

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL, MAYOR MAKES SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

George Fleming Appointed to Succeed Councilman Helpbringer because of Removal of the Latter—Mayor's Report
Valuable Municipal Document

The city council met in regular session Tuesday night. Councilman Helpbringer announced the resignation of Councilman Helpbringer and the appointment of George Fleming to succeed him. The council accepted Mr. Helpbringer's resignation and confirmed the selection of Mr. Fleming. Councilman Fleming was sworn in and took his seat as a councilman from the first ward.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved. The claims against the city as approved by the finance committee were ordered paid. The usual official reports were received and placed on file. The receipts of the light department showed a gain over the previous month.

The mayor read his semi-annual report, which was duly received by the council and placed on file.

The matter of accepting the new reservoir was deferred until additional details have been arranged.

In the matter of the permit to J. M. Miller to construct a steam pipe line from the creamery to the Alliance hotel, the mayor stated Mr. Miller had concluded to not go further in the matter under the terms which the mayor thought necessary for the protection of the city. The incident, therefore, is considered closed.

The committee to see about furnishing the chapel at the cemetery with chairs and stove reported no progress in the way of making purchases and they were asked by the council to go ahead and have the chapel fitted for use as it would be needed, especially during the winter months.

The matter of placing standards at the busiest intersection for the guidance of automobilists was deferred because of the near approach of winter and the depleted condition of the treasury.

Citizens on Third street between Yellowstone and Missouri avenues asked for extension of gutters and curbs and agreed to waive the usual prolonged proceedings in order to get the work done right away. The city attorney was asked to draw up the necessary papers.

Crossings were ordered in at several different places where sidewalks were already constructed or about to be.

The clerk reported there were no bidders for the construction of sewers as advertised, and he was instructed to advertise in local and city papers in order to attract bidders as the necessity for the construction of the sewers is urgent.

The mayor was authorized to rent a suitable building for the storage of the implements belonging to the city during the winter.

Semi-Annual Report
Alliance, Neb., Oct. 1, 1916.
To the Honorable City Council, Alliance, Nebraska.

Gentlemen of the Council:
Pursuant to the law wherein the mayor shall (according to his best ability) communicate to the council the financial, health and general condition of the city. The fundamental principle upon which all cities are regulated is the economical method in which the funds and improvements of a city are administered. It has truly been said that a city can not stand still but must either advance or go backward. During the past several years the city of Alliance has had a steady growth. All lines of business have increased and property likewise. All this would mean that the municipal government must keep pace with the growth of the city, and improvements must constantly be made, but how best to meet the payment of these improvements without an increase in taxes is one of the difficult problems that confronts an administration. Objections have been made against an increase in the levy. For a good many years administrations have refused to make the necessary increase and today Alliance is practically working with the same mill levy as several years ago, not taking into consideration the increase in costs of labor and material. The law provides a levy of fifteen mills for general purposes, this is inadequate for a city's needs, and an effort should be made during the coming session of the legislature to revise this section, so as to allow a city to make a levy of not more than twenty-five mills. Several public institutions in the city are handicapped for the lack of funds because the law places a maximum levy insufficient to properly maintain the institutions.

In calling your attention to the financial condition of the city of Alliance for a period of six months, ending September 30, 1916, my last report to you showed the bonded indebtedness of the city to be \$139,000. A few months ago the city paid on the light bond the sum of \$5,000, leaving the bonded indebtedness of \$134,000, distributed as follows: Sewer bonds, \$35,000; park bonds, \$5,000; city hall bonds, \$7,000; water bonds, \$75,000; light bonds, \$12,000. The report of the

city treasurer will show that from April 1 to September 30 receipts amount to \$10,465.36, this including the amount received from the licenses and county treasurer; disbursements for the same period amounted to \$10,490.14, divided as follows: General, \$1,255.64; interest, \$404.38; salaries, \$1,009.80; streets and alleys, \$5,167.14; sewer, \$87.80; fire and water, \$2,021.74; printing, \$322.20; street and alleys and city street lighting, \$1,540.44. Amount of registered warrants, \$24,915.26. Since checking up on these warrants we have called in \$2,440 worth of them, leaving a balance of \$22,475.26 of registered warrants. We will be able to call in a greater portion of these warrants within the next six months. The large amount of registered warrants is due to the extensive street improvements and extension of water mains.

The light department will show for a period of six months, ending September 15, 1916, gross earnings of \$15,843.02; discounts allowed \$1,059.86; operating expenses, \$8,224.86; construction, \$1,143.95; net earnings, \$5,225.42. The kilowatt output at the plant for the six months ending October 1, 1916, was 280,240 K.W., an increase of 2,660 K.W. for the six months prior to April 1, 1916. Number of tons of coal consumed, 1,492; average price per ton, \$2.53. Total cost of coal in bin \$3,782. At the present time the light department has 675 consumers, an increase of 36 over the six months ending April 1, 1916.

The water department will show a gross earning of \$5,148.40 for the past six months. We are unable to show any net earnings due to the construction of the new reservoir and the extension of water mains. The total cost of the new reservoir including the pipe line and foundation for the new pump is \$11,375.06. Number of gallons of water pumped for the period ending September 15 was 61,450,500 gallons. The number of consumers in this department, 690. Owing to the inadequate condition of the water system the citizens of Alliance were unable to get sufficient water during the summer months. With the new system installed this department will improve in service sufficient to meet all demands. During the past six months the city has caused to be laid 1,460 feet of new water mains, at a cost of \$2,277.

During the past six months the city caused to be installed 1,750 lineal feet of curb; 1,869 lineal feet of curbing and street guttering; 600 square feet of alley paving and 6,700 lineal feet of sidewalk. During this period the city expended for labor and material on streets, including sprinkling, \$2,818.67. This administration has stood firm against any compromise grades or temporary improvements, with these facts according to the established grades. The sentiment of the majority of business men is that Box Butte avenue from First to Sixth streets should be paved within the next year or two. It is, therefore, necessary that provisions be made in the near future to install the first unit of storm sewer on Box Butte avenue. The proper handling of the drainage is preparatory to the paving.

The police department will show that there were 228 arrests made during the past six months with 221 convictions, of this number 85 prisoners were employed on the streets. Cost and fines collected amounted to \$474. Cost of boarding prisoners for this period was \$277.65.

Since my report to you of April 6, we have had reported to the city physician seven cases of scarlet fever and four cases of small pox. There are at the present time several cases of typhoid fever, but as a whole the health condition is improving each year. With the new ordinance just passed creating districts, in which to compel those in that district to connect their toilets with the sewer, will do away with one of the most unsanitary conditions that the health authorities must combat. The proper disposal of garbage should receive earnest attention during the winter months and if possible it is a matter should be lined up to begin work on an incinerator plant the first thing in the spring.

During the past summer we have erected at the cemetery a new chapel building at a cost of \$975. Our water system has been completely overhauled at that place, and by spring will have water mains extended over the entire ground.

Three Sections This Week

Readers of The Herald will note that the paper appears in three sections of eight pages this week, a total of twenty-four pages. Their attention is directed to the fact that each section is crammed full of interesting news and advertisements, and that it will be well worth their time to go carefully through each part of the paper.

Advertisers are learning that in order to get results it pays to advertise in the paper that has the circulation and gives its readers the news. We believe that the best testimonial The Herald could get is the fact that each week the paper is steadily growing in size, the amount of news and advertisements carried, and in circulation. No other paper in the western end of the state can compare with The Herald in any of these features.

Herald readers will show their appreciation of our efforts to give them the most for their money by carefully reading the advertisements which appear in the paper and by mentioning to the advertisers that they saw the ads in this paper. Advertisers feel that they are getting value received for their money when this paper goes each week into 3,000 homes. An average of only four readers to each paper gives a total of 12,000 readers per week.

We appreciate the efforts of many of our readers who furnish us with news of interest. We appreciate the interest and efforts of others who always boost for their paper—The Herald—at every opportunity. We endeavor to reciprocate by making each succeeding paper a better one than the last one. We invite comparison with other newspapers. We have no friends to protect nor enemies to punish.

Watch Us Grow!

TO HAVE DUCK SMOKER

The Alliance volunteer fire department, at its regular meeting Wednesday evening, voted to have a "duck smoker" in the near future. In plain American this means a feast at which the main article of diet will be the ordinary wild duck that roams the lakes of western Nebraska.

The problem of getting ducks was easily solved by picking out two matched teams. McCormick is the captain of one, and he has as his lieutenants Laing, Gladson and Keeler. Pilkington is the captain of the opposing team and he will be assisted by George Snyder, Regester, Byrne, and Barnes.

These teams are composed of some of the crack hunters of this end of the state. Each team is to be allowed only one day for hunting. Lloyd Thomas is to donate the use of his Crow auto in which to hunt the ducks and the limit set on the time in which to get them is Sunday, October 22. Dr. J. Jeffrey, a new member of the department, has promised the use of his big Red Six with which to help haul the members of the feathered tribe in.

The losing team is to serve the banquet. The number invited to attend will depend to a large extent on the skill and luck of the hunters.

OBSERVE COLUMBUS DAY

Columbus day was observed in Alliance today. The banks were closed and many business houses and a half holiday and a number of concerns took the whole day. But one delivery was made by the local post office.

This evening an entertainment will be held at Holy Rosary church. The Knights of Columbus will promote the function. There will be music by a chorus from the St. Agnes academy, readings and an address by Rev. Father Manning. The exercises will be held in the club rooms of the church.

ELECT REBEKAH OFFICERS

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Trabert, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Snyder, Mrs. F. W. Hicks, Mrs. George Gaddis, Misses Mildred Zurn and Nellie Wright, composed a party of members of the Rebekah I. O. O. F. lodge who visited Mitchell September 30, to attend the meeting of the North Platte Valley district association.

The officers elected were Mrs. John R. Snyder, president; Mrs. Nellie Rosebrough of Mitchell, warden; Mrs. Mary Trabert, Alliance, secretary; and Mrs. Luella Walker, Hemingford, treasurer.

The next meeting of the association is to be held in Alliance.

Anton Uhrig of Omaha, Democratic candidate for county commissioner of Box Butte county, stopped over in Alliance last week on his way home from a trip of one week to Omaha.

each fire he has lost several lengths of hose due to bursting.

There are at present three of the five suits against the city for grading done on Box Butte avenue pending in the district court. The Bixnell suit was decided against the plaintiff, while the Wiker case against the city, in which judgment for \$550, interest and costs was secured. This case was appealed to the supreme court, and in all probabilities will not come up for a hearing before ten or twelve months.

PENROSE E. ROMIG, Mayor.

DEATH OF THOS. RICHARDS

Thomas Richards, 19, formerly of Alliance, died at Great Falls, Mont., after a long illness from typhoid fever.

The body arrived in Alliance on No. 44 today. Funeral services were held at the Darling undertaking parlors this afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment was at Greenwood cemetery. The young man was a nephew of Mr. Fredericks of this city and had a number of friends here who greatly regret his early demise.

APPRECIATE THEIR WORK

W. F. Patterson of Alliance and A. S. Enyeart of Hemingford recently visited Omaha during the Federal Land Bank hearing, at the request of the Omaha Commercial club, to show the need of this section of the state for a bank of this kind.

Mr. Patterson recently received a letter from the Omaha club which contained the following: "We wish to express the appreciation of this club for your attendance at the hearing. We have been assured that Omaha made a better and more intelligent hearing than any other city the board had visited, and we feel confident that Omaha will get one of the twelve district banks."

Mr. Patterson and Mr. Enyeart were both well treated during their stay in Omaha and as two of the leading farmers of this section of the state were shown every courtesy.

FRANKIE RETURNS FROM EAST

Marcus Frankie, proprietor of The Famous clothing store, returned the first of the week from a ten days' trip to Chicago and New York, where he attended the buying convention of the United National clothing, of which he is a member. This organization, which is the largest of its kind in the country, is now operating in twenty-two states.

PORTER LOSES HIS BRIDGEPORT FIGHT

A dispatch from North Platte states that word has been received there to the effect that the case against W. M. Coble, a postoffice inspector, acting postmaster at Bridgeport, has been dismissed.

The case arose over the efforts of G. L. Porter, former postmaster, to have Coble enjoined from continuing in the office, the former having been removed by the postmaster general because of so-called "sassy" correspondence written to the cabinet.

Several months ago, Porter, according to the story, wrote to the postmaster general asking for additional clerks in Bridgeport office. The reply to this letter was to the effect that the office in question had as many clerks for its size and the amount of business done as any office in the country.

PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD

Hastings will next week entertain the Presbyterian Synod of Nebraska, the second religious gathering to go to that city this fall, the other being the Methodist church conference.

The synod next week will open Wednesday evening and close the following Monday morning, October 23. It will be the forty-third annual session of the synod and it was stated that between 250 and 300 ministers, delegates and visitors are expected to attend. Beside the pastor of each church in the state is entitled to one lay delegate.

Dr. J. M. Kennedy, who was recently injured by the explosion of a dentist's vulcanizer, is now back at his office again. The doctor narrowly escaped severe injury.

STRANGER COMMITS BRUTAL CRIME LITTLE GIRL VICTIM OF ASSAULT

Villain Drags Child into Vacant House and Assaults Her in Shameful Manner—Sheriff and Posse Put out Dragnet—Prisoner is Found by Sheriff in Patch of Weeds

A young man, who gives the name of F. B. Moore, is in the county jail, charged with the crime of rape, his victim being Bernice Failor, a little girl 8 years of age.

Moore was arrested by Sheriff Cox Monday evening about 6 o'clock, after a sheriff's posse had searched diligently for the criminal.

The crime is alleged to have been committed Monday, at about 4:30, in an empty house, just south of the Burlington tracks, southwest of the city, immediately outside of the city limits. It is a locality known as "West Lawn" and there are a number of residences there occupied mostly by people in the employ of the railroad company.

Bernice Failor attends the Emerson school, third grade, Miss Mary Robertson, teacher. She usually leaves the school building at 3:30 but sometimes it is a little later than that hour. Her schoolmate is Evelyn Kelley, daughter of Charles W. Kelley, who lives in the same neighborhood. Monday afternoon the two girls sauntered along on their way home from school. On reaching the vicinity of the empty house, which is owned by Steve Holt, the girls were accosted by a young man who is described by them as wearing a striped suit, which events proved to be striped overalls, such as are worn to protect better clothing from dust and dirt. The man said, "Come over here, girls, and I will give you a nickel." The Kelley girl did not go, but Bernice Failor, never doubting the man's good intentions, went toward the house, when she was grabbed by the villain and pulled inside.

The Kelley girl, badly scared, ran on home. Bernice Failor was detained in the house about twenty minutes, when she was pushed out the front door, the man going out of a side door toward the rear. She says the fellow put his hand over her mouth to keep her from screaming and threatened to kill her.

Bernice Failor, half dead from fright and severe treatment, went to her home and told her mother what had happened. In the meantime, the neighborhood had become aroused and the telephone at the Failor home was ringing repeatedly. Mrs. Failor hastily ministered to her daughter and called the sheriff's office. The sheriff was on the street serving papers. Mrs. Failor then went to the roundhouse where her husband is employed and told him what had happened. He immediately went up town and found the sheriff. Sheriff Cox, C. E. Morgan and Lincoln Lowry and others immediately went to the scene of the crime in an automobile. A number of men gathered and a dragnet was formed in the effort to locate the fiend. A train was held in order to ascertain if the man was trying to get west. The sheriff put out men in every direction in order to head off any attempt of the criminal to get away. Dr. Slagle had been called to the Failor home to attend the little girl and on the way back was held at the crossing by the train. He called the attention of Sheriff Cox to a man, about a quarter of a mile away, who appeared to be hiding. Sheriff Cox went over that way and found a young man hidden in the weeds. The sheriff took the fellow into custody and maneuvering a little so as to not attract the attention of the other searchers, escorted the fellow to the Failor home where Bernice Failor immediately declared the man under arrest to be the one who had assaulted her. She said she knew him by his "look" and by his "talk." When Dr. Slagle was there he asked Bernice if she would know the man and she said, "Sure I would." The man under arrest was badly scared and talked but little but managed to deny that he knew anything about the crime.

Sheriff Cox was not sure that the crowd that was searching for the criminal would not use him roughly if they got hold of him, so he told those who were at the railroad crossing that he had picked up a man who was wanted in Sheridan. Some of them caught on to the ruse and fell in behind and the prisoner was walked up town and put in the county jail.

A reporter for The Herald called at the Failor home that evening. The mother was greatly worried about the matter but was glad that the child had not been killed, as is often the case in such affairs. The girl was asleep on a lounge and her two sisters older than she were getting their lessons. Mrs. Failor related what she knew about the crime, substantially as given above. The doctor stated the girl was not seriously injured, as she was so little the fiend could not accomplish his purpose in the natural way. But he committed a most disgusting act in forcing the child to submit to his unnatural desire in committing the crime of sodomy. The reader must remember that this girl is so young that she is absolutely innocent and that she knows nothing whatever about the vile habits of degenerates.

Moore has been in this locality for

a month. Where he came from no one knows. He worked for two weeks as a teamster and then got a job at the creamery. Mr. Spencer, the manager of the creamery, says he knows nothing about the fellow. He was there two weeks and last Saturday night was discharged. Moore was seen by several women hanging about the tracks in the western part of town Monday afternoon. He appeared to be watching for a chance to get out on a west-bound train. In fact, he told John Phillips, a drayman for the creamery, who saw him about 4 o'clock, that he was going to Sheridan.

Moore had on striped overalls when he committed the crime, but when he was taken before the victim of his lust the overalls were not worn but he was dressed in an ordinary blue suit. This fact did not cause the child to hesitate a minute in making her identification. It is said the Kelley girl also will be able to identify the man. It is also stated, on the best of authority, that since he has been in jail Moore has confessed enough to make the case against him absolutely a cinch.

The house where the crime was committed is kept locked but Moore had a skeleton key which he used in opening the front door, and probably the rear door, also. When the house was inspected later there was nothing in there but an empty whiskey bottle of the "Cedar Brook" brand, a mission clock on a shelf and a scrim curtain over the glass on the rear door. The clock appeared to be one of those given by an Omaha paper several years ago as a premium.

R. A. Connell of North Platte and N. E. Boyd of Broken Bow have purchased the electrical business of Charles Schafer on Laramie avenue. The men are experienced electricians and will continue the Willard battery service station of which Mr. Schafer has had charge. They will also install a complete auto tire vulcanizing outfit very soon.

Although only a small crowd attended the sale at the Houkhum farm northwest of town last Thursday, the stock brought a good price. Potato digging was at its height and this kept the crowd away. Mrs. Houkhum provided a fine lunch for those who attended, all of whom praised her excellent cooking. L. F. Hulme purchased the highest-priced cow at the sale, paying \$92.50 for her. The stock sold belonged to H. N. Houkhum, Robert Logan and Peter Belzum. Col. H. P. Coursey of Alliance was the auctioneer, and E. J. Was was clerk.

Mrs. J. J. Jeffrey has been visiting at Thermopolis, Wyo., on a short vacation trip.

Mrs. Elmer Bullock recently made a visit to Marshall where she enjoyed a stay with friends.

J. F. Dineen and daughter, of Madison, Neb., were in Alliance recently with J. M. Dineen and wife, looking over their property in the county and buying cattle to ship to their farms near Madison.

Mrs. O. J. Schirk of Holdrege visited recently with Mr. and Mrs. John Schirk of Alliance. She also visited with friends at Hyannis and made a trip up the North Platte valley with Mr. and Mrs. Schirk and family.

Mrs. H. J. Kuhn has recently purchased a fine piano from the Wiker Music Company.

W. M. Robinson, of Omaha, who is one of the owners of the National Music Supply Company and who has an interest in the Wiker Music Company of this city, as well as being the owner of a fine farm in the western part of the county, is in the city on business today.

Mrs. Percy Cogswell entertained a number of her friends Wednesday evening at cards and kennington. The guests all enjoyed the evening very much. Mrs. Cogswell served a delicious four-course luncheon.

Mrs. F. W. Lester entertained a few friends complimentary to Mrs. L. L. Smith last Thursday afternoon and evening. Mrs. Lester served an elaborate four-course dinner at 6:30 o'clock, after which they were taken to the Imperial theatre.

The faculty of the Alliance School of Music gave a very successful recital at Antioch Sunday afternoon. Antioch people have arranged with the School of Music to give their series of recitals on the second Sunday of each month.

Miss Burnett of the Alliance School of Music returned from Scottsbluff Wednesday noon, where she gave a recital Monday evening.

Miss Mattie C. Gifford, formerly with the Alliance School of Music, gave a very successful reading recital at Scottsbluff Tuesday evening. Miss Gifford has a very large class at Scottsbluff.