

**THE PAST AND THE PRESENT**

(Continued from page 1)

hence another election was held April 8, 1890. At this election Nonpareil was eliminated, but neither Hemingford nor Alliance received enough votes to secure the coveted prize. Accordingly it was voted upon again at the general election held November 3, 1890. Hemingford received the most of the country vote and 126 votes in Alliance, which made that town the county seat until the matter of re-locating was again taken up.

As an inducement to the voters to locate the county seat at Hemingford, the Lincoln Land Co. promised to donate a block of ground in the village of Hemingford for a court house square and construct a court house to cost not less than \$2,500, the same to be the property of the county as long as Hemingford continued to be the county seat. As a guarantee a deed for Block 36 and a certified check for \$5,000 were deposited with the county clerk, to be held in escrow. Within six months from the election, a two-story building, 46 by 52 feet, was completed, costing \$3,600.

After a few years the question of again re-locating the county seat came up. Alliance had grown until it had several times the population of Hemingford; drought and crop failures had reduced the population of the north part of the county. Hemingford people hoped for another railroad and wanted to hold the county seat until it came. Realizing that they would be out voted if the matter again came to an election, they made a strenuous fight to prevent an election being called. Two of the three county commissioners were favorable to Hemingford, and that gave it a considerable strategical advantage.

The first petition requesting a special election had only about thirty more names than were required by law. The attorney for Hemingford requested thirty days in which to file objections. The time was used in securing the withdrawal of signatures from the petition, which was done so successfully that a new petition was necessary to compel the calling of the election. This was done a second time, but when the third petition was presented it was too formidable and the funds of the opposition too low to continue the fight longer. A special election was ordered to be held October 11, 1898, which resulted by a decisive majority in Alliance being chosen as the county seat. In the regular course of procedure in such matters, the county records would have been moved from Hemingford to Alliance, January 1, 1899, but a temporary injunction delayed the removal until in March of that year.

The court house question came up before the county commissioners. Alliance had the county seat without a court house, and Hemingford had a court house but no county seat. By the reversionary clause in the deed given to Box Butte county, the court house and the block on which located at Hemingford again became the property of the Lincoln Land Co. The building was offered to the county for \$1,500, and six 25-foot lots (one-fourth of a block) in Alliance for \$400. The offer was accepted and steps taken to secure the removal of the building to this city. A neat piece of engineering was resorted to that proved successful and has since been given a good deal of publicity in other parts of the country.

E. W. Bell, employed by the Burlington railroad, had charge of the work. The statement is often made, and has been widely published, that the court house was moved from Hemingford to Alliance on two flat cars. This is not correct. It was moved on car trucks, but not on cars. Mr. Bell took several sets of new trucks that had never been used, sufficient to have equipped two cars. The building was moved onto the railroad track, where it was jacked up, girders were placed under it, so as to rest upon the trucks. Practically the house was made into a huge box car. The moving took place July 2 and 3, 1899, and within a month was ready to be occupied again. Meanwhile temporary quarters had been secured in the Phelan opera house block for the county offices.

A proposition to bond Box Butte county for \$75,000 to construct a new court house was voted upon at the general election in November, 1912. It carried by a small majority, but the election being contested, on a technicality it was admitted to be illegal. A special election to vote on a proposition to bond for \$60,000 was called for February 18, 1913. The proposition carried by a fair majority.

In endeavoring to "give credit to whom credit is due," too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the board of county commissioners, under



Miss Opal Russell, County Superintendent-elect

whose administration Box Butte county's magnificent new court house has been constructed, for their work in this connection. There is no politics in this; it is simply an unadorned statement of plain fact. A public recognition in print of this fact is due the three commissioners, and this is an opportune time to make it. From the time the bonds were offered for sale till the final settlement with the contractor's bondsmen, every step was taken with a view to getting the best value possible for every dollar of the county's money. They succeeded remarkably well. It is conceded by persons familiar with public buildings in Nebraska that Box Butte county has the best court house, in proportion to cost, in the state. Many times public buildings cost more than the same buildings would cost under private ownership, owing to graft or incompetency of those in charge; but in this instance the order has been reversed, the county receiving more for the money expended than would have ordinarily been secured under private construction. The new Box Butte county court house is a monument to the ability and integrity of the board of county commissioners and the superintendent of construction.

**Description of the Building**

The following description of the new court house is made up from a statement furnished by D. E. Bowden, superintendent of construction:

The building has a frontage of 85 feet on Box Butte avenue, with the ends, 65 feet in width, facing on Fifth and Sixth streets. It stands in the center of the block, north and south, with the rear on the alley line. It is expected that some time the county will secure the balance of the block, and for that reason the building was constructed as near the center of the block as possible on the ground now owned.

The foundation wall is concrete up to the grade line. The first story is built of Bedford stone and all columns and ornamentations of the same. The walls for the upper stories are built of a light gray pressed brick with a heavy ornamental terra cotta cornice. The floors are all made of reinforced concrete, the beams and columns of the same material, including the roof which has a cement finish, in addition to the composition of pitch, felt and gravel. All the floors in the lobby and the public spaces are laid with tile. The floors of all offices are finished with pedro pulp composition, the floor turning up six inches to form the base board, making all the floors strictly fire proof. The casing for the doors and windows are all highly polished red oak and the doors are quarter-sawn white oak. The entrance and lobbies are supplied with marble wainscoting. The stairs are all reinforced concrete with steel fascia on the balustrade.

The main entrance, opening from Box Butte avenue, is 14 1/2 x 20 1/2 feet. It has a tile floor and marble wainscoting. This passageway leads to the corridor on the first floor, in the center of which is the "Great Seal of the State of Nebraska," artistically constructed of tile mosaic.

The county court room is in the northwest corner of this floor, adjoining which is the county judge's office, having a vault for records. The county surveyor's office is in the northeast corner. It has a small private office in connection and a vault similar to that of the county judge's office. The assembly room is in the southeast corner, connected by large double doors with the county superintendent's office, east of it in the south end of the building. The ladies' rest room is in the southeast corner. The janitor's supply room and the men's toilet are on this floor.

In the northwest corner of the second floor is the county treasurer's office, equipped with steel counter and railing and modern steel furniture. The county clerk's office is in the southwest corner and is equipped similar to the county treasurer's office. Both county clerk's and county treasurer's offices are supplied with spacious vaults. The county commissioners' room is on the west side, between the offices of county clerk and county treasurer. The county assessor's office is in the southeast corner. In Nebraska counties of the population of Box Butte and less, the county clerk is ex-officio clerk of the district court, but a room in the northeast corner of this floor is reserved for the office of district clerk, when the time arrives that that office is separate from that of county clerk.

On the third floor are the district court room, the county attorney's office, the sheriff's office and the county jail.

**Attended the Dedication**

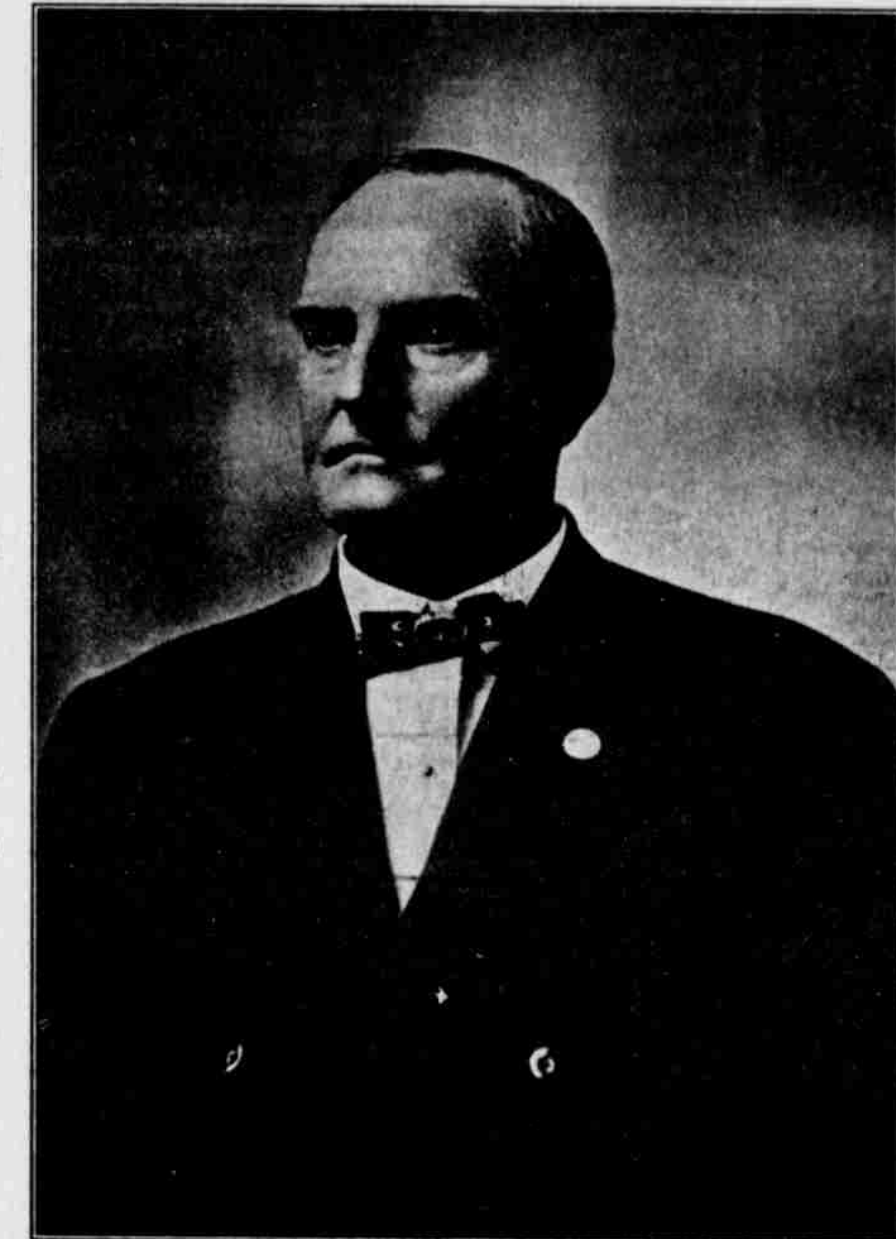
Among those who attended the dedication of the court house Monday afternoon, as shown by The Herald's register, kept in the lobby and

signed by those who came in, were the following, not including children:

**(From Alliance)**

- Prof. and Mrs. W. R. Pate
- Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Wilcox
- C. E. Simpson and wife
- Mrs. Wm. F. Hart
- Christina Fenning
- Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wood
- Alice Hamilton
- John J. Riordan
- Mrs. A. Renawold
- Tom Spencer and wife
- Katherine Hagerty
- Bessie Raley
- Mrs. Rolla Watson
- E. W. Ray
- H. M. Bullock
- Mrs. Wm. Bignell
- Mrs. Joe Bogan
- Josephine Hampton
- Lucille Nohe
- C. E. Gleason
- Arthur J. Wright
- Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Leonard
- Mr. and Mrs. I. E. Tash
- Mrs. S. H. Cole
- Leone Mallory
- Mrs. J. A. Mallory
- Sarah O'Keefe
- Agnes Newberry
- Mrs. W. B. Young
- Enoch Boyer
- I. E. Johnson
- Dick O'Bannon
- Mrs. A. A. Ralls
- Carl Woccript
- Helen Schott
- Edna Bowman
- Mrs. W. W. Johnson
- Mary Wilson
- Mrs. J. F. O'Brien
- J. H. Vaughan
- D. L. Bennett
- Mrs. O. Herbaugh
- Mrs. L. P. Dickinson
- Devona Dickinson
- Mrs. C. E. Slagle
- C. H. Nohe
- L. S. Campbell
- W. H. Swan
- Alta Young
- Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hunter
- L. H. Waddell
- Rev. and Mrs. O. S. Baker
- Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Schill
- H. E. Smith
- W. Redfield

- W. R. Harper
- Mrs. J. R. Lawrence
- J. S. Moscrip
- C. L. Hashman
- Geo. McCoy
- Lee Moore
- Mrs. J. M. Miller
- F. M. Roswell
- F. McCoy
- Mrs. Robert Graham
- Mrs. G. O. Smith
- Bessie Graham
- Mrs. F. Ryckman
- Mrs. C. T. Pigman
- Mrs. E. L. Knapp
- Mrs. Jerry Rowan
- Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Drake
- Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Brown
- H. S. Hawkins
- A. Thomas
- G. H. Wood
- Ira E. Tash
- Mr. and Mrs. John Sass
- T. D. Roberts
- Annie Kennedy
- Mrs. O. L. Harris
- G. W. Ragan
- Carl Buechsenstein
- L. R. Royzell
- W. D. Fisher
- C. Brinkman
- J. C. Howkes
- F. A. Trabert
- S. N. Murray
- W. O. Barnes
- Dr. Coppernoll
- Mrs. W. M. Wambaugh
- Dr. J. M. Willis
- Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Rodgers
- Wm. F. Trabert
- D. G. Zediker
- W. H. Cunningham
- Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Wright
- N. C. Pederson
- Mrs. E. E. Trabert
- John Parks
- Elma Parkes
- Fred H. Gilbert
- Archie Brown
- W. L. Hawkins
- Peter Berkel
- Hattie Renswold
- C. E. Willis
- John Fitzgerald
- W. E. Cutts
- M. P. Nason
- Charles S. Wilson
- M. H. Whaley
- C. A. Whaley



Hon. W. H. Westover, Judge of District Court

- Mrs. John Snyder
- Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Snyder
- Mrs. Ray Mark
- Eva Duncan
- Mabel Duncan
- Helen Smith
- C. A. Laing
- W. C. Mounts
- Charlotte Mollring
- Ruth Leonard
- W. A. McLean
- Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Duncan
- Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Burkholder
- Mrs. Frank Vaughn
- Mrs. E. Vaughn
- Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Fleming
- Mrs. W. A. Wiles
- Mrs. E. M. Sanborn
- J. W. Guthrie
- Agnes Kliest
- H. L. Carey
- Dr. H. H. Bellwood
- Mildred Campbell
- J. N. Johnston
- Mrs. O. S. Blair
- Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Barnes
- Mrs. Anna Chaffee
- J. O. Donovan
- Geo. W. Elliott
- Mrs. E. V. Reeves
- Walter Yount
- Mrs. Cuff
- Mrs. Edgar Benoit
- Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Keegan
- John Braman
- C. D. Rider
- G. W. Snyder
- W. C. Brown
- Mrs. N. C. Pederson
- Bertha Ashley
- Mildred Zurn
- Dorothy Smith
- Ben J. Sallows
- E. F. Gilman
- A. J. Cole
- J. E. Lawler
- R. W. Blaisdell
- W. S. Coker
- Mrs. Jennie Coker
- Rev. Titus Lang
- Warren Lotspeich
- J. J. Vance
- Joe Bogue

- Wm. A. Lunn
- John Schriener
- Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Lorance
- Mrs. Arthur Bomgardner
- Miss Edna Bomgardner
- Eunice Eldred
- James H. H. Hewett
- Mrs. Chas. H. Fuller
- J. B. Hunsicker
- F. M. Hayes
- L. D. Blair
- Minnie Blair
- Fred C. Robbins
- Lee Basye
- C. E. Clough
- R. M. Hampton
- Opal Russell
- Marian Grebe
- Della M. Reed
- Wm. Davidson
- G. G. Clark
- Wm. M. Hill
- Mrs. T. D. Roberts
- Anna Gutherlet
- J. C. Thomas
- John W. Thomas
- Lloyd Thomas
- P. M. Thomas
- Smith P. Tuttle
- Roy Trabert
- L. M. Kennedy
- H. H. Bennett
- B. V. Reeves
- S. A. Shepherd
- C. E. Shepherd
- F. Sheibler
- Wm. Weidler
- Geo. McAlpin
- Henry Hoptain
- W. G. Wilson
- Mrs. Wm. Davidson
- Mrs. L. Lowry
- Mrs. F. W. Buchman
- Aaron Pool
- P. H. Dillon
- Mrs. C. P. Wakeman
- H. E. Gantz
- Mrs. Ella Young
- Mrs. J. C. Miller
- Wm. Mitchell
- Ralph Harris
- E. M. Gregg
- E. I. Gregg



Lee Basye, County Attorney-elect



Miss Della M. Reed, County Supt.

- F. H. Nason
- A. J. Macey
- E. E. Trabert
- A. L. Donis
- E. B. Miller
- E. P. Looney
- W. R. Metz
- Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Purinton
- John O'Keefe
- C. W. Sisley
- O. L. Harris
- W. L. Patterson
- Elizabeth Janney
- Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Mote
- Wilma Mote
- Marian C. Mote
- George Vandervoort
- Vera Dunn
- Daniel Dunn
- Stella Moore
- Mrs. Ed Pool
- Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Leishman
- Fay Hembry
- Ethel Hembry
- Jas. H. Skinner
- Leida Cutts
- Frances A. Cutts
- Mrs. D. E. Purinton
- Mrs. A. H. Grove
- G. H. Hagaman
- John Ditsch
- George Ditsch
- Frank Buechsenstein
- B. G. Beckwith
- V. E. Hall
- P. T. Grove
- V. G. Fogle
- Tressa Vandervoort
- Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Fielding
- May Nation
- Henry Blume
- Nina E. Nation
- Eather Nation
- Minnie Ryan
- Mary Ryan
- Mrs. A. J. Cole
- Sam Latky
- J. W. Hashman
- Maggie Kieser
- Ralph T. Taktos
- H. E. Marvin
- Mrs. A. G. Wright
- Glen Miller
- Andy Walmer
- Jennie Blair
- John Wright
- Stanley Wright
- F. O. Rowe
- Geo. H. Miller
- S. C. Soules
- W. T. Schlupp
- Dorothy Bicknell
- Paul W. Thomas
- J. W. Miller
- F. W. Zobel
- Mrs. Chas. Boone
- Mrs. J. T. Boone
- Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Bell
- H. J. Young
- Mrs. F. R. Clayton
- Mrs. Moses Wright
- Mrs. H. U. Carpenter
- Mrs. F. M. Russell
- Mrs. Ben Russell
- Mrs. Enoch Boyer
- Mrs. Verity Reeder
- Mrs. Nellie Heath
- Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Rodgers
- C. I. Rodgers
- T. J. O'Keefe
- M. G. Wambaugh
- Mr. and Mrs. E. Boone
- W. H. Glass
- Nellie B. Cutts
- Mrs. A. H. Robbins
- P. J. Sturgeon
- J. C. Vaughan
- J. P. Hazard
- Mattie Workman
- Mrs. E. S. Martin
- Mrs. S. A. Smith
- Mrs. W. C. Mounts
- Arthur Grove
- A. H. Grove
- A. L. Mallery
- Ada Hashman
- Robert Mundt
- Sam Mundt
- M. F. Nolan
- Lyndell W. Lewis
- Rena Morcy
- Chester Hagan
- Mrs. H. A. Cunningham
- Mrs. F. M. Baker
- Mr. and Mrs. Archie Gregory
- S. O. Carr
- Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Acheson
- Barney Pitts
- E. E. Spencer
- M. J. Nolan
- Mrs. Dick O'Bannon
- Mrs. W. H. Archer
- J. Atz
- John W. Tynan
- Mrs. W. L. Vernon
- Mrs. J. G. Dole
- Mrs. H. Reimund
- Mrs. Eather Miller
- L. L. Kish
- C. J. Benjamin
- P. K. Moore
- F. B. Sweeney
- W. M. Wilson
- W. W. Norton
- Mrs. J. C. Wright
- J. H. Vance
- Verna Rodgers
- Mrs. R. E. Rodgers
- Mrs. O. E. Williams
- Mrs. Carl Witham
- A. T. Lunn
- Mrs. A. J. Macy
- Ruth Macy
- Helen Macy
- Mrs. W. J. Hamilton
- E. H. Boyd

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**SERVANTS OF THE PEOPLE**

(Continued from page 1)

elected three years ago, and was re-elected this year by a large majority over a popular former county commissioner. J. M. Wanek has represented the First district as county commissioner for nearly nine years. His present term of office does not expire for two years yet. His last re-election, which was in 1912, was without opposition. Sang C. Reek, retiring member from the Third district, has been county commissioner for seven years. It has been his ambition to assist, as a member of the board, in constructing a court house that would be a credit to the county and at an expense not greater than the value of the building. His ambition in this regard has been gratified. George W. Duncan, the incoming county commissioner from the Third district, is an old timer in Box Butte county. He held the office for many years, during the strifing times when county seat location and other important questions were up for settlement. The fact of his election last month by a large majority is proof of his popularity, although his reputation needs no such evidence. As a businessman as well as county official he has the confidence of his exceptionally large circle of acquaintances.

John Jelnek, county assessor, was elected to the office in November, 1911. His term of office would expire at the end of another year but for the change from annual to biennial elections, which will make the term five years instead of four. He made an exceptionally good record as assessor of Running Water precinct for many years, and it was upon the strength of this record that he was called by the voters to take the higher office of county assessor.

Last, but not least, in the list of county officers comes the county judge. L. A. Berry was elected to the office first in 1903. The voters of the county have not held him to the rule of rotation in office after the second term but have re-elected him four times. It can be said of Judge Berry that he is one of those lawyers who believe that the prevention of trouble is better than its cure by litigation and that often the settlement of differences by compromise is better for both parties than by trial at court.

**NOTICE**

**TO PRAIRIE DOG OWNERS**

Now is the time to dispose of your herds. Guaranteed poisons at the rate of three cents per acre, sold at Holsten's. You can get the poison and do the work yourself. HOLSTEN'S, THE REXALL STORE dec 31-2t-5204

**Burial of Sister**

Miss Jessie Carpenter, sister of H. U. Carpenter of Alliance, who died Monday evening at Sioux Falls, S. D., will be held at the Baptist church in Alliance Friday morning at 10 o'clock, Rev. Morphy preaching the funeral sermon. The body is expected to arrive Thursday noon. Interment will be made at the cemetery at Letan, where her father and mother are buried.

Miss Carpenter was a former resident of Alliance, moving to Sioux Falls three years ago where her three nephews, who are attending the Baptist college there, made their home with her. Her death followed an operation a week ago.

**Three Nights at Opera House**

The Rinaldo players, a high class company, will appear at the Phelan Opera House on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week in "The Stranger", "The Game" and "The Million Dollar Doll." They have their own special scenery and costumes that are unusual.

**Undergoes Surgical Operation**

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar O'Bannon went to Seward before Christmas. A week ago today Mrs. O'Bannon underwent a serious operation at Morrow's hospital in that city. Although not out of danger yet, her friends hope for her speedy recovery.

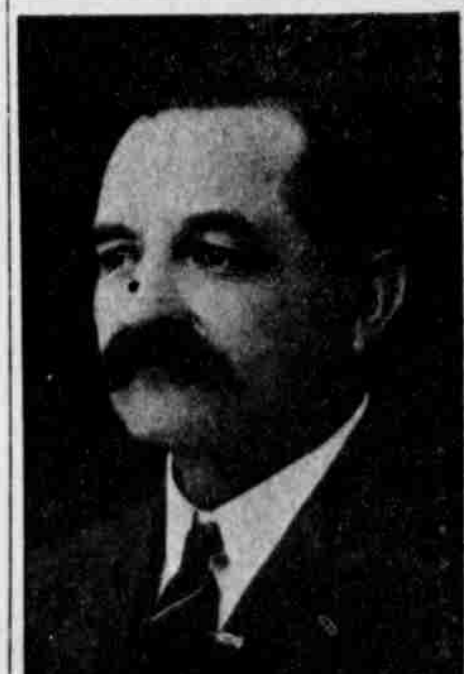
**ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH**

10 a. m. Sunday School.  
11 a. m. Holy Communion.  
7:30 p. m. Evening prayer and sermon.

Mondays and Wednesdays: Boys' Club, at 7:30 p. m.  
Subject Sunday, "Can You Read?"  
Dean A. Thorold Eller, Rector

The funeral of Joseph Mashek, father of Henry Mashek, of Marsland, was held in Casper on Sunday, December 20. The body was accompanied to Casper, Wyoming, where burial was made, by the son and Joe Dubon of Marsland.

Will a neutrality order that bans "Tipperary" also rule out dot leedle German band?



Edgar M. Martin, Treasurer