

TORPEDO KILLS 168 U. S. SOLDIERS

1918 ANNUAL FIREMEN'S CONVENTION

COMPLETE REPORT OF THE CONVENTION FOR THIS YEAR OF STATE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

NEXT YEAR AT FREMONT

Over 500 Delegates Attended The Sessions On January 15th, 16th And 17th

The 1918 annual convention of the Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association, held at Fremont on January 15th, 16th and 17th, was the largest in the history of the association. Over 500 delegates were in attendance. A complete report of the convention is given as follows:

Tuesday Evening, January 15th
The opening session was held at the high school auditorium on Tuesday evening. Over 300 delegates, who had reached Fremont during the afternoon and early evening were in attendance.

Harry J. Hauser of Fremont, president of the association, presided and called the meeting to order. In a word of greeting Mr. Hauser told the firemen he was glad to welcome them to his home town and promised that nothing would be left undone to make their stay a pleasant one. Mr. Hauser then called upon John C. Cleland of Fremont, "father of the association," and president of the Fremont fire department, who extended a cordial greeting to the delegates.

Mr. Cleland reviewed the history of the association during the thirty-six years of its existence. Since the organization of the association effort toward a bettering of fire fighting methods have been rewarded with increased efficiency from year to year until the firemen of the state are looked upon as of as much importance as the military. He pointed out the necessity of more serious consideration of fire prevention and control as conditions growing out of the war demand that nothing be left undone to prevent wholesale destruction of property during those stirring times.

City Attorney J. F. Rohn extended a cordial greeting to the visiting firemen on behalf of the city in the absence of Mayor W. C. Wiley. Mr. Rohn said he realized that the state association made up of the local departments of volunteer organizations are not organized for the purpose of making money, but to keep alive the spirit of fellowship and further the interests of the volunteer firemen of the state.

These are serious times, Mr. Rohn said, and serious consideration of the problems before the country are needed. Every effort of the people of this country should be turned toward winning this great war and the firemen as an organization are expected and will do their part, the speaker declared.

On behalf of the organization of which he is president, Harry J. Hauser responded to the address of welcome of Mr. Rohn, accepting the invitation to take charge of the city and make themselves "at home."

George F. Wolz, president of the Commercial club, who had charge of the entertainment feature for the visiting firemen, extended a greeting on behalf of the business men of the city through the Commercial club. Mr. Wolz said he had been a volunteer fireman for thirty-six years. He had always had the success of the local department at heart and had attended many of the sessions of the state association. He invited the visitors to take advantage of the opportunities for making their stay in the city a pleasant one. Mr. Wolz briefly reviewed some of the city's achievements as a municipality since the firemen met here seven years ago.

At a short business session following the program of the evening, a credentials committee consisting of E. A. Miller, Kearney; A. P. Hoffman, Ord; John C. Cleland, Fremont; Mike Sanders, Norfolk; and H. L. Boyce, Hebron, was appointed.

On motion of E. A. Miller, secretary of the association, President Harry Hauser appointed a committee consisting of Mr. Miller, Mr. Cleland, J. W. Guthrie, Alliance; W. S. Ridgell, Lincoln, and L. W. Hague, Min-

den, to attend the funeral at Kearney today of John Wilson, former president of the association and one of the charter members of the organization.

It was voted to hold memorial services Wednesday afternoon at 2 p. m., the hour set for the funeral of Mr. Wilson, out of respect to his memory. The program was interspersed with selections by the Cedar Bluffs orchestra and a firemen's quartet from Fremont composed of Reese Solomon, Donald Hanson, Alfred Hanson and Lucius Hammond.

Following the meeting at the high school the firemen adjourned to Hotel Pathfinder, where a wrestling match, dancing, and sociability provided entertainment for the rest of the evening.

Ray Trabert and Dutch Mauler of Alliance, middleweights, wrestled fifteen minutes to a draw. Dancing was indulged in the ballroom of the hotel till midnight. A large number of the firemen were guests at Eagle's hall where the monthly social dance of that lodge was given.

Wednesday, January 16th
At the opening of the session Superintendent A. H. Waterhouse of the city schools, on behalf of the school board, welcomed the firemen to the city and tendered them the use of the auditorium for their meetings.

Mike Sanders of Norfolk read an interesting paper, "Motor Driven Apparatus."

President Harry Hauser in submitting his annual report, called attention to the steady growth of the association and to the fact that a large number of towns were coming in at this meeting. He declared that the Nebraska Volunteers were never before so big and so powerful; and he added that they had never before done their state a better service.

A committee consisting of A. J. Shirley, Ord; Robert Lewis, Humphrey, and C. C. Good, Auburn, was appointed on chief's report.

John Martin advocated a proposition before the convention for introducing a bill in the legislature to allow time spent in serving Uncle Sam's cause abroad be counted in membership of fire departments where firemen were called to the front. Some of the members thought it would be proper to read this into the firemen's constitution, but Mr. Martin contended that legislative action would be necessary.

Arrangements were made to have the high school pupils sit with the firemen in the auditorium to hear Myron Corey's patriotic address.

The last hour of the morning session was given over to the Firemen's Mutual Aid association, conducted as a part of the firemen's association. The mutual aid, started three years ago, is growing; only firemen can belong. On the death of a member an assessment of \$1 is made and \$500 is paid the heirs of the deceased. One hundred new members joined, paying down a dollar apiece just before the noon adjournment.

The annual convention photograph was taken at 11:45 on the high school lawn.

The visiting firemen were aroused to a high state of enthusiasm by the address of Merton L. Corey of Omaha on the subject, "Patriotism," at the session in the afternoon. Firemen filled the lower floor of the high school auditorium, while high school students who were dismissed to hear the address, occupied seats in the balcony.

Mr. Corey reviewed the events leading up to the war and the cause that decided the United States to cast her lot with the allies after suffering indignities that no other leading nation had ever suffered. Now that this country is in the war she will see it through to the end, Mr. Corey said.

Firemen were warned to keep a sharp lookout for alien enemies and to use their influence and power in discouraging any unpatriotic acts or statements they may hear. Candidates for office who are known to fall short of the standard of patriotism demanded of all Americans during these trying times should not be supported by firemen or any other patriotic citizens, the speaker said. Firemen in this manner can demonstrate their patriotism by studying well the candidates for any office before casting their ballot.

"Vote for the candidate on the right side," Mr. Corey said. "In this way we will get the men best suited to handle the affairs of the government and at the same time insure against the treacherous methods about which so much is heard since the outbreak of the war. We must prepare to protect our own homes and interests and this is one way of doing it."

Mr. Corey was frequently inter-

First estimated loss of life is decreased by later reports of survivors saved

GERMAN SUBMARINE HITS TRANSPORT

Men who lost lives on way to France were Michigan and Wisconsin Guardsmen

(Special Dispatch to Alliance Herald by International News Service)

LIST OF LOST NOT MADE PUBLIC

Washington, 5 p. m., February 7th—After spending most of the day preparing an authentic list of the troops which were on board the transport Tuscania which was intended for immediate publication, Secretary of War Baker and chief censor Adjutant General McCain reconsidered their decision late this afternoon and they authorized the announcement that this list will not be made public.

The war department announced at the same time that the plans originally announced this morning of making no names public until the fate of all the individuals is positively known will be followed. This will be done for the purpose of preventing the unnecessarily alarming of relatives.

War department officials stated that the report that the same German submarine which sank the Tuscania had sunk another British vessel near the same spot would not be discussed; that if the report was true of the sinking of another British vessel at the same time and place it was under the orders of the British Admiralty whose policy has been to withhold the news of such sinkings. The other vessel sunk is said to have been a freighter, carrying no troops.

According to unofficial London reports the number of missing was 201, a large number of these members of the crew. Washington figures show a total of 231 missing of which 168 were American soldiers.

The ship did not sink immediately after being torpedoed. The sea was very rough and there was much suffering among survivors in the open boats. Assistance was rendered by the British warship which were convoying the Tuscania.

Washington, D. C.—Two hundred and sixty Michigan and Wisconsin National Guardsmen lost their lives Wednesday afternoon when the British naval transport Tuscania, bound for France, was torpedoed and sunk off the Irish coast by a German submarine.

The survivors were landed at Bunerama and Larne, on the coast of Ireland. 2170 American soldiers were on board, according to the latest advices 1912 were saved.

Advices from London say that Ambassador Page sent an assistant military attache and another armyman, as well as representatives of the Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross to Belfast, Ireland, with full power to spend all the money needed for the relief of the survivors. The British Red Cross has been authorized to use the Belfast equipment. The Lord Mayor of Belfast has been rendering first aid in every possible way.

First official reports to the war department indicated that a thousand Americans were missing. Up to an early hour this morning neither the war nor the navy department had details of the sinking of the Tuscania.

The Tuscania was a British passenger and freight ship, built at Glasgow in 1914 and was owned by the Anchor line. It was equipped to carry 2500 passengers. Had been loaned to the United States by the British to carry soldiers.

First word of the attack came at three o'clock Wednesday afternoon to Washington but announcement of the disaster was withheld pending confirmation. It is assumed that the attack was made about dusk, indicating new methods in the German attack with submarines.

Germans have attempted to get this ship before as it has on several occasions reported submarines scares and it received warnings before it entered the transport service.

President Wilson was at a theatre in Washington when the confirmation of the sinking was received. The management refused to flash the information on the screen. It is not believed that the president was informed at the theatre of the disaster. He retired immediately after reaching the White House and attendants refused to state during the night or this morning whether or not he had been informed.

In the last two weekly war summaries Secretary Baker had predicted the forthcoming German offensive on land and sea and warned the people to be prepared for news of concentrated attacks on transports.

The American army units on board the Tuscania were the 107th engineer train, formerly the first battalion of the first Michigan Infantry. Also the 107 military police from the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Wisconsin Infantry. Also the 20th Engineers Forestry regiment of lumberjacks. Others included among the Americans were the 168th and 213th Aero squadrons, replacement detachments and casual officers of the 32nd Division Camp. This division is located at Waco, Texas. Major General James Parker was in command.

Leo May of Minatare, a western Nebraska boy who is a member of the aviation corps training at Waco, Texas, might have been on the ill-fated Tuscania. May had written home folks that he expected to leave for France the latter part of January.

The Herald's bulletin one, issued at midnight Wednesday night, first conveyed the news of the sinking of the transport to Alliance citizens. Another Alliance newspaper which secures most of its bulletins via the "Denver daily newspaper" route, came out eight hours later with a small bulletin. The Herald, as usual, has proven itself in the lead when it comes to carrying the authentic news first to its readers. The extra edition, issued this morning, was sold by hundreds to eager readers.

We announced last week that the Haddorf Music House handled victrolas, this was an error as the Wiker Music House have them exclusively. The Haddorf people carry the Columbia.

The Rodgers grocery has made the following changes in its departments,

HOME GUARDS WILL EFFECT RE-ORGANIZATION

Lack Of Interest Manifested In Home Guard Organization Causes Some Drastic Action

The lack of attendance at drill meetings by the members of the Box Butte Home Guards of Alliance has called for drastic action on the part of the officers and some of the members who were live enough to attend the meeting held Friday night at the city hall.

Captain R. C. Strong and Lieutenants Hamilton and Pilkington have signed their resignations, to take effect when their successors are elected. The officers have taken this action in the hope of ascertaining whether or not the fault lies in the officers. It is not believed that this is the case, but these men had the welfare so much at heart that they were willing to sacrifice their commission, if necessary, in order to revive interest in the organization.

Meeting will be held at the armory at the city hall Friday evening at which nominations for new officers will be made. Those members who have been lagging and who have not been doing their duty should make it a point to attend this meeting and see that the organization is put on its feet. Some of these days the men who took the oath of enlistment may find that their lack of interest will put them in a bad light. They can put themselves right by turning about and attending the meetings.

HOW ABOUT YOUR INCOME TAXES

Reports Of All Farmers And Business Men Must Be In March First

Have you figured your income tax? If farmers failed to see income tax man assistance can be secured from your county agent. New farm record book now out.

A representative of the Internal Revenue Bureau of the U. S. Treasury Department visited this county a week or so ago for the purpose of assisting farmers in figuring their income for the year 1917. These reports must be in by March 1st. Any one neglecting to make returns is subject to penalties as high as \$1000. Farmers who have neglected this matter should attend to it immediately.

The net income on which this tax is to be paid the farmers is the income which the farmer has left after paying running expenses of his farm. Living expenses for the family can not be deducted.

If you were unable to see the representative of the Revenue Bureau and need assistance in figuring your income, your county agent will be glad to help you.

Mr. Hendricks of the Farm Management Department will be in the county on the following dates: Canton, District School house, Feb. 13th. Hemingford, Feb. 14th. Alliance, Feb. 15th, county agents office. He has received quite complete information regarding the income tax, and while he has nothing whatever to do with the making of these returns or with the collection of the tax, he will be able to answer most of the questions which may be raised by farmers. He will assist any one in figuring up expenses and receipts when requested to do so.

Most farmers are able to figure the cash receipts from their crops, live stock, etc., but if care is not taken, they may overlook some of their many miscellaneous expenses, and thus pay tax on more than they should.

Many farmers have come to feel the need of something more reliable than their memory in keeping account of their business during the year. Growing from this need has come a demand for a simple farm account book that will show the farmer something of the success or failure of his business and will not require too much of his time in keeping it up to date.

The county agent is in a position to supply the farmers with such a book. It is much more simple than any previous book that has been put out. It will not only give the farmer an insight into his own business, but will also enable him to make his income report for 1918 without any great difficulty. The book can be secured free of charge from the county agent as long as the supply lasts.

SLACKERS FOUND IN BOX BUTTE WILL BE LEVIED

MEN OF MEANS NOT DOING THEIR FULL SHARE TO BE WEEDED OUT

DRIVE SET FOR APRIL FIRST

Box Butte County Liberty Loan Committee Plans Next Big Drive

The Council of Defense for Box Butte County, with the Liberty Loan committee, discussed ways and means last Monday afternoon at the Court House, for making the Liberty Loan drive next spring a success. The plan of the drive was decided on, but whether the loan will be raised in one or two drives was not decided. At any rate the time set for the drive is the first of April.

The campaign this year will be carried on in a systematic manner, on a basis similar to drives carried on with great success in other districts. There will be no chance for a slacker, in former financial support, to escape sharing with the patriots in loaning to the government. This year every man's wealth will be ascertained, his former support of the Y. M. C. A. Knights of Pythias and previous loans will be considered, then the committee in charge will proceed to assess the amount he should take out in bonds this spring. By the plan outlined above there will be no chance for the man who has kept in the background on previous loans, to escape his just support of the cause. Men who have been loyal heretofore in the matter of support will be treated in proportion to their loyalty. Any man failing to give just cause for failing to comply with the local committee's ruling will in all probability find himself up before the State Council of Defense, which has in the past given its approval of the plan to be carried out.

J. W. Guthrie has been placed in charge of the campaign. He will devote all of his time if necessary towards making the drive a success. The committee will furnish Mr. Guthrie with a stenographer to do the necessary clerical work, outside of this there will be no expense to the campaign as Mr. Guthrie and other members of the committee are contributing their services.

At the meeting Monday, Chairman Robert Graham, appointed a committee of Finance composed of: Marcus Frankle, Chairman, A. T. Lunn and Frank Potmelsel, to raise the small amount of money necessary to finance the campaign. The names of the assessment committee will not be divulged. The committee on publicity will be the Editors of the Times and Herald.

Each district in the county will be in charge of a committee, that has the power to select any assistants needed. The committee as approved at the meeting are as follows:

Running Water—William Iodenco, William McKillup.

Dorsey—Frank Potmelsel, G. W. Spacht, John Kinsello, and R. J. Fisher.

Lawn—J. M. Wanek, E. E. Ford, Non Pareil—J. P. Jensen, Emery Abley.

Box Butte—E. S. Curry, Joel Sheldon.

Liberty—W. A. Randall, John Caha.

Snake Creek—E. M. Branks, J. T. Burke, Fred Crawford.

Wright—W. J. Johnson, G. H. Hagaman and Aleck Underwood.

Lake—Art Groves, L. J. Schill, B. J. Joder, Phil Zobel, and D. E. Purington.

Boyd—J. A. Keegan, M. D. Healey, Alliance; First Ward, Marcus Frankle, B. J. Sallows, and Glen Miller. Second Ward, P. S. Malley, E. F. Shields, and Dr. McCoy. Third Ward, W. D. Fisher, A. T. Lunn, and Frank Abegg. Fourth Ward, Wm. Davidson, R. Knight, and M. S. Harrarav. Railroad Committee, Claude McDonald, E. F. Shields, E. E. Young, Robert Driscoll, F. T. Tierley, O. E. Williams, W. A. Bennet, W. E. Zollinger.