

The Alliance Herald

BURR PRINTING CO., Owners

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GEORGE L. BURR, JR., Editor
EDWIN M. BURR, Business Manager

Official newspaper of the City of Alliance; official newspaper of Box Butte County.

Owned and published by The Burr Printing Company, George L. Burr, Jr., President; Edwin M. Burr, Vice President.

The moving picture producers are raising a fund to fight state censorship. If all the censorship bills are as ridiculous as the one proposed for Nebraska, they'll have the support of the entire public.

Dean Dixon, the newly elected head of Alliance post of the American Legion, has an idea that appeals to us. He believes that a number of basketball teams can be organized in this city, as a starter for a regular series of athletic contests. The volunteer firemen, the Elks, the business men on the east side of Box Butte and the west side of the same street can be organized into teams, and when the basketball season closes a city baseball league can be formed. Alliance needs some friendly rivalry of this sort, and Mr. Dixon's suggestion should be acted upon without delay. The army offers a good floor for basketball contests, and there's no reason why they shouldn't be popular. Athletic contests make physical exercise attractive, and most of us need it.

About the richest thing that has come to light is the advice offered to country newspapers by one of the big editorial lights of the country, who thinks that he knows the situation. By all means, country newspapers should specialize on farm news, he insists, because farmers are the bone and sinew of the nation, and the country newspaper has its work cut out for it in supplying their needs. As a matter of fact, the average country editor wouldn't get to first base in trying to make his newspaper appeal to the farmers. The big farm weeklies can hand out more farm information for fifty cents a year than the country newspaper can for two dollars, and do it better. The country newspaper has a field, but it isn't connected principally with keeping the farmer informed about farming progress, and the fellow who is urging that more attention be paid to farm problems is articulating through his Stetson.

CONTROLLING THE HOME BREWER

Some means must be devised to deal with the home brewer, who not only manufactures his stomach-destroying beverage, but peddles it at a price so low that even youths may buy. It was to be expected that far-seeing men would prepare for the coming of prohibition by laying in large stocks of whisky to be retailed at a high price to those whose thirst could not be controlled. Alliance was fairly close to the Wyoming border, and that state was one of the last to feel the drouth. During the past year or more, most of the stuff offered for sale could be swallowed without more than the ordinary ill effects.

Unfortunately for the victims, the supply of regular whisky is now growing shorter—so much so that what is left commands a much higher price than the stuff that produces a similar effect and can be manufactured within a comparatively short time. The home brewer is coming into his own. The authorities in this county have, within the past three weeks, uncovered evidence of the existence of half a dozen home brewers. "White mule" has been found in quantities sufficient to justify the belief that there are stills within easy distance of this city.

Nine times out of ten, home made booch is stuff that kills, and the law cannot be too severe for the man who peddles it, whether he be the manufacturer or the agent. If the man who drinks it dies, the man who made it should be prosecuted for murder. The bootlegger is an undesirable citizen, but there should be no room in a community for the man who makes the stuff.

Alliance last week had another frightful example of the home brew evil, and it's time to call a halt. The curse of the whole traffic is that the average man, instead of feeling insulted when a bootlegger offers him the opportunity to buy, instead feels rather complimented that someone has had that much confidence in his integrity. A large proportion of the men who are howling for law enforcement, and openly condemning law enforcement officers for not curbing the illicit traffic couldn't be hired to go upon the stand and testify against the offenders, nor would they think of giving the officers the slightest aid in running them down.

GOOD MEN NEEDED

The city manager plan today is where it was two weeks ago—in the air. Mayor A. D. Rodgers has announced that he will take no steps to keep the plan from going into effect, provided he is given a legal opinion that the special election held January 4 was legal. City Attorney Metz has furnished such an opinion, and it is presumed that this, when supplemented by a letter from the attorney general, will satisfy the present city officials.

The friends of the plan, who have been given opinions by several of the city's attorneys, are apparently satisfied that the election will hold if taken into the courts. On the other hand, it is reported that several opponents of the new system have also secured legal opinion to the opposite effect, and it is probable that the matter will be taken to the courts for a decision, provided a move is made to put it into effect.

If there is any doubt of the legality of the election, the matter should be decided before the new plan goes into effect. There is far too much at stake to allow the city to go ahead with the selection of a new council and a city manager if at any time the disgruntled may take the matter into court if some action of the new officials displeases them. Unfortunately, the courts cannot be asked to express an opinion unless there is a contest.

Unless something happens to prevent, it now seems likely that a primary election will be called for the third Tuesday preceding the date of the regular spring election. Filings for the office of councilman must be made between February 2 and 12.

Those who desire the city manager plan to succeed, as well as those who are interested in good government, should see to it that good men file for the council. With the city manager plan, this is most essential. Men of high caliber are desired, and it should not be difficult to

persuade men to take the office under the new conditions. Under the city manager plan, the council should be composed of men to whom the salary of \$100 a year is no inducement. The voters should carefully weed out the others, even if they do manage to file petitions.

If it is desired to give the new plan a fair trial, begin now to urge that substantial business men and citizens be given a place on the new council. The Rotary club, the volunteer firemen and other organizations should take the initiative in getting out petitions. Good men can be drafted for service on the council. This has been done in Lincoln and other cities where the centralized form of municipal government has been given a trial, and it has been found that results are better where business men are selected to conduct a business administration.

WESTERN NEBRASKA DISCOVERED

The unexpected has happened. State Sheriff Hyers and a band of his deputies have appeared in western Nebraska. For months the Omaha and Lincoln newspapers have carried dispatches from cities and towns in this section of the state, telling of the prevalence of bootleggers and illicit booze, but the state sheriff has heretofore been content to work in Lincoln and Omaha and the towns near those cities. It's an encouraging sign when he comes out to the territory where his services are needed, and should fill the hearts of the friends of prohibition with gratitude and bring relief to the sorely distressed taxpayer, who heretofore has had the privilege of reading only of the expense of prohibition enforcement and has experienced none of the benefits.

Since he assumed the office, State Sheriff Hyers has been a mythical character to Western Nebraska. True, there have been stories in the daily press of automobiles held up and searched at the state boundary line, of Pullman passengers, men and women, subjected to insults and indignities, and of occasional raids in the metropolitan towns or the discovery of stills on farms near Lincoln and Omaha. This section of the state has remained undisturbed and its bootleggers unscourged. Now and then an agent of one state department or another has appeared mysteriously, wearing a star the size of the bottom of a tin dipper, and announcing to anyone who'd listen to him that he was out here to stop gambling, or curb bootlegging, when actually all he was interested in was drawing his salary and expense account. Federal agents have come to Alliance, and instead of hunting for violators of the law, waited quietly until the local authorities made an arrest, and then grabbed the prisoner as he was discharged from county court.

The state sheriff apparently means business, judging from his activities of the past two weeks. It may be that this sudden spurt of activity is due to the fact that the legislators have been slow to confirm Governor McKelvie's appointments. Far be it from us to suggest that the sheriff is making only a showing, when what is needed is a genuine cleanup. The arrest of fifty bootleggers in Omaha is but a drop in the bucket. The arrest of an equal number in any county in western Nebraska would mean law enforcement. The state sheriff and his deputies may go where they will, and there has been nothing to prevent them coming to western Nebraska for fully a year. Let us trust, now that they have an idea of the extent of the traffic here, that they'll stay until the job is done.

LET'S FORGET THE BONUS!

The American Legion is still keeping up the fight for a bonus for all ex-service men, despite the fact that the past year has seen the support of the members grow half-hearted. So far as the four-fold compensation plan is concerned, it is now little more than a forlorn hope, although the officers of the Legion are continuing the struggle, saying harsh things of the congressmen and senators who do not agree with them.

As an ex-service man and a member of the Legion, the editor of The Herald believes that he may, with propriety, have his say in the matter. And our opinion is that the Legion, in its fight for a bonus, is in danger of losing its immortal soul. Organizations can be no greater than their objects, and the present object of the Legion is not a worthy one. In the beginning, the plan was to secure justice for the wounded and the disabled, who were at the mercy of red tape and bureaucratic inefficiency. The moment that the organization began to attempt to get money for its members, it was weakened in its efforts to help the men who most needed help.

After a year, the condition of the wounded and disabled is but little better than it was at the beginning of the fight. A number of individual cases have been cared for, but thousands of them remain. Congress has not looked kindly upon the four-fold compensation plan, and because of the insistence upon the bonus, half the force of the fight for justice for the wounded has been lost.

Failing in the fight to make congress give the ex-service men something, the states have been approached. A number of them have given in and allowed the men who fought for them a few hundred dollars. Adequate compensation is impossible. There is hardly a soldier who could be really paid back what he lost during his service. A few hundred dollars is no compensation; a homestead would appeal to only a small proportion of them; a loan could be secured elsewhere by almost any worthy man upon a proper showing.

About the only claim the ex-service man has to recognition was the fact that he and his comrades have a large voting strength at the polls. The statesmen who have been won over to the bonus are largely politicians—men with axes to grind, who need votes. The public as a whole hasn't favored a bonus, and never will encourage a great increase to their tax burdens. Many citizens give them a mouth support, fearing they will be charged with lack of patriotism if they refuse.

There is now a bill in the Nebraska legislature providing for a state bonus for the service men. The state legion is not supporting it, having come to a realization of the men who are back of the measure and their reasons for pushing it. In Nebraska the non-partisan leaguers are believed to be sponsoring the bonus. They do not expect it to pass. It is doubtful if they will even support it, should the measure come to a vote. But—and here's here's the rub—if the bonus fails, this will make a splendid campaign cry two years from now.

Isn't it time that the Legion quit trying to bullyrag the nation and the states into giving them something they do not want to give? Isn't it time that the Legion ceased being attractive bait to politicians? Isn't it time to devote every ounce of energy in us to cutting the red tape and doing away with the inefficiency that allows our comrades to die without medical attention. The proper care of the wounded and disabled, it seems to us, is the next step, and the problem should be attacked with undivided attention. Let's indefinitely postpone the fight for a few hundred dollars' velvet for those of us who can go out and earn it with a whole lot less trouble, and still retain our self-respect.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Filed for record for week ending January 22, 1921.

Perry S. Mailey to Lena Mailey, lot 79, County Addition, \$3,500.00.

Lena Mailey to Perry S. Mailey, second and third 50 ft. x 130 ft. from northeast corner lot 8, block Y, Sheridan addition, \$3,500.00.

Chenia A. Newberry and wife to Charles W. Brennan, south half of lot 4, all lot 5, block 8, Alliance, \$1.00.

Patrick E. McKillip and wife to M. H. Huff and wife, east half section 23, all section 24-24-52, \$24,000.00.

Patrick E. McKillip and wife to M. H. Huff and wife, northeast quarter, east half of southeast quarter section 21, all section 22, north half of southwest quarter section 27-24-52, \$34,000.

Chas. C. Whitnack and wife to Lincoln State Bank, southeast quarter 17-25-48, \$5,600.00.

Jessie Nagelschneider and husband to the Congregational church of Hemingford, lots 5 and 6, block 33, Hemingford, \$1,000.00.

Thomas J. Beal and wife to M. Lopez, lot 2, block 5, Hills addition to Alliance, \$125.00.

J. W. Miller, sheriff to Thomas K. Gilshannon, lot 1, block 20, Box Butte addition to Alliance, \$543.36.

J. W. Miller, sheriff to Thomas K. Gilshannon, lot 2, Block 20, Box Butte addition to Alliance, \$483.63.

Ernest, the three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Gremel met with a painful accident late Friday afternoon by falling against an iron step at the Fourth Street market, fracturing the bridge of his nose.

Carl Hughes and family of Hemingford visited the Epler family Sunday.

LUCKY STRIKE

cigarette

It's toasted

The American Tobacco Co.

RADIUM THE NEW Scientific Surgeon CURES CANCER

Also Tumors, Bleeding from the Womb, Tuberculosis of the Skin, Birthmarks, Deforming Scars, Many Types of Ulcers, Etc.

WITHOUT THE USE OF THE KNIFE

Employed by the Specialists connected with the

HOT SPRINGS CLINIC

Hot Springs South Dakota

He's Got Money in the Bank

That sentence is pleasant to the ear and full of meaning. It suggests economy, thrift and ability.

We interest ourselves in the welfare of our depositors and promote their interests as we would our own, as our interests are mutual.

Dollars are good property to own; they are going up in price or growing in value fast now as we predicted. Keep your funds in this strong National Bank where they are both safe and ready in time of need.

We offer a broad, safe, accurate and helpful, up-to-date banking service.

Perhaps there is some way we may help you today.

The First National Bank

ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Presbyterian Church

BEGINNING JANUARY 26th

2 WEEKS 2

DR. R. W. TAYLOR, assistant secretary Home and Sabbath School Missions, Synod of Nebraska, will bring the message. Dr. Taylor has had large success in the pastorate. He is a thorough student of the Bible and a fine Gospel preacher.

Subjects for the Two Weeks

Wednesday, January 26—"Satan, His Person and Power."

Thursday, January 27—"Holiness."

Friday, January 28—"Almost Lost."

Saturday, January 29—

Sunday, January 30—A. M.: "The Gospel of God's Son."

Sunday, January 30—P. M.: "The Prayer of the Dying Thief."

Monday, January 31—"Sinful Greetings."

Tuesday, February 1—Afternoon: "Capital Crimes."

Evening: "The Former and Latter Rains."

Wednesday, February 2—Afternoon: (Meeting for Men Only)

Evening: "Three Remarkable Nights in Jacob's Life."

Thursday, February 3—Afternoon: "Christian Education."

Evening: "The Righteous Sustained."

Friday, February 4—"Belief or Unbelief."

Saturday, February 5—

Sunday, February 6—Morning: "Jesus, The Great Magnet."

Evening: "The Soul's Imperatives."

You Are Invited