

Hon. Louis Buechsenstein.

Alliance's present mayor was born in Ottawa, Ill., September 2, 1861, and 14 years later went with his parents to Des Moines, Ia., where he remained until 1882, learning the cigar trade. He then went to St. Paul, and later to Stillwater, Minn., where he opened up a cigar factory. Stillwater was not congenial, and he returned to Illinois, then to Des Moines, finally returning to Ottawa, Ill., where for two years he was foreman of a cigar factory. Mr. Buechsenstein then located at Broken Bow, Neb., where he was employed in the factory of J. S. Balsch for eight months. Alliance had then developed into a division point for the B. & M., and he located here, where he opened a cigar factory. April 2, 1888, he made his first cigar in Alliance, being himself the whole force of the factory. Since then his business has greatly increased until today he is the employer of from five to seven men the year around, manufacturing as his most popular brands the "American Queen," "No. 5," "Push," "Hardstruggle," "Lou's Havana Seal" and other meritorious cigars. Mr. Buechsenstein has twice been elected alderman of Alliance and is its present mayor, being elected to that office last spring. Mr. Buechsenstein has been a most successful business man and his administration in municipal affairs has likewise proved beneficial to the taxpayers and good government of the city. It is not over-drawing the character of the man when we say that his strict integrity and fearless prosecution for law and order has given to Alliance a year of peace and prosperity. Fraternally, he is a K. of P., A. O. U. W., Modern Woodman, Highlander and Eagle. In 1890, at Ottawa, Ill., he was wed to Miss Kate Dralle, six children being the issue.

C. A. Snow.

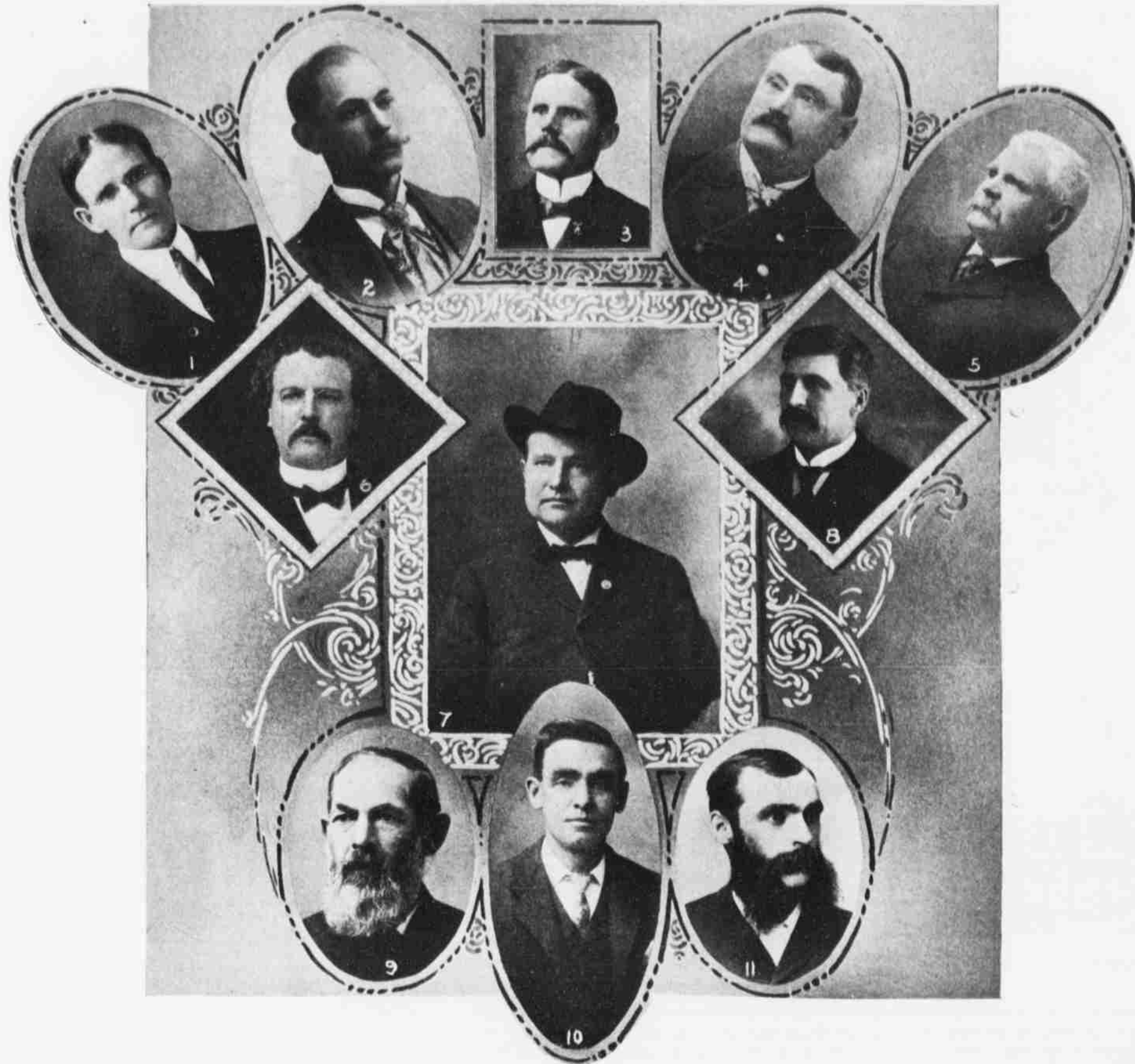
C. A. Snow, one of the popular councilmen of the Second ward, was gathered into the human family in the far off state of Vermont, and located in Hemingford with the family about 14 years ago. Soon after that he came to Alliance and went to work in the lumber establishment of Simonson Bros. He and his father took land about 29 miles east of Alliance and soon became owners of a good sized ranch, which they disposed of to the Simonson Bros. at good figures. He is now employed by the Forest Lumber company, and is one of the most trustworthy men that firm ever had.

Dr. F. M. Knight.

Early in 1886 Dr. F. M. Knight, having decided to give up the medical profession, engaged in the banking business in Nonpareil in partnership with F. M. Sands and H. C. Hasoff, but upon discovering that the Burlington Route would not put their road through that town, moved to this city and opened up the Bank of Alliance, which is now The Alliance National Bank. Dr. Knight has been president of this solid financial institution from the first, and is serving his fifth term as city treasurer. His close attention to business and fair treatment of his patrons has won for his bank a patronage which has kept it continually on a paying basis.

Judge James H. H. Hewitt.

Judge James H. H. Hewitt is a native of Nebraska, having first seen the light of day at Brownville, in 1862, where he resided until '83. Mr. Hewitt is a graduate of the state normal school as well as Hastings college. He was admitted to the bar in 1885. After spending several years as clerk in the United States Land offices at Bloomington and McCook he came to Box Butte county in '88, locating at Hemingford, where he practiced law. Upon receiving the appointment as clerk of the United States land office at Alliance, during President Harrison's administration, he moved to this city, where he has since resided. Mr. Hewitt was county judge and deputy county clerk for four years. He is at present clerk in the United States land office and was elected city clerk a year ago.



Officials of the City of Alliance.

1—Dr. L. W. Bowman, Councilman First Ward; 2—F. H. Mollring, Councilman Second Ward; 3—Dr. F. M. Knight, Treasurer; 4—M. A. Shay, Marshal; 5—L. F. Smith, Councilman Second Ward; 6—L. A. Berry, Police Judge; 7—Louis Buechsenstein, Mayor; 8—Al Wiker, Night Policeman; 9—A. F. Mollring, Water Commissioner; 10—C. A. Snow, Councilman Second Ward; 11—Jas. H. H. Hewitt, City Clerk.

M. A. Shay.

M. A. Shay, to whom is entrusted the peace of the city of Alliance and the safety of her inhabitants in public places, streets and byways, or in other words, the chief of police, first saw the light in Wisconsin in the year 1859. He moved to Boone county, Neb., in 1884, and to this county the following year, settling in Box Butte precinct. He was married to Miss Ellen Riley, at Nonpareil, in 1888, from which union two children, a boy and a girl, were born. Mr. Shay is one of the most trustworthy officials Alliance has ever had.

F. H. Mollring.

F. H. Mollring was born in 1862, and is one of the very few men of his age born in Nebraska and now residing in this portion of the state. He has been a member of the firm of Mollring Brothers for many years. He moved from Nebraska City, his birthplace, to Broken Bow, and a little later went to New Castle, Wyo., where for seven years he managed the large store his firm then owned there. He served the people of New Castle as mayor, and did so with dignity and uprightness. He came to Alliance in 1898, since which time he

moved to Iowa with his parents at the age of five years. In 1862 he enlisted in the 11th Regiment Iowa Volunteers, Infantry, in which he served three years. He came to Box Butte county in 1887, and to Alliance in 1889, and has been a resident of the city ever since, nearly all the time in the hotel business, and always well patronized.

A. F. Mollring.

A. F. Mollring, Alliance's efficient water commissioner, was born in Germany in the year 1830, and came to the United States in 1844. Eleven

Judge L. A. Berry.

Judge Berry was born in Syracuse, N. Y., May 15, 1853, where he studied and practiced law until 1893, when he came to Box Butte county for his health. He was a lightweight but to-day the judge tips the beam at 245 pounds. In Gilman, Ia., July 27, 1883, Mr. Berry was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Sparks, whom two children, both boys, were born.

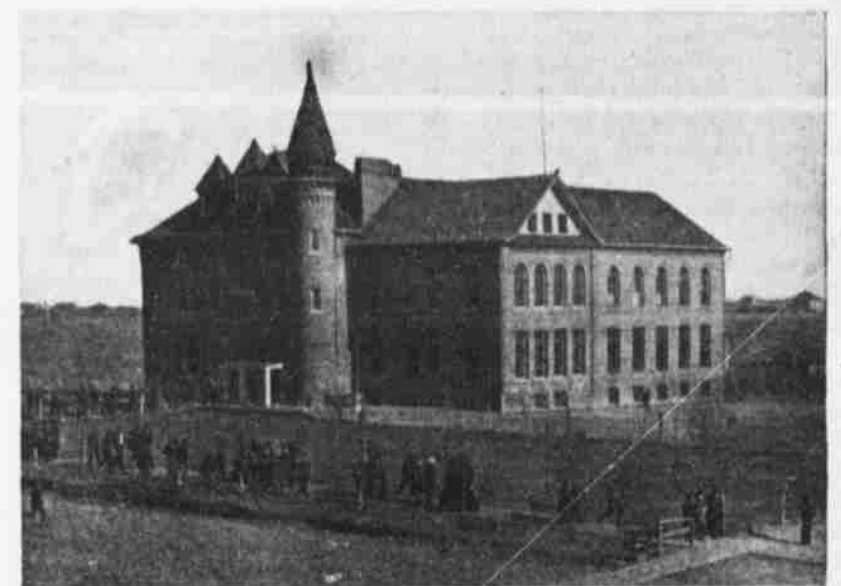
Alliance City Schools.

The number of teachers required in a system of schools is a very reliable index of the growth of the city. In 1891-2, C. C. Williamson as superintendent, and four or five teachers were employed. In 1892-3, six teachers were required. In 1894-5, seven teachers were employed. In 1895 there were eight; in '96-7, nine; '98-9, ten; in 1900, twelve; in 1901, fourteen; in 1902, sixteen; in 1903, eighteen. During this time the following were superintendents: C. Williamson, two years; W. R. Slider, four years; A. F. Baldrige, two years; W. H. Bartz, the present superintendent, when the term for which he was elected has expired, will have served five years. In 1895, the school census showed a school population of 506; in 1903, the school population was 912.

The first school building erected was a five-room edifice, which has grown into a fourteen-room High School building, in addition to which there is now in course of erection a fine commodious four-room ward building, costing, when completed and furnished, not less than \$11,500. Both these buildings are of brick and they once impress the visitor with the fact that Alliance is proud of her fine schools and takes pains to furnish first-class buildings for the education of her children.

The High School maintains a four-year course, comprising three years of Latin, three years of English, three semesters of algebra, three semesters of geometry, and one-half semester of trigonometry, one semester of chemistry, one semester of geology, one of botany, one of bookkeeping, two of physics, one of civics, two of general history, one of arithmetic. The laboratory for chemistry, physics and botany is pronounced by those who have visited all parts of the state as one of the most convenient and well-equipped for the size of the city in the state.

The total running expenses of the



Alliance High School Building.

school for the year ending July 1, 1903, was \$10,215. It is the constant endeavor of the Board of Education to secure the best talent available wide-awake, enthusiastic and competent instructors in its corps of teachers.

County Schools.

The school census of Box Butte county for 1903 shows a population of 1,662, more than one-half of which attend the public schools of Alliance. The county outside of Alliance is well supplied with educational institutions. The buildings are furnished with modern and up-to-date furniture and every school in the county is supplied with the uniform text-books recommended by the superintendent. The school matron of this county, in the matter of equipment for her chosen work, will compare favorably with her more favored sister in the eastern part of the state, and if Nebraska loses her position that she now holds as showing the lowest percentage of illiteracy of any state in the union it will not be the fault of Box Butte county.

Recognition of Merit.

In reply to an importunate contributor the editor of the new magazine writes:

"I regret to inform you of the death of the magazine which occurred Wednesday evening last, and to state that all amounts due former contributors will be devoted to the fund for its funeral; but it may be a consolation to you to know that you have been elected an honorary pallbearer."—Atlanta Constitution.

continued until the year 1885. In 1863 and 1864 he freighted a large amount of merchandise across the plains to Denver and other gold mining camps of Colorado, which brought him good returns. He retired from business in 1885, and moved to Alliance in 1901.

L. F. Smith.

L. F. Smith was born at New Berlin, Wis., November 19, 1854. He came west in 1893, and has been a resident of Alliance for 11 years, having been engaged in the livery business most of the time. Mr. Smith is serving his first term as councilman in the Second ward. In politics he is a republican and one of the most popular men in the county.



Teachers and Supply Teachers Alliance City Schools.

(Reading from left to right.)

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| Miss Kathryn Duffield. | Miss Mame Laraven. | Miss Susie Frazier. |
| H. R. Carson. | Miss Lena French. | Miss Fay Van Boskirk. |
| Miss Cora Combs. | Miss Lulu Duncan. | Mrs. F. M. Raymond. |
| Principal D. W. Hays. | Supt. W. H. Bartz. | Miss Allison Johnson. |
| Miss Mame Griffith. | Miss I. LaVerne McCorkle. | Miss Gertrude Warren. |
| Miss Pearl Bartz. | Miss Adda Post. | |

has made hosts of friends and very few, if any, enemies. He was elected a councilman of the First ward in the spring of 1903.

Al Wiker.

Al Wiker, whose duty it is to see that no disturbance is created within the city limits at night, was born at Lancaster, Pa., in December, 1847, and

years later he built a store-room and opened up business at what was then Fort Kearney, Nebraska Territory, and was one of the first men to enter the mercantile business in the interior of our now prosperous state. In 1856 he established himself in the general mercantile business at what is now Nebraska City, in which business he was very successful, and con-



New Emerson School in First Ward.