

The Alliance Herald

Twice a Week—Tuesday and Friday

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CITIZENS ARE LAYING IN A COAL SUPPLY

TAKING NO CHANCES OF ANOTHER SHORTAGE

City Has Plenty of Fuel on Hand—Fuel Distribution a Monumental Task

To coal strike and his duties as fuel administrator have evidently taught City Manager Smith the secret of getting a sufficient supply of coal. There are now between four and five hundred tons in the bins down at the city's power house, all that can safely be stored there, to tell the truth.

The supply has been ample since the day the strike was declared off, the city manager says. The city had a whole lot of coal orders, and deliveries have been made promptly. In fact, enough back ordered stuff came in so that it became possible to slip a few carloads to the potash factories out of the excess. Some cars ordered by the fuel administration have been turned over to the dealers.

No further difficulty is anticipated in Alliance. The schools are well supplied, and are getting as much put in the bins as they will hold, so that when school takes up after the holidays, there will be no particular danger of a shutdown for a while, even if the miners should walk out again.

Local dealers have been able to make deliveries almost at the normal rate since the ban was lifted. There is no longer a 1,000-pound limit for purchasers, and indications are that people are now taking the advice the dealers handed them earlier in the summer—and are stocking up against a possible shortage before winter ends. The lesson seems to have been well learned, and the chances are that there will be fewer coal bins unfilled when next winter happens along.

Although the city is out of the coal business, there is an immense amount of work still to be done. During the time of the strike, the city was allowed so many cars of coal, and a good many of them were originally consigned to other places. It's some pretty tangle that has resulted—but as fast as the consignors are located, checks are being mailed. The freight has largely been paid on these cars, but the coal itself has to be paid for.

The average citizen has little idea of the immensity of the task that the city officials have been up against during the past few weeks. Distributing coal in small lots, the number of deliveries ran well up into the thousands, and it will be some time before all of these records are completed. Some of the cars had been partially emptied of coal by people living in the towns along the road, in some instances the shortage amounting to several tons. Sooner or later the whole thing will be checked up and the city will know just how much money, if any, has been netted during the time it was in business. Prices were set at the same level as the dealers charged, and though the city was able to make some saving in handling, other items, such as delivery, cost more. During a large part of the time the weather delayed distribution, but the wages of the drivers went right on.

CHRIS. EHINGER TO LEAVE ALLIANCE

Chris Ehinger, who has for the past two years been manager of the men's furnishings department at the W. R. Harper department store, will leave Friday evening of this week for Chicago, where he has accepted a position with a wholesale firm. Mr. Ehinger has been assigned to western territory and will in all probability have an opportunity to meet his Alliance friends every once in a while, and he has made a large number of them during his stay in the city. He had not planned to take up his new work until the fifteenth of the coming month, but received a wire the first of the week requesting him to hurry up matters if possible.

C. M. Looney, field superintendent of the Wyoming-Northeastern Oil company, came down from Edgemont Friday, returning there Sunday evening.

Rex Roberts, well known automobile salesman, was in the city the first of the week.

P. J. Michael, A. M. Miller and F. W. Melick of Hemlingford came down Saturday evening to attend the meeting of the directors of the Wyoming-Northeastern Oil company.

POURING CEMENT FOR NEW GARAGE

Bright and early this morning, workmen engaged on the new Lowry & Henry garage began pouring cement for the ground floor. They have been busy the past few days, in fact, since the weather permitted, in getting the huge forms ready for the concrete.

The supervising architect states that it will probably take three days at least to get the floor finished. Some twenty-five or thirty workmen are working on the job, and there is an immense amount of mud that must go through the mixer and be pushed in wheelbarrows where it is needed.

Precautions have been taken against the concrete freezing by means of running a pipe line all through the floor. A big threshing engine has been secured, and as soon as the men started mixing the concrete, the engineer began keeping up the steam. It will be necessary to have some steam up until the floor sets, in order to guard against damage to the floor.

The work is expected to proceed rapidly providing the weather permits operations to continue.

HARRIS SUGGESTS COMMISSION FORM

Council Passes Ordinance Relating to Curb Line on Box Butte—Praise for Reed.

At an adjourned meeting of the city council, held at the city hall Monday evening, two ordinances relating to the curb line in the various Box Butte paving districts were passed. Ordinance No. 271 lines up the curb from First to Tenth street, paving district, No. 3, including Box Butte from Sixth to Tenth, will have a parked space in the center, and according to the original ordinance, this part of the street would have been wider than the rest. As amended, it provides for an eighteen-foot parking in the center, and a twenty-five foot roadway on either side.

The second ordinance, No. 272, amends the city's general curb ordinance and established a uniform width for Box Butte avenue, making the curb line thirty-four feet from the center of the street on either side.

As The Herald understands it, the two ordinances simply provide that the present curb line shall remain undisturbed. The plans for the paving, if carried out, would make the curb line vary along the avenue, and the council proceeded to fix things so the ornamental lights would continue to run in a straight line.

The resignation of Chief of Police Oscar Reed, to take effect January 1, 1920, was read. The council voted to accept the resignation. Incidentally, a resolution was introduced and passed by unanimous vote commending the chief for his faithful and efficient service. City Manager Smith said that it was his opinion that the sheriff's office had secured a valuable man, and said that he believed the city would not entirely lose his services, even if he were in the county's employ.

Councilman Harris introduced the subject of the commission form of government, which, he said, went properly with the city manager plan. There was some question as to whether cities of less than 5,000 population could adopt this form of government, the legislature of a year or two ago having placed this arbitrary limit. City Attorney Metz thought it possible that the last legislature might have taken steps to let down the bars, and will report on the matter at the next regular meeting. If feasible, it is possible that the council may submit the matter to a vote at the spring election, but if the old limit still holds, it is doubtful whether the new census returns will be in time to give the city an assured population of over 5,000.

The Alliance Volunteer fire department, through its secretary, communicated to the department the fact that it had elected Carl Rockey and Carl Anderson as truck drivers, and Ward W. Hall as fire chief.

It was unofficially reported that petitions are now in circulation which will result in the paving of Laramie and Cheyenne avenues. It is believed these petitions will be presented at the next meeting of the council.

There was an interesting discussion as to just how much effect the voluntary curtailment of light during the fuel shortage had, as shown by the monthly bills. Mrs. Kennedy

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Consider the Burrs as making their nicest bow to Herald readers and advertisers. We're lighting a candle on our Christmas tree for these new friends of ours, and we hope that this will be the merriest of Merry Christmases for all of you.

Thanks, folks. You've treated us mighty fine, and we appreciate it as only two strangers who have received a right royal welcome can appreciate it.

This is no season for thoughts of business cares to intrude. It's a time to eat, drink and be merry; to forget old enmities, renew old friendships and form new ones; to remember those less fortunate than you are; to do all those things that you've long wanted to do and haven't found time.

We hope all of you enjoy this Christmas as much as you did the one when you were seven years old; or the happiest Christmas you can remember.

Here's the way one of those Old Songs has it:

Fetch in the Yule Log; serve the Boar's Head up;
The Gate for Sorrow; Care makes way for Cheer;
That old Bird, Worry, gets the Hemlock Cup—
There'll be no Christmas for another Year!

old of a few instances where the cutting out of electric signs made a noticeable difference, but said that December was normally the month when the light consumption was heaviest, and if the bills run the same as other months, it would indicate a considerably lessened consumption.

An instance was mentioned by the city manager of where the city employes had discovered, in the Wilson rooming house, where someone had tampered with the electric wiring and cut out the meter on about half the lights in the building. This made a difference of some \$35 or \$40 a month to the city, Mr. Smith said. No one seems to know when or how it occurred, but the city authorities will take steps to investigate, and if the blame can be placed, someone will have a rather heavy bill to pay. The council and the city manager were quite certain that Mr. Wilson had nothing to do with the matter, and were also quite certain that the electrician who installed the wiring was blameless, but the investigation will be as thorough as the city authorities can make it.

FORMER ALLIANCE CITIZEN HONORED

A. J. Simonson Proclaimed Denver's Most Useful Citizen During the Past Year

A. J. Simonson, a prominent resident of Alliance about fifteen years ago, when, with his brother, W. J. Simpson, he conducted a wood and coal yard in this city, has been awarded the medal of honor awarded yearly by the Denver real estate exchange to the citizen who has given the greatest gift or accomplished the greatest good for the city within the year.

Mr. Simonson is well known by the older citizens of the city. The Post says:

The medal of honor awarded by the real estate exchange once a year to the citizen who has given the greatest gift or has accomplished the greatest good for the upbuilding of Denver, will go this year to A. J. Simonson, widely known real estate man and past president and director of the exchange.

A. J. Simonson is the author of a project to increase the water supply of Denver and to provide enormous water power and irrigation facilities for this community. His project con-

METHODIST CHURCH BUILDING SOLD

The Methodist church building was sold Monday morning to G. M. Burns for \$3,500, the church reserving the right to use the building until the new structure is completed.

Subscriptions toward the new edifice are coming in at a rapid rate. The building committee reports that \$40,000 was in sight, and within the past three days the sum total has reached that point. It is expected that the new building will be dedicated free of debt.

HOSPITAL NOTES

Miss Winifred King of Whitman was operated on at the hospital.

A son and a daughter of John Dougherty had their tonsils removed last week.

Miss Anna Lee Hill of Hyannis underwent a surgical operation at the hospital last week.

Mrs. J. Arner of Crawford is in the hospital for treatment.

James Byers of Morrill submitted to an operation at the hospital.

CHIEF REED HANDS IN RESIGNATION

Head of City's Police Department to Take Place as Deputy Sheriff January 1

Chief of Police Oscar Reed, who for several months past has been head of the Alliance police department, Monday tendered his resignation to City Manager C. C. Smith. The resignation was accepted at the adjourned meeting of the city council Monday evening.

Mr. Reed has accepted the position of deputy sheriff under Sheriff Miller, and will enter upon the duties of his new office the first of the year. With the resignation of C. C. Laing as deputy, Mr. Miller had appointed Charles Jeffers to fill the vacancy. It was discovered, after this appointment had been announced, that Jeffers was barred, being a brother-in-law of the sheriff. The nepotism law passed by the last legislature prohibits the appointment of certain relatives as deputies or office assistants, exception being made in all cases where the compensation is under \$800 per year.

In this case, there was no desire to evade the provisions of the law. It has, in the past, been exceedingly difficult to persuade desirable men to accept this appointment at the salary offered, even after the commissioners increased the compensation \$25 a month. Mr. Jeffers took the position intending to resign at the beginning of spring, and plans to take up his business where he left off.

In Oscar Reed, Sheriff Miller will secure a loyal assistant, with sufficient knowledge of the duties of the position to enable him to step right in, take off his coat and go to work.

No successor to Chief Reed has been selected as yet. The appointment is in the hands of Mayor Rodgers, who has until the first of the year to make his selection. A number of men have been suggested for the place, among them being Night Watches Taylor and Cox, and Charles Jeffers.

WALTER ARTIS LANDS IN THE COUNTY JAIL

On information received from Constable E. Immenhausen, of Lincoln, to the effect that a state warrant was held by him for the arrest of Walter Artis, colored, Deputy Sheriff Jeffers Monday afternoon took that gentleman into custody, and he is now being held awaiting arrival of the Lancaster county officer, who will take him back to the capital city to answer to a charge of failure to support his wife and children. Artis has been holding down the position of third cook at the Alliance hotel. The Lincoln authorities were wired Monday evening to come ahead and get him.

F. A. Bald and family left this noon for Aurora, Neb., to spend the holidays with relatives and friends. They will return about the first of January.

P. D. Roberts of Alliance has returned from an extended hunting and trapping trip in central Wyoming, in the Rocky Mountain district. Mr. Roberts made a big financial success of his trip. Four days' trapping netted him \$124.50 in hides. Among his catches were a gray wolf, coyotes and muskrats.

TWO WORKMEN ARE INJURED IN AN EXPLOSION

HOFFLAND POTASH PLANT IS SCENE OF ACCIDENT

One Man Suffers Cuts On Head and Another Burned About the Face and Eyes.

Messrs. O'Shea and Pogue, two workmen in the boiler room at the Hoffland potash plant, were seriously injured Sunday when one of the boilers exploded. Pogue was badly cut about the head and O'Shea was burned about the face and it was feared for some time that he would lose his sight.

The two men were brought to Alliance on No. 43 Sunday and rushed to the hospital, where they were taken care of by Dr. C. E. Hershman. Tuesday morning it was stated that both of them would recover.

WRESTLING MATCH WAS CALLED OFF

Steve Cannon, Feeling Under the Weather, Postpones Athletic Event to Jan. 14.

The wrestling match between Steve Cannon, local grappler, and Pete Buzokos, Pacific coast wrestler, has been postponed until January 14, it was announced today. The Imperial had advertised but one show for this evening, intending to let the match take the second period, but will play the regular two shows as usual.

The postponement was due to Steve Cannon, who has not been feeling as well as might be all week. He has been troubled with a sore throat and chest, and while he believed he could go on and stick it through, thought it unfair to his friends, who would be out to boost for him and bet on him, to go ahead unless he was in the best possible shape.

Buzokos, in the meantime, will go to Lincoln, where he is scheduled for a match with Adam Kruger. Alliance people will await the outcome of that match with considerable interest. Cannon's friends are confident that the local man will make a mighty good showing, and the postponement will occasion some disappointment to the wrestling fans.

SLEEPING CAR PORTER IS LODGED IN JAIL

You've all heard stories of sleeping car experiences—funny and otherwise. This particular one, which happened on the train between Kansas City and Billings, comes under the "otherwise," especially for the dusky porter who is now in jail at Lincoln.

Sunday night on sleeping car No. 25 when lights were out, an "ever" body was snoozing, the inmates were startled by decided S. O. S. calls. It proved to be a young woman who been robbed of a purse containing considerable money. A search followed but nothing developed until after a particularly close questioning of the porter, then said purse mysteriously came to light again.

It seems as if that ought to be enough for one night but after things had settled down again, the same lady once more brought the entire car to its elbows with another shade of shrieks. That same porter was persistent and had crawled into the berth occupied by the hoodooed miss. Needless to say he was removed, man-handled and turned over to the police at Lincoln. A number of the passengers and the lady have wired the mayor that they will appear on call.

CITY MANAGER BACK ON THE JOB

After being confined to his bed for the past three or four days, City Manager Smith is back at the city hall. He is looking a trifle the worse for wear, but is busy as the proverbial paperhanger gathering together the last few ends of the coal business and getting caught up with his other duties around the city hall.

Mr. Smith, during the cold weather last week, slipped on the ice and in catching himself twisted his back, one of his vertebrae slipping a cog. At the time he thought it only a sprain and kept right on with his duties, but a day or two later was forced to take to his bed and call a physician.