

gation district under the state law, which requires that all of the land must share in paying the maintenance charges, whether water is taken or not.

This, with other reasons that could be mentioned, is having the desired effect of putting in motion plans for having this splendid tract of land put under cultivation and irrigation in the near future.

The water right of the Bridgeport Irrigation District is Number 8 under the state law. This gives a priority of right that practically insures an abundance of water at all times, but to insure against any unfavorable emergency that might possibly arise in a dry year, a contract has been made with the government for 15,000 acre feet of water annually from the Pathfinder dam, which means a foot of water for all the irrigable land, in addition to what it is entitled to under its water right.

The officers and directors of the Bridgeport Irrigation District for the ensuing year are:

- J. L. Hanway, president.
- W. E. Guthrie, secretary.
- R. P. Scott, treasurer.
- J. L. Hanway, P. C. Wade and Fred Lindberg, directors.

While we have not been requested to do so, we suggest that persons who wish more information about the Bridgeport Irrigation District write the secretary, W. E. Guthrie, Bridgeport, Nebr.

BRIDGEPORT NEWSPAPERS

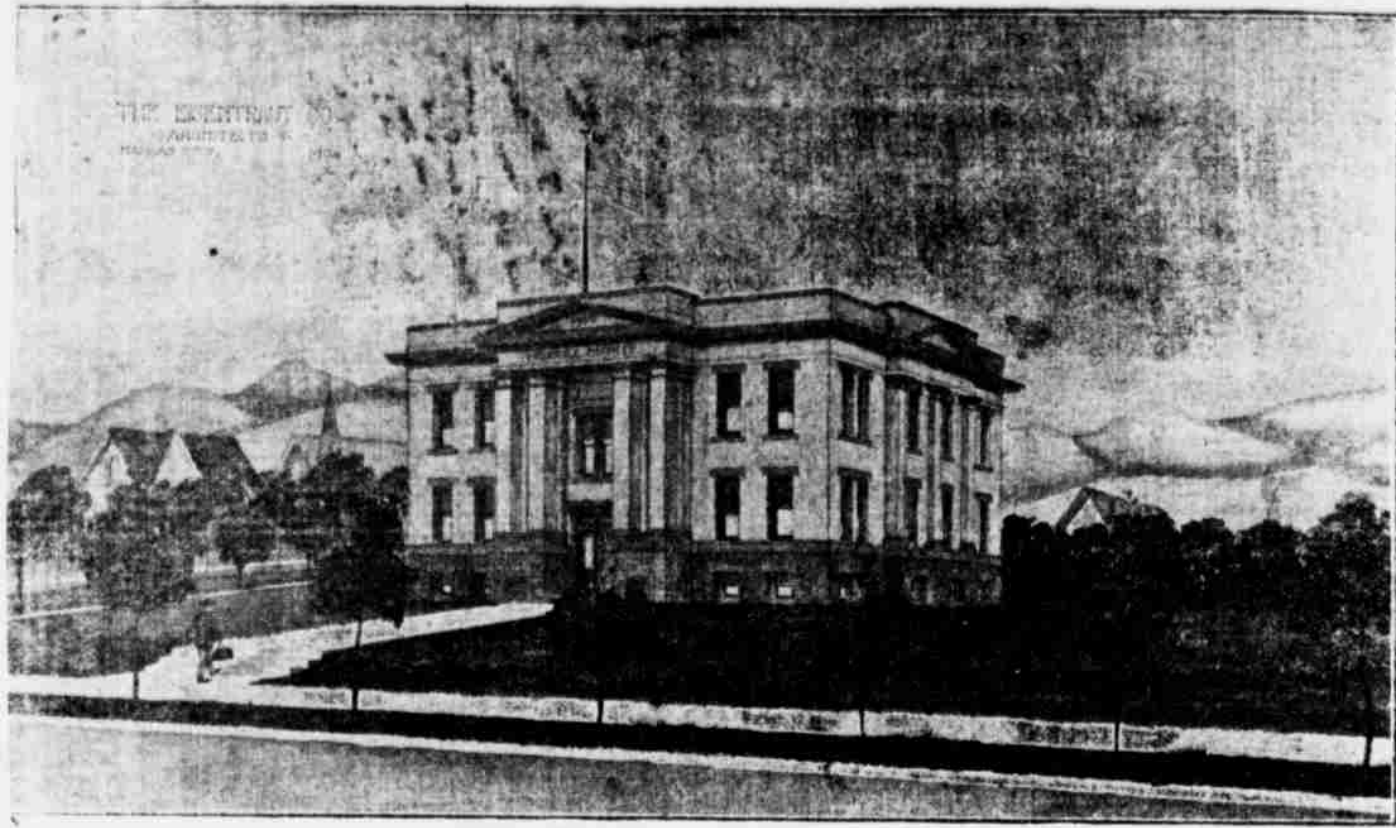
Bridgeport is particularly fortunate in the matter of its newspapers. The Bridgeport Herald is a weekly paper, ably edited by C. D. Casper, who is its publisher. When a resident of Butler county, Nebr., Mr. Casper served four terms as a member of the state legislature, three as representative and one as state senator. Since coming to Morrill county he has served as county clerk. He still gives attention, editorially, to politics.

The Bridgeport News-Blade, of which Bruce Wilcox, former register of the United States land office at Alliance, is editor and publisher, easily ranks as one of the leading newspapers of the North Platte Valley and western Nebraska. Mr. Wilcox has the efficient assistance of his son, Max, in conducting the business and employs a force of first-class printers in the mechanical department, which is well equipped for job printing as well as newspaper work.

We wish to express our appreciation of the co-operation of the editors and printers of Bridgeport in our efforts to creditably "feature" the town in this issue, and furthermore advise every person who is interested in Bridgeport and Morrill county to subscribe for one or both of the Bridgeport papers.

Bridgeport's Prospects

William Ritchie, Jr., well known attorney who was formerly county superintendent of public instruction and now president of the Bridgeport Commercial Club, has written a splendid article on the city's past, present and future for The Nebraska Stockman, which is published in this issue. We wish to try to emphasize a few things regarding the future of the town and the surrounding country.



Morrill County Court House at Bridgeport

To mention a few things that are of greatest importance:

The development of the surrounding country will be rapid during the next few years. This is a matter of interest, not only to the business men, but to persons who have invested in land near the town or expect to do so. There is a large amount of rich, irrigable land tributary to Bridgeport that has not yet been developed but that will be put under cultivation and irrigation soon. We cannot take space here to go into details as to why this has not been done or how we know that it will be done soon, but watch for developments and you will see it.

As the railroad center of the great North Platte Valley, Bridgeport is in line to become an important wholesale and jobbing center as well as the principal shipping point of this

territory. That the railroad facilities will be greatly increased within the next few years, no one doubts, who understands the situation.

Perhaps the greatest surprise in store for those who do not appreciate Bridgeport's advantageous position will be in regard to the development of manufacturing interests. Already a start has been made in this direction, with a probability of a remarkable increase in the near future. We wish every reader of this paper who is interested in the matter to remember what we are saying here and watch. It may be a pleasure a few years from now to say, "I told you so," when speaking of what will then be taking place in Bridgeport, and point to this item as proof of the prediction.

Not the least among the things that will make for the future pros-

perity of Bridgeport and the development of the surrounding country is the disposition on the part of the citizens to pull together for the accomplishment of the desired object. They're a bunch of boosters at Bridgeport and know how to pull together when handling a proposition that all are interested in. This is often a deciding factor in trying to land manufacturing enterprises.

Credit is due the following named business men and firms for financing the Bridgeport feature in this issue of The Nebraska Stockman: Bridgeport Bank, Bridgeport Lumber Co., Carr & Neff Lumber Co., Clawges & Nelson, Gardner & Farris, W. E. Guthrie, J. L. Johnson, Nebraska State Bank, R. C. Neumann, Ritchie & Perry, J. A. Schwender, A. T. Seybolt Abstract Co., and W. H. Willis.



Bird's Eye View of Part of Business Section of Bridgeport