

Mayor Romig Makes Report

Good Showing Made by City Administration During First Six Months of the Municipal Year

SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

At the meeting of the council held Tuesday evening at the city hall Mayor Romig presented a report to the council showing the record of the city administration for the first six months of the present municipal year. This report was as follows:

Semi-Annual Report

Alliance, Nebr., Oct. 11, 1915. To the Honorable City Council of Alliance, Nebraska:

I herewith submit to you a report for the past six months showing the financial, health and general condition of Alliance. The city is bonded to the sum of \$141,000, which is divided in the following bonds:

\$75,000 water bonds, this being two issues, one \$55,000 and the other of \$20,000; sewer bonds, \$35,000; park bonds, \$5,000; light bonds, \$20,000; City Hall bonds, \$6,000.

During the past year we have retired \$5,000 worth of these bonds. No more bonds will be retired this year, but we hope to retire at least \$10,000 or \$15,000 worth of these bonds in the year 1916.

The report of the City Treasurer will show that there are \$11,289.43 worth of outstanding registered warrants. The taxes for the year 1915 are now registered in the County Treasurer's office and we should within the next six months call in approximately the entire amount.

During the past six months we have transferred from the light and water fund \$5,000 to apply to the general and street and alley fund. I would recommend the Council that in the future instead of transferring from the light fund to the general fund, that the amount of unregistered warrants be sold to the light and water department at 5 per cent rate. This should take care of all the outstanding warrants that we would have to register from time to time, besides saving the city 2 per cent on

these registered warrants, which the banks collect 7 per cent on. This would be handled very easily and it would appear to me like a good business proposition, as the money would thereby be left in the City's hands.

The report of the light and water department for the six months ending September 15, 1915, shows the net earnings of the light plant: \$14,267.43 gross earnings, and \$1,035.33 receipts from merchandise. Disbursements of the operating department show in the six months \$9,341.66 and the purchase of merchandise being \$872.17, making the total receipts \$15,302.76, disbursements \$10,213.93, making a gross gain of \$5,088.83. These figures compare quite favorably with the figures that were handed to the City Council for the six months prior to April 1, 1915. At that time we made a 33-1-3 reduction in the light rate, and I advocated at the time that the additional consumers made thru this reduction would offset the 33-1-3 per cent. In addition to that the light report would show that the six months ending May 15, 1915, were what we consider light months in the light department. The light department for the six months beginning Sept. 15, 1915, should show an increase of approximately \$7,000 or \$8,000.

Condition of power plant is very good. There is nothing new to be added. However, I would recommend to the council that in the spring a general overhauling of the street wiring system be made, thereby saving approximately from 4,000 to 5,000 kilowatt of electricity per month. The renewal of these wires should be made at the first opportunity in the spring, as I find the insulation on a number of these has been worn badly and in order to avoid any accidents this work should begin the first thing in the spring.

A report for the water department for the six months ending September 15, 1915, shows expenditures of \$3,457.17 with \$655.65 worth of merchandise purchased. Total expense of the water department is \$4,112.82, total receipts, \$4,112.82, showing a deficiency of \$64.89. This is due to the fact that no record is kept in the water department office of the amount of water used for the maintenance of the sewer department, street sprinkling, city hall and power plant. Were these items included in the department and the proper charges made I can see no reason why the water department should not pay a good dividend. The report that I am handing you does not include the quarter ending September 15, which would show approximately \$3,000 additional for the water department.

About thirty days ago the City Council saw fit to take over the cemetery proposition and I find upon ex-

amining the records that there is a balance due to the city upon the sale of lots of \$894. I have instructed the city treasurer to notify the owners of these lots and ask that they make some arrangements for the payment of the same. It is not the intention of the council to make any improvements in the cemetery this fall. However, up to this date we have graded a five-foot furrow around the outside edge of the cemetery in order that the ground may be broken in suitable condition for the planting of trees in the spring. Later on I will give you a report showing what improvements should be made upon the cemetery beginning in the spring.

In regard to the general health condition of the city from April 1 to September 30, 1915: The city has been free from contagious diseases of all kinds with the exception of a few cases of measles and two or three cases of typhoid. However, these diseases were not contracted in the city of Alliance.

The disposition of the garbage has received considerable attention by this council for the past six months and it becomes necessary for this council to derive some way or means in which to take care of and dispose of the garbage collected by the city and hauled to the dumping grounds. At the present time I am negotiating with a firm in Minneapolis, Minn., to construct a plant in Alliance for the burning of all garbage. The cost of a plant of this kind should not exceed \$3,000 to \$4,000. By building this we would eliminate the complaints that we are receiving from the condition of the dumping grounds and the general health conditions surrounding that district.

During the past year we have had considerable success with alfalfa on the city farm and I made a contract whereby the alfalfa was to be cut and the city receive one-half and the man who did the work to receive one-half of the alfalfa. The sale of this alfalfa should bring to the city approximately \$200 above all expense, and for the maintenance of the city farm.

A great deal of grading, building of crossings, lowering and raising of crossings has been done by the city during the past six months. Our records will show that twelve new cement crossings have been constructed, six stone crossings, and twelve alley crossings. In addition, twenty-nine crossings were raised or lowered. Up to date the following described blocks have been graded and are to be established grade or very nearly so: Box Butte avenue, from 4th to 10th; Laramie avenue from 2nd to 10th; Cheyenne avenue from 3rd to 10th; Big Horn avenue from 4th to 9th; Touca avenue from 4th to 7th; Emerson avenue from 5th to 7th; 3rd street to Yellowstone avenue (when grading is complete); 4th street from Yellowstone avenue to Emerson avenue; 5th street from Sweetwater avenue to Emerson avenue; 6th street from Niobrara avenue to Emerson avenue; 7th street

from Niobrara avenue to Emerson avenue; 8th street from Box Butte avenue to Emerson avenue; 9th street from Cheyenne avenue to Box Butte avenue; 10th street from Box Butte avenue to Emerson avenue, making a total of seventy-six blocks that are now on established grade. The heaviest part of the grading is now completed, with the exceptions of a few blocks in the northeast part of the city. I would recommend that Missouri avenue be graded from 6th street to 8th street; approximately 2,800 yards of ground should be removed. Also that 7th and 8th streets from Yellowstone to alleys and Missouri avenue be lowered and that 2nd street should be curbed and guttered from Cheyenne avenue to the east side of Missouri avenue, which would require very little grading, about a six-inch cut on Box Butte avenue, and about a one-foot cut at the outer section of 2nd and Yellowstone (I am negotiating for a right of way between 7th and 8th streets and Yellowstone and Sweetwater avenues), and a cement culvert put in the crossing on 7th street. The waste dirt from Missouri avenue will put 6th street to grade, also greatly improve 7th street and Missouri avenue between 5th and 6th streets. 3rd street should also be guttered from the center of the block west of Laramie avenue to the east side of Yellowstone avenue; 3rd street on the north side from center of block west of Laramie to east side of Yellowstone avenue. I would strongly advocate that Box Butte avenue be guttered from 1st street to 10th street. Part of this work is now built. Our drainage on this street is not of the very best, owing to the heavy traffic. It would also greatly improve the looks of the street as well as take care of all the mud holes which accumulate in unpaved streets, where heavy traffic is being made. I would also recommend that the parking on the north side of the James Armour place be put to grade and the trees lowered. This should be done this fall, before the ground freezes, in order to save the trees and give him a chance to put in his retaining wall and improve his place, which he agreed to do if the city would do the same as they did to the property just south of his place. It would be approximately 300 yards of dirt to move.

During the past six months we have installed in the improvement districts numbers 1, 2, 3 and 16, 16,425 linear feet of curbing and 4,016 linear feet of curbing and guttering. The street and alley guttering crossings, 1,140 linear feet, making a total cost of \$8,863.17. Of this amount \$3,148.07 should be charged to cement guttering, which would leave \$5,715.10 taxable against property where the curbing was done. The putting in of this curbing and cement guttering has greatly improved the looks of these streets as well as taking care of the drainage.

The report of the police department shows that the cost of maintaining the police department for the

six months past ending September 30 was \$1,539.37. The cost of boarding prisoners for the same period was \$409.50. The cost of maintaining the post house was \$22.80. The report of the police department will also show that during the six months past ending September 30, 1915, there were 203 arrests, \$630.30 in fines collected, and 96 prisoners worked their fines out on the street. I find further that the police department as far as the police court is concerned is practically self-sustaining.

The condition of the fire department will show that there were ten fires for the period ending September 30. Eighty per cent of these were extinguished by the use of chemicals. The equipment is in first-class condition. The cost of maintaining the fire department including the cost of the driver was \$458.70.

The records on the street grading will show that it cost the city approximately \$15 per day for the use of a grader and men to operate it. I would strongly recommend that the city purchase a gasoline tractor engine to be used in grading our streets. This engine can be purchased for about \$400 or \$500, and the saving should pay for the machine within the next year or two. We have considerable grading to do yet, and with this engine the greater part of the grading could be done by the city without leaving the grading to contract. I would also recommend that steps be taken to build a service building at the rear of the city hall for use of the repair department of the light and water department as for the keeping of material and tools for the street commissioner. This work is now being done in the city hall, and it surely makes a bad appearance in that building to have a repair department in it. We have sufficient brick to build this building and the cost of it should be taken from the light and water department funds, as it will be used exclusively by the light and water department.

PENROSE E. ROMIG, Mayor.

"SOME" TURNIP

Weights 17 1/2 Pounds, and Circumference Is 35 Inches

Sure—you've seen lots of large turnips—but did you ever see one that weighed 17 1/2 pounds and measured 35 inches in circumference? You haven't seen more than one or two of them, anyway. But whether you have or haven't, there is one that comes up to these specifications on display in E. T. Kibble's office, and it's not imported, either—grown right here in western Nebraska, a short distance northeast of Alliance. Up and down the turnip measures nearly eight inches. Mr. Kibble says it is the largest he ever saw, as does everyone else who sees it. When a turnip grows twelve inches in diameter it is almost getting its full growth, and all will admit that turnips seldom get their full growth. The man who raised this specimen brought it to town Monday, and he

says that he did not go all over the garden to find the largest one—he just pulled the first one he came to, and he's got more like it.

A MAJESTIC DEMONSTRATION

Will Be Held by Rhein-Rousey Co., Next Week

From the 18th to the 23rd, there will be held at the store of Rhein-Rousey company a demonstration of the Majestic range, which is one of the best on the market. On those dates a set of kitchen ware will be given free to all purchasers of Majestic ranges, and there will be contests that will interest children. A prize of \$1 will be given to the boy or girl who turns in the best answer to the questions that appear in the large advertisement in this issue, and there will be other suitable rewards for those who do not win the capital prize. These demonstrations are very instructive, as every detail of the method of construction of the stove is explained and it is told how to get the best results with them.

Only four blocks to the Court House, five blocks to the Drake hotel, five blocks to the Bank corner, five blocks to the Opera House, four blocks to the City Hall, seven blocks to the Burlington Depot, only one block to the Fair Grounds—Beautiful Fairview Addition, to be thrown open to the public at 10 a. m., Wednesday, October 20th. Fairview will grow rapidly in popularity as Alliance grows in population. Watch Alliance grow—you can't keep Alliance down.

COMB SAGE TEA IN HAIR TO DARKEN IT

Grandma kept her locks dark, glossy, thick with a mixture of Sage Tea and Sulphur.

The old-time mixture of Sage Tea and Sulphur for darkening gray, streaked and faded hair is grandmother's treatment, and folks are again using it to keep their hair a good, even color, which is quite sensible, as we are living in an age when a youthful appearance is of the greatest advantage.

Nowadays, though, we don't have the troublesome task of gathering the sage and the musky mixing at home. All drug stores sell the ready-to-use product called "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Hair Remedy" for about 50 cents a bottle. It is very popular because nobody can discover it has been applied. Simply moisten your comb or a soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning the gray hair disappears, but what delights the ladies with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur is that, besides beautifully darkening the hair after a few applications, it also produces that soft lustrous appearance of abundance which is so attractive; besides, prevents dandruff, scalp and falling hair.

RHEUMATISM ARRESTED

Many people suffer the tortures of lame muscles and stiffened joints because of impurities in the blood, and each succeeding attack seems more acute until rheumatism has invaded the whole system.

To arrest rheumatism it is quite as important to improve your general health as to purify your blood, and the cod liver oil in Scott's Emulsion is nature's great blood-maker, while its medicinal nourishment strengthens the organs to expel the impurities and rebuild your strength.

Scott's Emulsion is helping thousands every day who could not find other relief. Refuse the alcoholic substitutes.

WAR HORSES WANTED!

We have a new order for a big lot of French war horses and will hold our next inspection at Alliance, Nebraska

October 14 to 16

The following prices will be paid for accepted horses:

Cavalry - \$115.00 Light Gunners - 135.00
Heavy Artillery - 157.50

Watch this paper for later inspection dates. Write or wire at our expense for any information wanted.

Mitchell, Hilliker & Simpson, Alliance, Nebr.