

The Alliance Herald

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THE POLITICAL POT

From now on, the city campaign should get interesting. With just one week before election, friends of the candidates, and the candidates themselves, are beginning to show signs of life. Present prospects are that next Tuesday's vote will be one of the heaviest ever polled in the city.

As usual, there is conjecture as to where the various candidates will draw their support. Some of the guesses are fairly accurate, and others are ludicrous. Certain organizations in the city, such as the firemen, who have been known to do a little work on election day in the past, are credited in some quarters with having a slate that they will attempt to put through. In fact, one of the prettiest bits of political deduction that has been in Alliance for years has come up in connection with the firemen.

It is slyly suggested that the fire boys are behind their own candidate, Fred Hayes, the two ex-soldiers, O'Keefe and Bradbury and John Snyder. Then the suggestion is thrown out that the firemen succeeded in electing Mayor Rodgers two years ago. The inference is plain for those who have a mind to see. As a matter of fact, the firemen aren't nearly as ambitious as this, and about the best way to learn who the firemen are supporting is to ask one of them.

The election of R. M. Hampton and S. W. Thompson is practically conceded. The race will be between the next five or six men on the primary list. There is rather a pretty problem to be worked out by those who wish to serve their friends as to just whom to vote for. A complimentary vote to some candidate may be just the vote that will defeat their friends.

The city of Alliance will not lose, no matter which candidates are elected. The ten men who will make the final race are all the very best of material for the council. Some of them aren't as wealthy as others, but all of them are earnest and energetic, and will serve the city to the best of their ability in the time they have at their disposal.

A BLUE LAW DRIVE

Shed a tear for Chicago. The Windy City is to be the scene of a veritable "blue law" drive, to start April 3. Miss Anna A. Gordon, national president of the woman's christian temperance union, has made the announcement, according to Associated Press reports. Next week will be one of prayer for the success of the campaign, and Sunday, April 10, has been designated as anti-tobacco Sunday, when literature to be sent out to W. C. T. U. branches, churches, schools and colleges will be distributed.

Among violations of Sunday as a day of rest, it is said that four hundred thousand persons are now working on Sunday. Restrictions are to be sought on golfing, pleasure, automobile, baseball, moving pictures, theatres and dancing on the Sabbath.

It has been said that all the "blue law" agitation was a myth, perpetrated by the newspapers, the moving picture magnates and others who might in some way profit by the commercialized Sunday. We have been told that the Lord's day alliance has been horribly abused and accused of something that it had never intended. What worries us is the question of whether the woman's christian temperance union has also been misquoted. Or is the real truth that a certain class of citizens are seeking to impose on the rest of the country their own ideas of proper conduct on their one day of rest? We hate to be worked up over the matter if there is nothing to it, but somehow the announcement has an authentic sound.

ONE POPULAR DRIVE

In a land that has been sore beset by financial drives for every conceivable sort of a purpose, there are some who say emphatically that the citizens have risen in revolt and that no more can a drive for funds be successful. This may be true of some drives, but a financial campaign is scheduled for early April in Alliance that will go over with a rush. The city will rally to the support of the Boy Scouts and will cheerfully come across with the money needed to erect a permanent camp at Belmont for them.

No one will dispute that the boys are among the most valuable assets of the city. No one will dispute that the Boy Scout organization is one of the finest influences for right thinking and right living among boys that exists today. When the boys, backed by a number of business men, ask for a most reasonable sum of money to build a camp for themselves and all the boys that are to follow after them for the next ten years, there isn't a man in the city who will feel like refusing to contribute something.

The Boy Scouts are apostles of the outdoor life. They build up their members, mentally and physically. Their associations are the best possible. The Scout movement is one of the biggest things in the lives of Young America, and Alliance is going to give a free-hearted endorsement to their work.

THE BERGDOLL CASE

Would that Theodore Roosevelt were alive and in the president's chair for just three days. That would be about the length of time required to settle the Bergdoll matter for good and all by that most vigorous of executives. And if there is any matter that requires prompt and energetic action, the Bergdoll case is it.

This millionaire slacker, after evading the draft and being permitted to escape two or three times, has finally escaped to Germany. Two American soldiers, both of them with German names, proceeded to capture him. Bergdoll was released, the two soldiers were given six months' jail sentences by a German court martial and the American government has taken its own sweet time and plenty of red tape in regard to the incident.

The United States is still technically at war with Ger-

many. American soldiers are now in a German prison because they sought to protect the honor of their country. They would have been released within thirty-six hours, and a vigorous demand for Bergdoll's surrender would have been made to the German government in less time than that had this been in the administration of Roosevelt.

SAVINGS UNDER THE BODE BILL

How long has it been since we read the announcement by Phil Bross, the state's secretary of finance, that the code bill had already, during the present biennium, saved Nebraska thousands of dollars. True, at the time, it was pointed out that this money had been saved because more than was needed had been asked for, appropriated and not spent, and it was hinted that Mr. Bross was attempting to make political capital for Governor McKeivie's campaign.

Now, at the close of the biennium, which ends March 31, comes the announcement that a number of the state departments are close to the end of their resources, and a deficiency appropriation by the legislature may have to be made. Perhaps there may be a loophole for escape, but this is one of the things that it would be interesting to have explained.

THERE'LL BE A REFERENDUM

(Hamilton County Register)

Ugly rumors reach the Register that the lobbyists who have visited Lincoln to work for the proposed movie censorship have at least in certain instances been paid from state funds. If this can be demonstrated, and though there has been an attempt to conceal the records of the expenditures made in the welfare department, there will be a revelation of the true condition long before any referendum can be considered; but if it can be clearly demonstrated that such methods have been used to push a bill claimed to be in the interests of a higher morality, it will create such public sentiment against the promoters and beneficiaries of the measure that it would certainly be defeated before the people.

The promoters of the bill fought desperately against reference to the voters for determination, and in this, doubtless injured their cause, as it shows that they distrust the judgment of the people. It takes 40,000 voters or one-tenth of the total number to hold up the measure pending its submission, and if this large number is obtained it will show such dissatisfaction with the law as to incline a good many more people to regard it unfavorably than would have done so, had those who favored the bill not shown so much reluctance to having the people decide their own business, and evidently been so afraid of their decision.

With the advantages that the movies have for circulating petitions among their patrons there is no question regarding the fact that there will be a referendum. We think there is no question that enough petitioners will be secured to hold up the law until it can be submitted, which will be approximately two years. If neither the senate nor the governor come to the relief of the people against the principle of government by censors, there is little doubt that they will eventually come to their own relief, the more specifically if it is demonstrated that money from the public treasury has been spent to bring pressure to bear on the legislature to pass the measure.

If moral laws cannot be made without recourse to larceny of public funds, it were better to leave them unpassed, and we cannot imagine a much worse condition than to be under despotic dominion of those who in the name of the interests of children resort to this form of undue pressure to secure laws giving them lucrative positions. For the sake of everybody concerned we hope that this accusation will turn out to be unfounded though the extreme reluctance to show up what the money has been expended for and the strenuous denials of the amount of money that has been expended has aroused strong suspicion.

HIGH SCHOOL MORALS

(Philadelphia Public Ledger)

Educators in session at Atlantic City profess varying degrees of concern and alarm over the laxity of conduct and the low standard of ethics observable among high school pupils. Late hours, joyriding, sensational movies, powder, paint and rouge, scanty raiment, zoological dances, precocious sentimental attachments, scorn for the insipidities of home, a growing flippancy toward parents, a careless and cheapening demeanor with young men—all these things and many more come in for their share of the blame for what the teachers rightly regard as a condition justifying their concern.

If children were cherubim and seraphim, teachers and parents would not have to educate them. The children are the fallible offspring of mortals far from perfect. Saddled with the heredity and the constitution parentally bestowed, they learn not merely from books and from the precept of pedagogues, but from the environment of life at school and in the hours after school. There are parents who send their children to school in sheer thankfulness to be rid of the care of them—gladly shifting to the teacher the burden of parental responsibility. When the children of such parents are at home, a weak indulgence often undoes much of the good that the simple routine and the firm discipline of school have accomplished. There is nothing new in these plaints as to the graceless and mannerless children of the century. Each age bemoans a decadence from the generation left behind. A sure sign of growing old is the readiness to impress on anyone who will listen the fact that the world is very evil, the times are waxing late. Grand-ire is eager to drag aspiring youth aside and croak his pessimisms as to the coming days and his fond eulogies of the golden, golden age, and the giants there used to be.

High schools are better than they ever were. So are the high school children. If the rest of the country in the war had done as well as the high school children did, there would be nothing in our record to bring the blush of shame to the cheek of a patriotic American. Most high school pupils are shrewd enough to see that if they fail to improve their chance at school, they lose out in life's race, because of the fierce competition. That fact is enough to keep most of them straight and at work. To come in occasional contact with any group of children of the American school today is to be thrilled with a sense of the latent power for the future and race. The paramount misfortune of our imperfect educational system is that we usually crowd our school rooms with such mobs of undisciplined little people for our underpaid and overworked teachers to train that the thrill comes too rarely, because of the pressure and fatigue that sap the teacher's vitality and make it all she can do to keep going.

Girls may shut their eyes while being kissed, as a scientist avers, but you betcha they don't when it comes to selecting the engagement ring.—Richmond (Ind.) Item.

Panama has sent out sixty troops under a general. At that rate a corporal's guard would be a problem in decimal fractions.—Muncie (Ind.) Star.

If any woman had all the clothes she wanted, the rest of the women would have to go around in barrels.—Sugar City (Colo.) Gazette.

Sartorial art finds many forms of expression. Some men's idea of dressing for a party is to button the vest.—Providence Tribune.

Every man has days when his suspenders insist on getting twisted and his socks keep coming down.—Howard (Kans.) Courant.

While the savage red man lived in a wigwam he paid no rent. Why, then, was he savage?—Chicago Daily News.

The lure of the hose in the city drives men from the hoes in the country.—Gilmer (Tex.) Mirror.

There is one thing about being pro-American—there are no regrets.—Caldesac (Ida.) Enterprise.

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Pay \$1,000 down and pay the balance in one-fourth of your crop each year until the farm is your own.

If you are occupying a rented farm this year and you want to buy, we will rent you land and apply the rent on the purchase price.

These farms are all broke out ready for crop. Get in early as they will be all cropped this year.

Don't waste any more time. See us at once and get to work this year on your own farm.

The Nebraska Land Co.

J. C. McCORKLE, Manager
First National Bank Building
(Ground Floor)



It Was a Profitable Joke For Both of Them

Two girls were working in the same shop several years ago. The question of saving money came up one day, but these girls said they could not spare anything from their small earnings.

But just as a joke one of the girls said: "I dare you to start a savings account with me and see who can save the most"—so they started.

A few years later, one of these girls quit working at the shop to get married. She was surprised to find more than \$600 in the bank to her credit—a very welcome sum at such a time.

The other girl is still working and she continues her visits to the bank each week. Her account is well above \$2,000 now, and it is growing fast. Her interest money each year is more than her first year's savings amounted to.

Perhaps this story will suggest a plan that will work as well for you.

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