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VOLUME XXIII

ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1916

NUMBER 19

FIRST MEETING OF NEW COUNCIL

Standing Committees for Ensuing Year Appointed by Mayor P. E. Romig

DISCUSS SIDEWALKS, PAVING AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

Pikington New Chief of Fire Department—Much Miscellaneous Business Transacted

The new council chambers in the city hall were used for the first time Tuesday night when the old council met to finish up their business and to turn the affairs of the city over to the new council.

Only two changes in the personnel of this body was made as there were only four terms expired and two aldermen were re-elected.

At the conclusion of the business of the old council Mayor Romig made a short address appropriate to the occasion and the two aldermen re-elected, John Snyder and A. J. Welch, and the newly elected aldermen, F. T. Helpringer and Lee Moore, were sworn in by Police Magistrate T. D. Roberts.

The new council found a large volume of business awaiting them, and after a long session lasting till nearly midnight they adjourned till next Wednesday, April 19, when they will take up unfinished business and new business that they were unable to take up this week.

Mayor Romig announced the appointment of the standing committees for the ensuing year as follows: Claims: Davis, Kibble, Snyder and Davidson.

Ordinance and Printing: Helpringer, Welch, Snyder and Kibble. Streets and Alleys: Kibble, Snyder, Davis and Davidson.

Finance and Purchasing: Was, Helpringer, Welch and Davis.

Health and Sewer: Moore, Helpringer, Davidson and Was.

City Property and Insurance: Davis, Welch, Davidson and Snyder.

Fire, Water and Light: Snyder, Kibble, Was and Moore.

Licenses: Welch, Was, Davis and Moore.

Leonard E. Pikington was appointed chief of the Alliance fire department for the ensuing year.

Sidewalks were ordered constructed as were petitioned for by residents on Platte avenue between Fourth and Fifth; on Emerson between Fourth and Fifth, and on Fifth street connecting Platte and Emerson.

A petition for sidewalks on Seventh street was referred to the street and alley committee.

A petition for sidewalks on Niobrara avenue was granted and walks were ordered in on both sides of that street where there are none from First to Sixth streets.

A petition for curbing on East Third street was presented and the city attorney was instructed to draw up an ordinance creating a curbing district to include that street.

City Clerk Carter Calder was instructed to advertise for bids for the work to be done in the newly created sewerage district No. 34 lying between Cheyenne and Laramie avenues and north of Tenth streets.

A letter from Grant & Filton, the Lincoln engineers who are in charge of the plans and specifications for the reservoir, was read in which they stated that their work was finished so far as they could go until the city arrived at a decision regarding the conduit connecting the reservoir and the plant. The council voted to instruct the engineers to go ahead with their preparations omitting the plan for the conduit.

Steve Jackson was reappointed "official dog catcher" for the city of Alliance.

We Are Always Ready to serve you with good printing. No matter what the nature of the job may be we are ready to do it at a price that will be Satisfactory.

GIRLS HEED SUGGESTION OF POLICE OFFICIALS

Several Women Questionable Character Given Notice that They Are Not Wanted Here

Several young women have departed this city this week and several more will go out today and tomorrow following the suggestions from the police department that Alliance is no place for them.

Despite the fact that the lid was placed on their line of trade in Alliance several weeks ago there has been for several weeks a number of young women, some of them ostensibly employed and others unemployed, who have been walking the streets and otherwise conducting themselves in a manner contrary to the new order of things in Alliance but before taking a hand in the matter the police made investigation of the various complaints brought in and then where such action was justifiable gave them their choice of leaving town or taking their chances in police court.

ADDITION TO DRAKE

Manager Drake Asking for Bids for Extensive Addition to Hotel—Work to Begin Soon

Proprietor C. L. Drake of the Drake hotel has received plans and specifications for an addition of two stories to be built on the back of the present building, extending to the alley. Bids are now being asked for by Mr. Drake and construction is expected to start very soon.

The addition will contain sixteen rooms, each twelve feet by eleven feet and three inches, each room to contain a private bath. This addition, when completed, will give the Drake hotel a total of forty-six rooms.

FUNDS RAISED FOR PARK SUPERVISOR

Woman's Club Secures Balance Needed for This Purpose from the City Council

Funds have been raised and the play ground supervisor for the summer months is assured. Several weeks ago the proposition of employing such an official was taken up by several organizations who recognized the need and the value of a competent person to take charge of the play grounds at the city park during the vacation season and it was decided that this position and keeper of the grounds might be included in one in a satisfactory manner and at a saving in cost.

The City Park Board appropriates \$40 per month for the keeper or overseer of the premises and in order to secure a competent person to devote whole time to the park \$35 more per month was needed.

The matter was taken up by the Child's Protective Association, the Commercial Club and the Woman's Club and as a result the Woman's Club agreed to assume the responsibility of raising the balance of the funds needed.

Tuesday night at the first meeting of the new council a committee from the club, composed of Mrs. A. T. Lunn and Mrs. W. R. Pate, were present and presented the matter to the council and were agreeably surprised when the council agreed to appropriate the full amount needed for the purpose.

Mayor Romig stated that inasmuch as the park is for the entire city he felt that it was the city's place to pay for this part of the park program and the vote on the question was unanimous.

Under this plan a supervisor will be placed at the park during the months of June, July and August to take complete charge of the park, to arrange and supervise the play and to conduct of the children making use of the grounds and the apparatus to be installed.

Professor Crawford, principal of the high school, is very probably the man who will be secured for the position.

Next Tuesday evening, the O. E. S. will hold the annual election of officers, and a good attendance is desired. Remember the date Tuesday evening, April 18.

POLICE QUESTION IS NOT SETTLED AT FIRST MEETING OF NEW COUNCIL

No official action was taken with regard to any changes in the police department at the first meeting of the new city council held Tuesday night further than the reading of the petitions and applications of the candidates for appointment. The council voted unanimously to leave the matter up to Mayor Romig for further investigation with the understanding that the matter will be settled at a later meeting.

Chief of Police Chas. Jeffers was appointed at the beginning of the Romig administration and his term is not for one year but for the full term for which the mayor is elected, unless he is removed by special action.

Two petitions and two applications were presented to the council Monday night. Petitions, each signed by a large number of citizens, were presented asking for the appointment of Charles Jeffers and A. B. Wheeler for chief. O. D. Hobbs made application for appointment as chief of police, and J. B. Hunsacker made application for appointment as night marshal.

In a short talk to the new council Mayor Romig stated that according to the law the mayor has the full power and authority to appoint and

discharge members of the police department but that he wished to act in harmony with the council in the matter and that he was willing to consult with them with regard to the appointment or that if they so wished he was willing to assume the full responsibility and criticism involved by the appointment of the police officials.

The mayor further stated that he had made previous appointments in good faith with the sanction of the council. That he believed the criticism of the administration had been unjust, that if mistakes had been made they were unintentional and so far as he was concerned any changes necessary would be made.

He stated emphatically that there is no person or clique in the city of Alliance that has any "strings on him," and that it is his desire to perform the duties involving on him as mayor of the city to the best interests of the city as a whole.

The police question will be definitely settled either at the adjourned meeting called for April 19 or at the regular meeting in May. In the meantime Charles Jeffers remains at the head of the police department doing night duty, while A. B. Wheeler is on day duty.

Western Nebraska A creed for the citizens of the best part of the best state in the Union. The following was rendered by Lloyd Thomas, secretary of the Associated Commercial Clubs of Western Nebraska, at the banquet in Bridgeport Tuesday evening: "I believe in Western Nebraska. I believe in her citizens and know them to be hardy pioneers who have been impelled to settle here with the indomitable spirit of the Pilgrim Fathers, for commercial, civic and political freedom. "I believe in Western Nebraska; in her broad and fertile plains; her rich and prosperous valleys; her swift streams; her lofty buttes and deep canyons. I believe in her busy, bustling towns and villages, shining out to the world like gems on the bosom of a queen. "I believe in Western Nebraska; in her infant industries, her manufacturing enterprises, her great works of irrigation and in the busy tillers of the soil who are producers of the food and sustenance of millions. In her hardy ranchmen and stock raisers, producing the beef that gives good, red blood to the city man of the east. "I believe in Western Nebraska. I believe that we, as pioneers in our different and varied lines of work in this great inland empire, now stand at the break of a great day of prosperity and development in a territory which, now but the abode of thousands, will soon become the home of millions. "I, as a native of western Nebraska, thank the great Creator for the privilege of continuing as one of her citizens and pledge my efforts to help make this section of our great state a beacon light to the dissatisfied ones, living in discontent in the crowded cities and states of the east and will urge others to assist in making Western Nebraska the Mecca for others, that they, too, may enjoy the privileges which we now have."

MAYOR'S REPORT OF CONDITIONS IN CITY AT CLOSE OF FISCAL YEAR

I desire first to call your attention to the bonded indebtedness of the city. The bonded indebtedness amounts to \$139,000, property value \$2,800,300, assessed valuation \$560,060. Bonds are distributed as follows: Sewer bonds \$35,000, park bonds \$5,000, city hall bonds 7,000, water bonds \$75,000, light bonds \$17,000. The question as to bonds has received considerable attention from me the past year. I find that the mode of paying for these bonds, as well as in raising a sinking fund, is, in my estimation, a very poor business method. I might call your attention to the sewer bond of \$35,000. These bonds draw 4 1/2 per cent, making the interest for the year \$1,575. There has been levied a three mill levy to pay for the interest and creating a sinking fund. The three mill levy would amount to \$1,683, which would only make a sinking fund of \$108. The park bonds of \$5,000 draw 5 per cent interest, which would amount to \$250, with one mill levy it would amount to \$561, thereby leaving a sinking fund of \$311. The city hall bonds of \$7,000 draw 6 per cent interest, which would make \$20 interest per year, with a one mill levy of \$561, leaving a sinking fund of \$141. The water bonds of \$75,000 draw 5 per cent interest, making the interest 3,750 per year with a six mill levy. It would amount to \$3,666, leaving a shortage of \$284 of paying the interest and leaving no sinking fund. The light bond of \$17,000 at 5 per cent would be an interest of \$850 per year, a two mill levy on this bond premium

\$1122, leaving a sinking fund of \$272. I desire to call your attention to these facts. It has been the practice, heretofore, of previous administrations, to follow the example of carrying just sufficient fund in order to take care of the interest and carry a very little sinking fund. It would appear to me that this is, indeed, a poor method. This matter should, at the time the budget is made, be given careful consideration. I realized for sometime the urgent need of a better method of handling our bonds. I, therefore, took the liberty of appointing ten men of the City of Alliance, which will be known as the Tax Commission board. These members, in conjunction with the City Council, will go over the questions very carefully, and perhaps derive some way whereby they may be able to increase the sinking funds of bonds each year. The report of the city treasurer from April 1, 1915, to April 1, 1916, will show that the amount of registered unpaid warrants to date are \$14,913.77. The amount of registered warrants unpaid to April 1, 1915, was \$2,908.69. The difference between these amounts is due to the fact that previous to this administration there was practically no curbing done and no guttering whatever. It might be interesting to know at this time that the unpaid curbing tax to date amounts to \$4,288.28, unpaid walk taxes to date are \$932.38. At the present time the light department is holding \$5,000 worth

SAYS HE IS THROUGH STEALING FOR LIVING

Year in Penitentiary Was Good Experience for Lad Sent Down from Box Butte County

Charlie Drescher, the lad who was given a year in the penitentiary last year when convicted of stealing a horse at the J. R. Phelan ranch, writes Sheriff Cox that it was a good lesson to him.

The lad served out his time a few weeks ago and returned to his home at Broadwater. When he left Alliance he left a few of his possessions in the keeping of Sheriff Cox and a few days ago Mr. Cox received a request to send them to Broadwater.

In his letter he says: "That wasn't such a bad place down there but it was bad enough and it learned me a lesson and a good trade that I can make money without stealing horses."

SALE OF SIMMONS STOCK

Mrs. R. Simmons Has Moved Bankrupt Stock into New Quarters for Special Sale

Through a mistake, the advertisement of Mrs. Simmons' sale on another page of this issue of The Herald states that it is the old Bee Hive stock. This is incorrect. It is the Simmons stock from the store formerly conducted by Mrs. Simmons and the entire stock is put on sale at prices ranging from twenty cents to fifty cents on the dollar.

Mrs. Simmons has put in a new line of kimonas and as soon as the bankrupt stock of goods is disposed of she will put in a line of imported oriental goods of all kinds.

COUNCIL CONSIDERS INCINERATOR PLANT

Attorney Instructed to Give Opinion at Next Meeting on Proper Plan of Financing Proposition

The disposal of garbage by incineration and the erection of a plant for that purpose was seriously discussed by the new city council Tuesday night.

Complaints from property owners in the vicinity of the dump ground will probably bring about immediate action providing some change from the present methods.

Wm. Davidson, a member of the council, who owns land close to the dump grounds, gave final official notice to the council that the present conditions are damaging to his interests and that unless something is done at once he will take legal steps to protect himself.

A resolution from the farmer's club was presented at the meeting in which that club remonstrates against the dump grounds as a natural breeding place for rats which emigrate to the surrounding country.

In anticipation of trouble from these quarters and with a view to eliminating the unsanitary conditions, Mayor Romig had made previous investigations and had some information together with literature to give out concerning the plan of incineration, and the question became one not of the need or value of a plant but of the best manner in which to finance the building of a plant and purchasing of equipment for the purpose, which it is estimated would cost somewhere between \$6,000 and \$10,000.

City Attorney Robert Raddish was instructed to give an opinion at the next meeting as to the city's authority to make an appropriation and also on the feasibility of voting bonds. It is more than likely that the matter will be put up to the people at a special election this spring.

Getting a City of Second Class That western Nebraska is on the up grade and making substantial progress is shown by the fact that the city of Gering is now a city of the second class with a population of 1800. Four wards have been established. At the municipal election last week A. N. Mathers, president of the Gering National Bank, was elected the first mayor of the city by an overwhelming vote. Mr. Mathers is one of western Nebraska's younger men who are making good, and who are doing the constructive work that is placing this end of the state in the front rank.

ANNUAL MEET OF CIVIC CLUBS

Interesting Meeting of Western Nebraska Commercial Clubs Convened at Sister Town Tues.

THE NEXT MEETING IS TO BE HELD AT CHADRON

Rundin Re-elected President; Thomas Elected Secretary; Ritchie and Shumway, V. Pres.

The annual meeting of the Associated Commercial Clubs of Western Nebraska was held Tuesday at Bridgeport. The association includes the clubs of the eleven counties in the panhandle of Nebraska—Sioux, Dawes, Sheridan, Box Butte, Scotts Bluff, Banner, Kimball, Morrill, Cheyenne, Garden and Deuel.

The Bridgeport Commercial Club was the host at the meeting and did things up in fine style, from the business meetings of the morning to the close of the banquet at midnight.

Officers elected for the ensuing year were: Rev. Walter C. Rundin, Crawford, president; Wm. Ritchie, Jr., Bridgeport, first vice president; G. L. Shumway, Scottsbluff, second vice president; Lloyd C. Thomas, Alliance, secretary; Clayton Radcliffe, Sidney, treasurer.

The next meeting of the association will be held in three months at Chadron, the invitation of the Chadron club being accepted. At the meeting it was voted that quarterly meetings be held at different points in the district covered.

The publicity committee of the association, consisting of Lloyd Thomas of Alliance, Arah L. Hungerford of Crawford, and Wm. Ritchie, Jr., of Bridgeport, was instructed to prepare plans for and to issue as soon as possible a western Nebraska booklet of approximately sixty pages and to issue about fifty thousand copies for general distribution. This booklet will cover thoroughly the territory included in the association and will be sent to homeseekers and those interested in this section of the state.

Wm. Ritchie, Jr., chairman of the committee appointed to confer with the Nebraska Press Association regarding the trip to be taken during July or August to western Nebraska, reported that the association had decided to come; that their plans called for a special train to leave Grand Island, going to Alliance and then to Crawford. From Crawford the members of the association will go to Chadron by automobile, returning to Crawford and then back to Alliance, down to Bridgeport and to Sidney; back to Scottsbluff, Gering and Mitchell and then east on the Union Pacific to North Platte and Kearney.

Wogdruff Ball of Valentine was present and spoke to the association on proposed legislation providing for counties and cities to establish and maintain forest preserve areas in the state. The association voted to give its approval to the proposed bills, which read as follows:

AN ACT to authorize incorporated villages and cities, without regard to class or population, to establish forest preserve areas and to authorize the issuance of bonds and the levying of taxes for the purchase and maintenance thereof and for the repeal of all acts and parts of acts, in conflict with the provisions of this act.

Be it enacted by the people of the state of Nebraska: Section 1. Every incorporated village or city without regard to class or population, is hereby authorized and empowered to establish and maintain a forest preserve area and for that purpose is hereby authorized and empowered to receive in fee, by gift, grant, devise, purchase or condemnation, lands having natural timber thereon or lands suitable for reforestation or afforestation, whether said lands be within its corporate limits or within the county, and to hold, improve, control and plant such areas by reforestation or reforestation for park and public purposes.

(Continued on page 4)

WEATHER REPORT By Gov't Observer Hicks. Table with columns: Apr., Max., Min., Rain, Snow. Data for days 6 through 12.

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