

Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association

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A department devoted to the interests of the volunteer firemen of the state of Nebraska.

Edited by Lloyd C. Thomas, state publicity chairman.

RIDGELL WILL BE THERE IN FULL FORCE

State Fire Commissioner W. S. Ridgell will make his headquarters at the Gate City hotel in room number one. He extends a general invitation to all delegates to meet him at his headquarters. "Judge" Ridgell knows nearly every volunteer fireman in the state, and we look for him to be kept busy shaking hands most of the time. The volunteer firemen of the state owe a great deal to Judge Ridgell for his good work in their interests.

THE BOXING CONTEST AT THE CONVENTION

The ten-round boxing bout will be held at the Opera House at Crawford Wednesday evening, January 19, the second day of the convention. Al Greenwood, the English middle-weight champion, will box Tommy Smith, of Omaha, who is well known over the state. Greenwood has met and defeated such noted men as Harry Lewis, Frank Klause and Buck Crouse. Good preliminaries have been arranged. They will start at 8:30 o'clock.

SHALL WE HAVE A TOURNAMENT IN 1916?

A question that will be brought up at the convention will be whether or not a tournament shall be held at Omaha this summer, in accordance with the invitation of the Iowa volunteer firemen and the Omaha Driving Association, which has offered to put up \$4,000 for a tournament if held there. It is expected that Iowa will send a delegate to confer with the Nebraska association in regard to a joint tournament. A majority of the firemen with whom we have talked and corresponded with regarding the matter seem to be in favor of taking up the offer of the Omaha people.

HERALD HEADQUARTERS AT GATE CITY HOTEL

The headquarters of The Alliance Herald, your official organ, will be at the Gate City Hotel. The writer will spend as much time as possible there, outside of the business sessions at the opera house, and all delegates are cordially invited to drop in and shake hands. We are personally acquainted with most of the old members but we want to meet the new delegates who attend. Drop in, ask for "Lloyd" and get acquainted. We are planning to issue, shortly after the convention, a special firemen's edition of The Herald with a complete report of the convention. This edition will be of much value to the delegates in giving a report to their home departments. A copy of this edition will be sent to each member of the state association.

ALLIANCE READY FOR VISITORS

Alliance is going to send a large delegation to the convention at Crawford to keep her promise of assisting Crawford in pulling off the best convention ever held. And to cap the climax Alliance has arranged for a big entertainment in this city on Friday, January 21, to which all visiting delegates are invited. Alliance is not far from Crawford, and many of the boys pass through on their way to the convention and their return home. The convention closes at Crawford Thursday night. The delegates can take the Friday morning train to Alliance, stay with us over Friday and get out for home at midnight. There will be something doing every minute of the stay here, for Crawford, Alliance and the other western Nebraska towns want you boys to have a joyful remembrance of your visit to this end of the state. Every delegate should plan to make Alliance a visit on Friday, January 21.

GOOD MAGAZINES FOR FIREMEN TO READ

Two magazines come to our exchange desk that we wish every volunteer fireman in Nebraska could read regularly. One is "Fire and Water Engineering," published every Wednesday at 154 Nassau Street, New York City, by F. W. Shepperd, editor and proprietor. This magazine is always filled with interesting things for firemen. Its number for December 29 contained such articles as a statement of fire department equipment in cities in the United States and Canada, accounts of large fires in the United States, etc., with firemen's notes from over the country.

The other magazine is "The Fire Engineer," published monthly by The Fire Engineer Company, 1 Broadway, New York City. It is "devoted to every phase of the fire hazard protection, prevention, extinguishment, water and chemicals. Its attention is given entirely to the fire hazard."

Every fire department should see that these magazines come to their reading desks.

CRAWFORD READY FOR CONVENTION

Word comes to me from the Crawford bunch that they are ready and primed for the word "go" at the thirty-first annual N. S. V. F. A. convention. Those hustlers up there have planned more varieties of entertainment than a dog has hairs on his back. For instance, they inform me that they have locked up in the city jail at Crawford two immense wild coyotes which are being kept for the purpose of showing the visiting firemen a real coyote chase. They have several hounds which will go after them down main street in broad daylight—it will be a chase well worth seeing. Doc Sprague—the boys who attended the Nebraska City convention all know him well—captured these two coyotes while out one night on a long trip to relieve a ranchman's pet horse of the colic.

And the entertainment every night is going to be elaborate. On the second night a ten-round boxing match has been arranged between well known Omaha parties. Their pictures are shown on this page. That feature alone will be well worth going to Crawford to see.

In order that those out in the late, wee small hours may be able to find their rooms without too much trouble, the commercial club at Crawford is arranging to have a "White Way", which will shine brilliantly at night, the lights from thousands of electric lights will reflect against the side of the big buttes in a way to make the oldest settler sit up and take notice.

I have received many letters from firemen over the state, telling of their intention of attending the convention. From the present outlook it appears that the attendance will be up to standard. Crawford has made arrangements to park all sleeping cars that come in advantageous places, and is amply able to care for all who come. The weather in western Nebraska at this time is excellent—those who attended the Alliance convention several years ago will remember the mild weather we had at that time.

FEAST HALF THOUSAND

Auburn Fire Department Feed Nearly Five Hundred People at Annual Dinner Given Recently

The Auburn Volunteer Fire Department, of which C. C. Good is chief, H. A. Andrews president and C. H. Masters secretary, gave its Third Annual Banquet recently. The Auburn newspaper had the following to say regarding the banquet:

Last Thursday night the basement of the Christian church presented a most animated scene, the occasion being the annual dinner to the public given by the Auburn Fire Department.

This community, which is noted for the superior cooking done by the members of the fair sex, donated very liberally to the menu. The room was handsomely decorated with holiday colors and also with the various implements of fire fighting and distinctive parts of firemen's uniforms.

From the moment the covers were spread for the first participants of the feast until the close there was a very large crowd present and the brave fire laddies had the distinction of learning at the close of the dinner that the event was the most successful that had ever taken place here. The gratifying and liberal patronage of the dinner testified to the high public esteem in which the department is held, and also to the public loyalty to this splendid factor in the community life.

Members of the department served as waiters on the table and the service of the feast would have done credit to the efforts of the best caterer in the state.

It was found that during the evening 414 persons were served with meals and that forty persons who had purchased tickets were unable to be present owing to other engagements. A gross sum of \$251.05 was realized. Food that was left over realized the sum of \$24.05, and twelve baskets were contributed as an evidence of the charity of the firemen to the deserving poor of the city.

During the evening the banquets were regaled with music by an orchestra. Taken as a whole, the event was one of the happiest social affairs that has taken place here this season.

Statement of Appreciation

The fire department published the following statement of appreciation:

Herewith is a statement of the Auburn Fire Department's annual supper, which is gratifying to submit and confirms our claim that we have the public confidence and support.

At no time before have we had the hearty response from our loyal citizens in donations and patronage—in fact a large number of people wanted to give more than we would accept—and forty people bought tickets who didn't attend and perhaps knew they couldn't at the time they purchased.

Some outside of the department insist that the supper ought to be put on twice a year, others have said that the citizens ought to do all the work, in fact, put on the supper without the aid of the firemen. But we believe this all unnecessary and are indeed well pleased with our past efforts and know the popularity of the occasion has grown from time to time, which we accept as appreciations of citizens for service we have rendered.

414 people were served at supper, which is more than any other organization ever served at two meals in Auburn on the same day. Forty bought tickets who didn't attend, and the left over food sale amounted to \$24.05, which is a gross total of \$251.05. Of course our expenses will deduct quite a little from this sum, the exact amount we do not know at present. About twelve baskets of food was distributed to charity.

Many thanks to the much-appreciated orchestra music, and to the ladies who assisted in preparing the feed, and we are very grateful. To those who were not on the payroll we especially thank. Also to The Republican for donating advertising space.

Knowing this occasion has merits in a fraternal way, also, we pronounce it a grand success, notwithstanding the feeble opposition.

THE DEPARTMENT.

Interesting to Visitors

One of the interesting things for the visitors who come to Alliance January 21 from the state firemen's convention will be the plunge which was erected by the Alliance fire department in 1915. This plunge will be in shape for those who attend to take a "bawth" should they so desire. It is the only plunge in the state built by a fire department, and others have expressed their intention of following the example of the Alliance department and building plunges for their home towns. Alliance is sending a large delegation to Crawford to boost for the big day here, and invitations are extended to all to be with us.



TOMMY SMITH
Well Known Omaha Boxer

GEO. J. HAND, M. D.
Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat
ALLIANCE : : NEBRASKA

Recent Fires in Nebraska

The Grand Hotel at Hartington was destroyed by fire last week with a loss of \$10,000.

The Oakland high school, with the library and gymnasium, were destroyed by fire last week, with loss of \$30,000.

The A. R. Carsten hardware store and the Farmers' Mercantile Company general store were destroyed by fire at Lewiston last week.



AL GREENWOOD
English Middle-Weight Champion

Program at Crawford

The entertainment program for the convention is outlined by the Crawford department as follows:

Tuesday Morning and Afternoon, January 18th

Street concerts by Crawford Chamber of Commerce Band.
 Meeting delegates, registering and assignment to quarters.

Tuesday Evening, January 18th

Opening session at Opera House.
 Welcome addresses and responses.
 Music by twenty-piece brass band.
 Singing by Crawford Male Quartet.
 Burlesque show by Teddy Brothers of Omaha.

Wednesday Morning, January 19th

Business session at the Opera House.

Wednesday Afternoon, January 19th

All visitors will be taken to Fort Robinson at 12:30 o'clock. The officers at the Fort will hold open house. These men are past masters at the art of entertainment and will see that everyone has a good time. While on the military reservation the coyote chase will take place for the benefit of all guests. This is a bona fide affair and will be the first one ever seen by many visitors. Two wild coyotes will be turned loose on the old rifle range grounds. Hounds from Crawford and Hemingford will give chase and guarantee to catch the coyotes. One half-dog and half-wolf will take part in the chase. This will be an interesting and unique feature.

Wednesday Evening, January 19th

Ten-round boxing bout between Al Greenwood, English middle-weight champion, and Tommy Smith of Omaha. Good preliminaries.

Music by Mann ten-piece orchestra.
 Music by Crawford Male Quartet.

Thursday Morning, January 20th

Business session at the Opera House.

Thursday Afternoon, January 20th

Business session at the Opera House.
 Music will be furnished by the thirty-five-piece Twelfth Cavalry Military Band from Fort Robinson—one of the finest bands in the state. In fact, music is going to fill the air during the convention.

Thursday Evening, January 20th

Banquet at the Co-Operative Hall. Walter C. Rundin, the preacher that took them by storm at Nebraska City, will be toastmaster. He will make things rip and roar until those present will imagine that a 42-centimeter German shell from one of the "Big Lizzies" has struck the hall. Rundin will undoubtedly preach that sermon for Harry Hauser at this time. He says that he has something on "Lloyd" and "Judge" Ridgell to tell the boys. It's a crime to put Rundin in a place like that, but he's there with the goods and we have no doubt that the banquet will last until the rising sun comes over the tops of those big buttes.

The streets of Crawford will be brilliant with thousands of electric lights, the stores of that enterprising little city will be decorated and "there will be something doing every minute" outside of the time for business sessions. Many other features are ready for entertainment including badger fights and other things so numerous to mention.

The officials of the Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's convention have arranged a very interesting business session program.

Membership and Exemption Certificates

During the past year we have furnished a large number of Nebraska Volunteer

Fire Departments with Membership and Exemption Certificates, printed and litho-

graphed and bound in book form, made up especially for each department. These

are suitable for framing, and the prices are very reasonable.

Meet us at the convention at Crawford and we will be pleased to show you

samples and quote you prices.

Herald Publishing Co.
 Lloyd C. Thomas, President
Alliance, Nebraska