, and we express our sympathy to Mr. Miller's family and to the Burlington for the loss of such a splendid man as Mr. Miller.

For the first time in the history of our city a large sign telling of the advantages of Alliance to the hundreds of people who pass through our city has been placed on the viaduct by the consent of Supt. Young, and already we have received numerous inquiries from strangers regarding the possibilities of our city. We are now working on a wholesale grocery and the boosting spirit which our citizens have shown was the means of attracting this concern's attention to Alliance. The sign was erected at a cost of \$75.00, and no subscription papers were passed around.

Held one of the most successful Dollar Day sales ever given, the merchants furnishing free matinee tickets with each dollar purchase.

Have arranged for a big dairy meeting with the State Agriculture College to be held this month.

Held the first Postal Card Day ever held in the western part of Nebraska and over three thousand postal cards and Box Butte county pamphlets were mailed by our citizens.

Distributed 3000 pamphlets at the State Fair, thus putting land seekers in direct touch with our country.

We have arranged with some of our land owners to furnish for a period of three years farms free providing the people accepting this proposition pay the taxes and make their own improvements. Already we have received numerous letters from farmers who are looking for just such a proposition and next

month a large number of people will be here from Missouri expecting to make their homes here.

Have opened a Traffic Bureau and already we have saved our shippers money and we have presented claims to the railroad company which when adjusted will be a big saving to our merchants. We have the latest tariffs and classifications and urge every member to make use of this department.

The city council endorsed our proposition of hiring an experienced landscape artist to draw the proper working plans for our park grounds which have been lying idle for three years and already work has been started to make these grounds fit for the purpose bought for.

Alliance had the pleasure of entertaining the Northwest Conference of the Methodist church, it being the most successful convention ever held in this part of the country.

Entertained the Crawford boosters when they made a visit to our city, and they were more than pleased with the reception given them by our citizens. President Hungerford said: "Alliance treated us royally; they are the live wires of western Nebraska, and Alliance gave us the most cordial reception on our trip."

Box Butte County secured first prize at the state fair on Manitoba millet from western Nebraska, second on collective exhibit on alfalfa, and third on flax, and we had to compete against the irrigation district in this contest.

Alliance merchants had the first co-operative style show ever given in Nebraska, and already several magazines of note have written articles on this novel affair. It shows that Alliance merchants have awakened to the fact that "In Union there is strength."

A special committee appointed by the directors met with the county commissioners to consider the irrigation project and as a result the county has agreed to help in this work and to furnish part of the money. Mr. Newberry has very kindly consented to furnish all the material free for the experiments.

At the expense of nearly eighty dollars the advertising committee has placed an exhibit case in the Burlington depot and over one thousand people view this agriculture display every day. This is the first exhibit ever placed in our depot and shows one of the little things that can be done by organization.

Arranged for a farmers' institute October 29. It has been four years since Alliance has had a farmers' institute which shows that Box Butte county needs just such an organization as her Commercial Club to look after the interests of all concerned.

Sent an agriculture display to Chicago which has been placed on exhibition by the Burlington in their exhibit room across the street from the Union depot. This is the first exhibit ever sent to Chicago from our county, and it goes to show that our Commercial Club is recognized by the best people on earth.

Arranged for a monthly meeting at the city hall for the members, thus giving them an opportunity to make suggestions and to offer their help.

Found employment for seventy people in August and thirty-eight in September, a total of one hundred and eight for the two months.

Three of the so-called grafters have applied for letters of endorsement during these two months, all of which have been refused. One of them showed subscriptions from one of our neighboring towns amounting to over \$400, and he left Alliance with just \$7.80 and he secured this from people outside of the club. This case shows it was a saving to our merchants of not less than \$50.

At the suggestion of the civic committee the city council has hired a man at a cost of \$1.00 per day to gather up the loose papers on our main street and to empty the waste cans.

During these two months the directors have met nine times and there have been eleven committee meetings to consider the different lines of work.

During August and September the Omaha Trade Exhibit published 830 lines or 4130 words telling what our club is doing and the Lincoln Trade Review published during the same time 735 lines or 3515 words, most of which was furnished from our office.

The Alliance News printed during the same period of time 988 lines or a total of 5,408 words of the work of our club. The Herald, 1,782 lines, or a total of 10,932 words, and the Times 3,065 lines, or a total of 18,390 words. All of this has been good advertising for our city and the club, and papers not only in our state but throughout the west have copied articles which have appeared in the above papers.

Club Creates Interest
President Guthrie read a number of letters showing the work being done and interest created by the club.

Prof. Clements on "Agriculture"
Prof. S. L. Clements, of the Alliance High school, instructor in the agricultural course department, made a talk that was both interesting and instructive. His subject was, "Agriculture in Our High Schools." He told of the work being done in the Alliance High school, of the agricultural course established under the Shumway act last year.

"The course is not to make farmers out of the boys," said Prof. Clements. "It is to arouse interest in the things on the farm. He told of the location of the five acres of ground used by the Alliance school, one-quarter mile north of the High school building, leased from Fred Mollring. He said, "Each boy has a small plot of ground for his own use. I would like to keep the class busy all summer." Prof. Clements said that Milo maize was green and growing this year after the other crops were dry. He stated that they want samples of seed for next spring. The class will test seed corn, wheat, rye, etc., in the laboratory free of charge for the farmers. A special study is to be made of potatoes next year. There are sixty boys and girls in this department this term. The course is not compulsory.

A. T. Lunn on "Freight Rates"

A. T. Lunn, of the Newberry Hardware Company, spoke on "Freight Rates." Messrs. A. T. Lunn, L. H. Highland and Glen Miller are the Commercial Club committee on this question. Mr. Lunn told what the recent reductions in Nebraska freight rates, made by the Nebraska State Railway Commission, had done and the difference it made in the prices of certain commodities. He read a letter from the Burlington regarding a change in certain rates to Alliance. The following figures, given by him, are interesting:

Old and new rates, from Chicago to Crawford, per 100 pounds:

Old	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
New	2.00	1.72	1.37	1.09	.90
	1.83	1.51	1.13	.84	.68

New rates from Chicago to Alliance:

Old	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
New	1.81	1.58	1.25	.97	.81

The following rates, established by the Nebraska State Railway Commission on September 5, from Omaha to Alliance, are as follows:

Old	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
New	1.01	.93	.80	.65	.54
	.95	.81	.65	.49	.39

Mr. Lunn stated that the Commercial clubs of Sioux City, Iowa, St. Joseph and Kansas City, Mo., had protested to the interstate commerce commission against the new rates.

Other Speakers

G. A. Gregory, inspector for normal training schools in Nebraska, was introduced and made a speech that brought applause. He stated that he liked Alliance, that he liked the "get together" spirit here. That he had seen the exhibit of Box Butte county at the State Fair and thought it the best. That Alliance has one of the finest school systems in the state and its corps of teachers the best.

State Representative Earl D. Mallory told of the work in securing the appropriation for agricultural courses in the Nebraska schools; of the work done by Prof. Condra in taking films of Nebraska scenes to be used at the Panama-Pacific exposition next year. Mr. Mallory will use his influence in getting Mr. Condra to take pictures of Alliance and surrounding territory.

F. M. Broome of Alliance, democratic candidate for state representative, was introduced and he in turn introduced Ray Lyons, of Gordon, republican candidate for state representative. Mr. Lyons made a good talk and was followed by Mr. Broome who urged that the work of the Commercial Club officers receive the support of the members.

Rev. Seel of Alliance made a talk on the subject of the "get-together" meeting. He urged that business men cultivate this spirit of good fellowship. He spoke of church work in Alliance and urged that business men make it their business to attend church and take an interest in seeing that the churches succeed as well as other lines of endeavor in the city.

Mayor A. D. Rodgers made a short and interesting talk, telling of what is being done by the city council. Suggestions and short talks were made by J. P. Hazard, George Darling, E. T. Kibbie, A. T. Lunn, Lloyd Thomas emphasized the need of better attendance at Commercial Club meetings and told a short story to bring out the point that evoked much laughter.

Secretary Fisher stated that the government has provided funds for farm demonstrators for only a certain number of counties in the state and how that Box Butte county would have to get busy at once to get in. He told of the cost of a demonstrator and of the benefits that would come to the county.

The meeting voted to hold a farmer's banquet on the night of October 29, at 6 o'clock. This is the date of the Farmers' Institute. President Guthrie was instructed to appoint a committee to make proper arrangements for the banquet.

The question of a Junior Commercial Club was talked over. A boys' banquet will be given about November 15, and the boys' club organized at that time.

If you should find a farm without some chickens you would think that there was something wrong with the farmer. Yet most of us have never thought when we have seen a Farmers' Institute without poultry lecturers that there was something the matter with the Institute. There are probably few subjects that interest all the farmers more than the subject of poultry. Not only does it interest the farmers but the town people as well. The State Department of Agriculture Extension has secured the services of V. E. Shirely of Central City, Nebraska, and he will be present at the Farmers' Institute to be held in this city. All the people in the community should take advantage of this opportunity of learning something new about this subject.



Reference: Live Stock National Bank of South Omaha, Nebraska

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