

# ALLIANCE HERALD

Published Every Thursday by  
The Herald Publishing Company.

T. J. O'KEEFE . . . . . Editor  
J. B. KNIEST . . . . . Associate Editor

Subscription, \$1.50 per year in advance.

Entered at the postoffice at Alliance, Nebraska, for transmission through the mails, as second-class matter.

If you forgot that it was April Fool day, you are growing old.

There is no indication of a scarcity of timber in the presidential preserves, so far.

The fishing season opened yesterday, but it is said that suckers were biting all winter.

Wanted, a bright young man who has education enough to read an electric light meter.

Omaha is going to have a corn show, but what will she do for "corn juice" if the state goes dry next week.

The press dispatches announce that 35,000 coal miners will quit work this month. Thank the Lord, spring is near.

No more push carts will be allowed on Omaha streets. Well, just so the water wagon is allowed to remain there's hope for the average Omahog.

It is said that 15,000 democrats greeted Bryan at Kansas City Monday night. Yes, and the rural district was not heard from either on this occasion.

The Denver Post announces in startling red-headed lines that Colorado is the greatest potato-raising state in the union. Go slow, about that Mr. Post, Nebraska will take a hand in that game too.

President Roosevelt announces a special session of congress to revise the tariff. If the special session receives no more attention than did needed legislation at the regular session, it is safe to predict that the money will be spent in vain and the tariff will not be revised in the least.

The republican press says that the police of Omaha and Council Bluffs are preparing to protect Secretary Taft on his arrival to these cities next week. Who ever heard of a police force being called out to protect W. J. Bryan from some imaginary danger? It's the old saying, "Conscience makes cowards of us all."

The Omaha Bee is worried to know why it is not just as proper for Tom Watson to make a second race for the presidency as well as Mr. Bryan's third attempt? Certainly, more than proper. Don't let that worry you, brethren. Worry over the grand man from our beloved state and you'll have enough to do till election day.

Two hundred and fifty thousand bituminous coal miners are out as a result of a disagreement over wages. Vice-President Lewis, who will succeed President John Mitchell to-day, said yesterday that he would make no move for several days. The differences are slight, and it is to be hoped that a settlement will soon be made.

The Lincoln Journal charges the Omaha Bee with malicious intent to steal away the proposed historical state building. Did you ever know of the Bee leaving anything that was not nailed down, Mr. Journal? Lincoln is entitled to everything of an antiquated nature and it is very unbecoming the sister city to show such discourtesy.

Reprinting from news items which it had published twenty years ago the Lincoln Journal on last Monday said that the democratic city convention listened to an address by a young attorney coming from Illinois, and that his address proved that he was to be a leader in city if not in state affairs of his party. The Journal's prophecy has been fulfilled; the young attorney's name is W. J. Bryan.

Chester Gillette, the murderer of his sweetheart, Grace Brown, near Big Moose, New York, in 1906, was electrocuted at the Auburn prison last Monday. Of course, like all such characters, when he found there was no further chance of escape, he confessed his guilt and said he was prepared to meet his God. We don't know just what the good Lord is going to do with such fellows as Gillette, who live a life of crime to the last and then suddenly get religion, but there's no doubt a surprise in store for the lad who goes that route, when he arrives at his final destination.

## POLICY OF INACTION.

Not a Single Public Measure Passed by Congress.

DOMINANT PARTY TO BLAME.

With Big Majorities in Both Houses Republicans Neglect Legislation. Hostile to President—A Foolish System of Sessions—Taft's Weakness Before the People—The Appeal of Labor—Two-thirds Rule Illogical.

By WILLIS J. ARBON.

The death of Senator William James Bryan of Florida marks what is perhaps the most extraordinary series of deaths in one United States senate known to recent years. Senators Morgan and Pettus of Alabama died within two months of each other. Senator Proctor of Vermont and Senator Mallory of Florida died very shortly thereafter. Senator William Pinkney Whyte of Maryland died only a few days ago. Now comes news of the death of Senator Bryan, who came as the appointed successor to Senator Mallory and who had barely taken his seat in the senate before the attack of typhoid fever which brought him to his end was incurred. His death is peculiarly pitiful because of his youth. He was the youngest senator of the United States, not yet thirty-two years of age. In his home state he had impressed himself upon the people as a man of force and ability. At the capitol he had not had any opportunity to make his mark. It was only on the 9th of January that he took his seat, and it was three weeks ago that he was sent to the hospital where he died. That Florida should be thus in one session of congress twice deprived of its representation in the senate seems a cruel stroke of fate. It is hardly likely that the governor will make an appointment to fill the seat in season to make the successor useful to the Democratic minority in the senate. However, as the Republican side of the senate possesses now a two-thirds majority, it is just as well that it should be permitted to accept complete responsibility for all legislation to be enacted this year.

The Date of Adjournment.

The indications are now that congress will adjourn about the 25th of May. The statesmen, and particularly those in the house of representatives, have matters of political and personal interest to attend to in their own districts. But so far the matters of public and national interest which they are supposed to attend to at the capitol have not been done. One-half of the first session of the Sixtieth congress is over, and not one single measure of a public nature has been passed by the two houses and sent to the president for his approval. This is not because of any factious opposition on the part of the minority party. There has been no filibustering nor even any attempt at it. The senate has its two-thirds Republican majority, the house a majority proportionately as great, but absolutely nothing so far has been done. It's true that this congress is hostile to the president. The distinguished Republicans there gathered are inclined to believe that he has too much of an inclination to dictate what the legislative branch of the government should do. Perhaps to that extent they are right, but it may at least be said that a president has the right to ask that congress shall do something. This congress has done nothing so far. Not even the committees have to the present time reported the really necessary measures. In the house of representatives there are 230 men, each of whom draws in salary and allowances practically \$10,000 a year. The salary and the allowances go on twelve months out of the year, but the average work does not amount to four months annually. A foolish system prescribed by law, which can be changed only by law, divides congress into short and long sessions. The short session is too short for any legislation; the long session always precedes either a congressional or a presidential election, and the politicians therefore avoid doing anything which might affect the result. That has been particularly true in the last eighteen months, when the last session of the Fifty-ninth congress went out in impotence, and the first session of the Sixtieth congress is half ended without any legislation for public purposes having been enacted.

The Anonymous Political Bureau.

One of the interesting features of politics in Washington during a presidential campaign is the anonymous news bureau. Both the Republican and the Democratic parties suffer from these concerns. I had an illustration of one the other day, when in a sealed envelope, bearing no return address, I received two pages of typewritten matter attacking the claims of Secretary Taft's manager, Mr. Frank Hitchcock. The writer of this matter did not sign his name. No newspaper man with any sense of responsibility would care to accept statements coming thus anonymously. For whom the writer may be arguing or working does not appear, but it is perfectly apparent that he is employed by somebody antagonistic to Taft. He asserts that the plan of the anti-Taft forces is to fight for delegations from now on, having allowed Taft to hold his conventions in states which were likely to be for him in any event. He also predicts that Delaware, Massachusetts, Tennessee and Nevada will within thirty days elect anti-Taft delegations and that in the end the anti-Taft forces will be within 140 votes of controlling

the convention on the first ballot, with "many soft spots" in the Taft legions that may be successfully attacked.

It would appear that the Republican party is likely to suffer in the same way that some undemocratic Democrats wish to make the Democratic party suffer. It is perfectly apparent to any observer of politics that a majority of the Republicans of the nation desire Secretary Taft's nomination—that is, a majority desires it if President Roosevelt himself shall remain out of the running. A combination of favorite sons, made only in order to defeat the secretary's nomination, is likely to have the effect of defeating whosoever they may finally unite on in the event that he himself shall not be nominated. That Taft would be a strong candidate before the people nobody in Washington except the administration circle believes. The hostility of organized labor and the bitterness of the negroes in the north against him will do more than is needed to overcome the strength that may be lent him by the Roosevelt and administration support.

Appeal of the Federation of Labor.

Heads of the affiliated unions in the Federation of Labor issued from Washington recently an appeal to the workmen of the country for united political action. They ask that candidates for the presidency, for congress or for other offices be requested to specifically declare their positions on such matters as the abuse of the power of injunction, the eight hour law, the employers' liability law and other legislation directly affecting working people. The appeal has been handled by many newspapers as though it indicated a purpose on the part of the Federation of Labor to organize a distinctly labor party. As a matter of fact it only expresses a purpose to take such action as is eminently proper for any such great organization to adopt. That a candidate for office, seeking the votes of workmen, should hesitate for a moment in answering questions as to policies that vitally affect the rights of laboring classes would unfit him for office. Here in the United States we have not developed as we really should have the methods of free debate in political campaigns that they have in England.

There are only a few men in our public life who invite questions from their auditors in a public meeting. The man who has most successfully adopted this method is Mayor Tom L. Johnson of Cleveland. A speech by Tom Johnson is an inspiration to any one who believes in a really frank discussion of public questions. Nothing delights him more than to abandon the platform for the middle aisle and ask any one who may be dissatisfied with his argument to question him frankly and to receive a frank response. I have watched him time and again in action and sincerely believe that his readiness to enter upon discussions of this sort is one of his greatest sources of strength in his campaigns.

Of course it may not always be necessary, particularly on the part of candidates for national office, to repeatedly answer the same questions. But I am unable to see why the Federation of Labor should not at the beginning of a campaign ask the aspirants for office for an explicit statement of their views on pertinent matters and then act accordingly.

The Two-thirds Rule.

In all probability an effort will be made at the next Democratic national convention to modify or to abrogate the two-thirds rule. This will not be attempted before the nomination, for no wise man would care to become a candidate before the Democratic voters with the record of having secured his nomination by overturning established Democratic practice, however unwise that practice may be. That it is unwise is coming now to be generally admitted. Democracy means the rule of the majority, and one more than half constitutes a majority. One more than half of the members of the committee on resolutions can send to the full convention the platform by which the party is to be guided, and a bare majority of the convention can adopt that platform. The insistence that two-thirds of the convention must unite in order to nominate a candidate is made illogical and ridiculous when the ability of a mere majority to fix its principles is borne in mind. Moreover, under the unit rule the vote of one man might determine how the seventy-eight votes of New York or the sixty-eight of Pennsylvania might be determined. Just now the two-thirds rule is being strenuously appealed to by a group of utterly undemocratic politicians who hope to utilize it, not for the nomination of any particular candidate, for they have none, but for the defeat of the one candidate whom the great majority of Democratic voters desire to see nominated. It is a practical denial of the principle of majority rule, which is a fundamental of Democracy.

Washington, D. C.

Beyond Control.

The courtroom has its fun as well as its tragedy. Sometimes the humor is not as appreciable to the principal actors as to an outsider, as in the case cited by the Philadelphia Ledger. The scene took place in a New Jersey court, where a case for slander was being tried. The principal witness was an impetuous old German woman. She talked so fast that the judge was unable to follow her testimony, especially as it was delivered in broken English. In vain he attempted to stop her.

"Stop, stop!" he cried, rapping sharply on his desk. But the torrent of words went on. "Old woman, hush up!" he shouted in exasperation. But it was useless. At last he threw down his pen exhausted and cried out to the lawyer:

"There, Mr. Hunter! You set her going; now stop her!"

## 250,000 MINERS LAID OFF

WORKERS FORCED OUT PENDING NEW CONTRACTS.

COAL FIELDS OF COUNTRY IDLE

Open Winter and Industrial Depression Left Large Stock of Coal on Hand—Agreement Expected in the Southwest.

Indianapolis, April 1.—Two hundred and fifty thousand picks dropped from the hands of as many bituminous coal miners of the United States last evening, not to be used again until a wage settlement has been reached and a scale adopted between the members of the United Mine Workers of America and the coal operators of the various fields. This morning 250,000 men are idle and thousands of coal mines of the country deserted. The situation, however, does not indicate a prolonged strike. An open winter and industrial depression have left a large stock of coal on hand and the differences between the miners and the operators are very slight. It is practically agreed that the present scale will be continued, but some local differences between operators and miners have resulted in temporary suspension from work until a new wage scale is agreed to either by districts or individual mines.

Agreement is Expected.

Kansas City, April 1.—That a shut-down of the coal mines of the southwest may be avoided by an agreement between the Southwestern Interstate Coal Operators' association and the Western mine workers was announced when James Elliott, president of the operators' association, stated that a meeting would be held with representatives of the miners. The time of the meeting has not been announced. At Richmond, Mo., 700 men quit work. At Topeka, Kan., the statement was made at the office of the labor commissioner that 10,000 Kansas miners quit work. At Bevier, Mo., 4,000 men quit work.

## ALLEGED SLAYER ARRESTED

William Carr Charged With Murder of Express Messenger Bailey.

Newton, Kan., April 1.—William T. Carr was arrested here, charged with the murder of Oscar A. Bailey, the express messenger who was killed in his car between Florence and Newton last Sunday, and the robbery of the express car. Carr was taken to Marion and lodged in jail, it being thought unsafe to keep him here on account of the feeling against him. A pair of blood bespattered trousers which Carr left at a local cleaner's led to his arrest. Following the arrest a search was made of the billiard hall in which Carr was employed. An overcoat spattered with blood was found, and in the pockets of this garment were many pieces of valuable jewelry. Representatives of the express company have identified this jewelry as having been taken from the express car. Carr was employed by the express company for three years, and was a fellow employee of Bailey.

## MOURNERS GO HEAVILY ARMED

Funeral of Charles Wyckliffe, Indian Outlaw, Held at Muskogee.

Muskogee, Okla., April 1.—The funeral of Charles Wyckliffe, the notorious Indian outlaw long sought by the authorities and who was shot and killed by his brother, Thomas, in a family quarrel, was held at the Wyckliffe home, twenty miles east of Pryor creek. Thomas and John Wyckliffe, brothers, attended the funeral, as did many friends of the family.

The three outlaws have been sought for three years by the Oklahoma officers for murders and other crimes, and their whereabouts were only learned when the murder of Charles became known. The mourners were heavily armed, but the officers made no attempt to interfere.

Finnish Senate to Resign.

Helsingfors, April 1.—In consequence of the vote of lack of confidence in it, the Finnish senate has decided to resign. This vote passed the diet by 71 to 47 and was the work of the socialists. They formally censured the Finnish administration for the delivery of Russian terrorists and political agitators to the Russian authorities.

Brewery Strike Settled.

St. Louis, April 1.—Representatives of twenty-four breweries in St. Louis and vicinity and of the brewery workers' unions signed new contracts, ending the strike of 3,500 brewery workers, which has been on for more than three weeks. It is planned to reinstate the strikers within a week.

Roads to Put Men to Work.

Chicago, April 1.—The Record-Herald says that in the next sixty days the railroads of the United States will have to find between 250,000 and 300,000 men to mend their tracks and roadbeds and another large army to go into their shops and repair their cars and their locomotives.

Flora Whiston Indicted for Perjury.

New York, April 1.—Flora Whiston, one of the girls who testified in the recent case against Raymond Hitchcock, the comedian, was indicted by a grand jury on a charge of perjury, alleged to have been committed in her testimony in the Hitchcock case.

## MINE FIRE IS FATAL

TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE IN NO. 1 SHAFT AT HANNA, WYO.

Nineteen Men in the Shaft Were Engaged in Fighting the Flames—Second Explosion Occurs and State Mine Inspector and Rescuers Perish.

Hanna, Wyo., March 30.—A carefully prepared list of the missing as a result of the two explosions in mine No. 1 of the Union Pacific Coal company contains fifty-eight names and of this number, five dead bodies have been recovered. Before further attempt at rescuing the dead can be made, the fire in the tenth level, which was the direct cause of the two explosions, must be extinguished. Work to this end consumed the entire day, efforts being directed especially to close the west slope, which, it is hoped, will eventually smother the raging flames.

The known dead are: Robert Warburton, Peter Munson, Alexander Tennant, Matt Huhtala, Benjamin Perry.

The missing are: Davis Elias, state mine inspector; Alexander Briggs, mine superintendent; Joseph Burton, Alfred Dodds, James Knox, Gus Ramble, P. A. Boyd, G. Lahti, John Yakonen, Emil Selfrust, Thomas Flint, John Evans, Robert Herron, Harry Lyons, Jacob Rimmer, William Pascoe, Richard Wilson, Frank Collins, Peter Travis, J. Dodds, Charles Hughes, Alfred Holliday, Samuel McCormick, L. Conty, John Norkoll, William Johnson, Albert Riley, Bert Fink, Grant Routt, F. Franti, Isaac Wilmore, Andrew Bircheral, Henry H. Bircheral, James M. Hoy, Andrew Hoy, Harry Foster, John Tate, James Smeaton, James Burns, A. Madden, Charles Harris, John Arthurs, Isaac Penn, John Cookson, William Joki, John Tuily, Chris Ferguson, Robert Armstrong, Samuel Cundy, Victor Cundy, Thomas Cundy, Samuel Jacobs.

Details of the Disaster.

It was while Superintendent Briggs and eighteen companions were fighting the fire at the tenth level that the first explosion of gas occurred. But one man is known to have escaped death was with this party. This was Charles Harris, colored. After going to his home to notify his family of his escape, Harris returned to the mine with the rescuing party organized by State Mine Inspector Elias to recover the bodies of the unfortunate who met death in the first explosion. Harris' name appears in the list resulting from the second explosion. According to the story of Campbell, who reached the entrance of the mine with the bodies of Warburton, Munson and Perry, killed in the first explosion, and thereby escaped death himself, Inspector Elias scattered the members of the rescue party through the entrance for a distance of 1,500 feet, removing wreckage and making temporary repairs of damage caused by the first explosion. The fire at the tenth level was raging furiously and Inspector Elias and several others with him discussed the wisdom of bratticing No. 8 entrance. It was decided that this would be suicidal, as the gas would be forced back into the fire at the tenth level and would probably cause an explosion more terrific and dreadful than the one which had already snuffed out the lives of nearly a score of their comrades. The party continued to work their way slowly toward the fire, abandoning the idea of closing No. 8 entrance way.

Second Explosion Occurs.

It is thought, however, that some of the stragglers in the rear, struck with the same idea of cutting off the spread of the gas by closing the entrance, immediately put the plan into effect, with the result as reasoned out by Inspector Elias and his immediate followers. Be that as it may, the second explosion occurred, and although it is known practically that fifty-eight persons met death in the two explosions, preparations are being made to care for more than this number of dead bodies should it become necessary. Already seventy coffins have been delivered here. The reason that no definite estimate can be made of the number in the mine when the second explosion occurred is that the rescue party was made up hurriedly and many who entered the mine went in after the hurriedly organized squad had been inside the mine several minutes.

It was not until daylight that the bodies of Alexander Tennant and Matt Huhtala were found and they were found lying on the prairie some distance from the east slope. Tennant's head and one arm was blown off, and Huhtala's body was horribly mangled also. Tennant's head has not been found yet. The dismembered arm was found quite a distance from where the rest of the body was picked up. This evidence of the terrific force of the second explosion makes certain that none can possibly have lived through it. That no one hesitated in responding to the call for volunteers in their rescue of their fellow workmen after the first explosion is shown in the fact that not a working official of the three mines of the Union Pacific Coal company in this camp or a miners' union official is left.

The disaster brings the number of victims of the explosions in No. 1 during the twenty years of its operation to the neighborhood of 300. The greatest previous loss of life occurred on June 30, 1903, when 169 men fell victims to deadly gas.

Milton to Succeed Senator Bryan.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 28.—Governor Broward appointed Hill Milton of Marlana to succeed the late Senator Bryan of Florida in the United States senate.

## Anti-Saloon League.

[Continued from Page 6]

Last Sunday at the Phelan opera house, Hon. J. L. McBrien, state superintendent of public instruction, delivered a very interesting, and in some respects, the most telling address that has been given in Alliance on the temperance question. Mr. McBrien is a man of fine oratorical ability, and from the great interest which his auditors gave it was evident that he drove his arguments home with convincing power. Among other things he said:

"THE SALOON MUST GO.

"Our fathers declared in the Declaration of Independence, the bravest political document ever given to the world, that whenever any form of government becomes destructive to the three inalienable rights of man—life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness—it becomes the right and the duty of the people to throw off such form of government and to institute new policies and guards for their future safety. The history of the saloon business is the history of a long train of abuses under which life has been taken, virtue seduced and happiness crucified.

"You have seven saloons in Alliance. Every saloon means ten steady drunkards. Seven saloons—seventy confirmed drunkards!

"Some ask: 'How about our schools if we vote out the saloons? We get \$700.00 for our public schools from each saloon—\$4900.00. How can we pay our teachers if we vote out the saloons?' My reply is that the increased assessment on the railroad terminals will be at least \$400,000.00. Take one-fifth of this, the amount on which you may levy the 25 mills, and you have \$2,000.00 of the \$4900.00. Then the increased values of all other taxable property will give at least \$2,000.00 more under the 25 mills levy. You will receive \$350.00 from the state under the act of the last legislature appropriating \$50,000.00 for normal training in the high schools of Nebraska. Then it is safe to say that under the new free high school law you will receive at least \$500.00 more tuition next year than you received from non-resident pupils this year. So you can abolish the saloon without any injury to your public schools.

"Let me call your attention to the schools in no license cities: Aurora has had no saloons for eight years. When she abolished the saloon she had a floating debt of nearly ten thousand dollars. Since that time she has paid the debt, increased salaries of her teachers and will lay the corner stone of a new \$45,000.00 high school building this week.

"York never had a saloon. It is the only city in the state with a five-year high school course of study. It pays its superintendent \$2,000.00, while Hastings, a license town with a half larger system of schools, pays its superintendent \$1,800.00.

"Now, if you people of Alliance expect a permanent state normal here in the near future, let me advise you to abolish the saloon this year and keep it out forever. You are entitled to a state normal in Northwestern Nebraska. In my opinion Alliance is the logical place for it. You have here this panhandle of the state, comprising the counties of Sioux, Dawes, Sheridan, Box Butte, Deuel, Scottsbluff, Banner, Cheyenne, Kimball, besides Grant, Thomas and Hooker in good railroad connection. A greater number of teachers is required in Alliance territory than for the entire state of Wyoming. Fathers and mothers are slow to send their daughters to a saloon town for an education. I have found it hard to secure full co-operation from neighboring counties in the work of the Junior Normal for the reason that Alliance is a saloon town. Therefore, from the standpoint of enlightened selfishness, if for no better reasons, you ought to vote the saloons out of Alliance."

Broken Bow, Nebr., March 30, 1908. To whom it may concern:

I desire to say that I have passed through experiences incident to the closing of the saloons in the village of Ansley and in this city and that I am well pleased with the results in a business way.

In both cases many of our best men, who did not indulge in the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage at all, or at most to a very small extent, were opposed to closing the saloons for the reason that they believed it would be injurious to their business; but now, after an actual experience of doing business for several years in a dry town, every one of these men, so far as I can recall, are strongly opposed to saloons in their towns and their opposition thereto is their honest belief that saloons are detrimental to the best business interests of their communities. This is very apparent from the increased vote against saloons from year to year. Respectfully, J. A. ARMOUR, Ex-County Judge of Custer County.