

The Alliance Herald

Twice a Week—Tuesday and Friday

VOLUME XXVII.

ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, JANUARY 9, 1920.

NUMBER 12.

BOX BUTTE GETS BUT FORTY MILES OF STATE ROADS

McLEAN MEETS WITH COMMUNITY CLUB DIRECTORS
Representatives of State Engineer's Office Outlines Projects Under Construction

Box Butte county will have only forty miles of state and federal aid roads, under present plans, when the five-year period for which federal aid was appropriated expires. And of this forty miles, but eleven will be constructed during 1920. All this, and several other things, was explained by Division Road Engineer McLean, in charge of highway construction and maintenance for the Fifth division of Nebraska, who met with the directors of the Alliance Community club on Wednesday morning, and, with the aid of several maps and charts, explained the road building program as it will affect Box Butte county.

This total of forty miles consists of the first six miles of the Potash highway, an da road north from Alliance to Chadron, of which exactly 30.8 miles will lie within this county. For the year 1920, there will be but eleven miles built, the portion of the Potash highway lying within the county and the first five miles of the Chadron road. The remaining 25.8 miles of this road will be built during 1921. However, the plan is to do some work on this 25.8 miles so that it will be placed in a fair condition for travel.

According to Mr. McLean, this small total of roads does not mean that Box Butte county is not getting a square deal. The total appropriation of government and state money for the county amounted to only \$79,116, which is considerably less than other nearby counties received. The appropriations were based on three things, population, area and mileage of improved roads. Box Butte county came in strong on population and area, but fell down hard on the improved roads, Sheridan county, for example, has a total appropriation of \$175,737; Cheyenne, \$148,092; Sioux, \$124,339; Morrill, \$95,585; Garden, \$103,591. Some counties drew less than we did. Arthur receives \$51,548; Grant, \$45,161, and Banner, \$52,870.

Mr. McLean pointed out that in order for Box Butte county to have any work done at all this year, it will be necessary for the county commissioners to appoint a highway commissioner. The law provides that such an official must approve bills, and it was hinted very strongly that the road building program here would be allowed to wait unless the appointment were made.

The whole road building program for the state, it was explained, is based on a primary system suggested by the state engineer's office. The main highways north and south and east and west were laid out, and the legislature, through H. R. 298, at the last session designated the towns through which the roads were to run. The county commissioners, acting in co-operation with the state engineer's office, have taken the last step and laid out the routes between towns. The whole system is now completed and approved.

A number of counties asked for state and federal aid for other highways than those that had been designated. Funds appropriated are insufficient to care for the primary system, and this means that other highways will have to wait. As fast as these state roads are finished, they will be turned over to the counties, which must maintain them. Funds for this purpose are derived from auto license fees, which go directly to the county. Of the fees turned in, less actual cost of administration, 75 per cent is expended for state roads and the remaining 25 per cent for other roads. Inasmuch as the license fees have been increased, this means that Box Butte county will have \$18,500 to use for road purposes, and some \$13,000 of this will be used on the state roads.

The state will insist that the roads turned over be kept up, and the maintenance work will be under the general supervision of the district engineers, who will give directions as to what steps are necessary. The highway commissioner will be charged with the actual supervision.

The state department has received from the war department 197 army trucks and fifty Holt caterpillar tractors. It has also purchased seventy graders. Two graders, one of these

THE WEATHER

For Alliance and vicinity: Generally fair tonight and Saturday. Warmer east and south portion tonight. Colder northwest portion Saturday afternoon.

tractors, and possibly a truck or two, be shipped to this county. They will be used in the road work here and a charge will be made save for maintenance. It may be that they will be turned over to the county after the state roads are constructed.

Mr. McLean said that the first big job for the county highway commissioner would be the marking of the roads. A system has been devised for this which is a regular marvel. The government has turned over a number of posts to the state, sufficient to mark every mile of state roads. The plan is to divide the state roads into patrol sections of ten or twelve miles each, place each section in charge of a patrolman who will not only be responsible for keeping it in shape, but whose name will be posted at the beginning and end of his section so that those who use the road will know who to commend and who to condemn. The patrolman will also be a sort of road officer, and will be charged with seeing that cars have proper license tags. When the state roads are all completed and the new system in proper working order, the problem of proper road maintenance ought to be greatly simplified.

Mr. McLean discussed the building of the Alliance-Antioch highway at some length with the directors. Among other things, he assured them that it would be put in proper shape the first thing in the spring. The first six miles of this highway are surfaced, but the remaining nine miles are to have a gravel coating.

The speaker brought up the matter of state serial bonds, to be used for the building of roads. Under the present constitution the state cannot issue state bonds for this purpose, and a proposition has been brought before the constitutional convention, sponsored by the recent state convention of county commissioners, to so change the constitution that this will be possible. It was pointed out that many of the western counties, by reason of their low property valuation, would never be able to raise sufficient funds to properly construct all the roads they needed, and a state serial bond issue for this purpose would place the burden over the state as a whole. It meant, of course, that eastern Nebraska would be taxed to build roads in western Nebraska, but such a course would be only fair. Improved transportation facilities for produce from these counties would more than make up for the expense. It was suggested that Alliance help build roads for the rest of Box Butte county, and that it is not at all a losing proposition.

Following the meeting, Secretary Rufus Jones of the Community club, by direction of the board of directors, stated that they favored sending a communication to Delegate H. H. Hewitt a constitutional amendment that would permit of the issuance of state serial bonds for such a purpose.

WOMAN'S CLUB WANTS WALKS KEPT CLEAR

Hereafter, After Heavy Snowfall, Residents Will Be Notified When Streets Need to Be Cleaned

In an effort to better the condition of our streets after a heavy fall of snow, the Woman's club of Alliance appointed two of its members—Mrs. Will Johnson and Mrs. Harry Thiele—to interview the city manager regarding the matter. A city ordinance provides that property owners and renters must keep the sidewalks around their residences cleaned, yet after every severe snowfall, parts of the city are practically isolated from the rest of the world, walks and crossings in many places being almost impassable. This is not the first time the Woman's club has interested itself in this matter.

The city manager has promised to use his best efforts hereafter to relieve the situation. He has, up to this time, been handicapped because of lack of help. In the future, after snow has fallen, two men will patrol the town, calling at each house where people have failed to obey the law, directing their attention to the fact, and using all possible means to enforce the snow ordinance. With the co-operation of every public spirited citizen of Alliance, at no time should it be necessary for anyone to wade through drifts of snow somewhere under which lie public streets which, with a little effort, could have been made passable.

PLANS FOR WORK OF CITY MISSION

Committee From Various Organizations of City to Meet in Court House Monday Evening

The executive committee of the City Mission held a special meeting Wednesday morning and formulated plans for the work of the mission for the next three months. Because of the lack of funds in the past, the mission has not been able to do what it desired. Because of certain conditions, the expenses of the organization have been very much in arrears during the past year, and a deficit of something over \$200 has accumulated. These facts were brought to the attention of the various organizations of the city some weeks ago, and a special committee was called from these organizations to plan for the future work of the mission.

At the present time there is this outstanding indebtedness and the owner of the building in which the mission has been doing its work has urged that his rent be paid. The call of the hour is imperative, and unless the various organizations of the city get under this load at once, the work of the mission will have to be abandoned. Do the people of Alliance want to let those to whom the mission has ministered be left at this time of the year without anybody responsible for their support?

The committee to whom this task has been assigned now calls for the entire co-operation of the various organizations interested, and has called a special meeting of the different representatives to meet at the court house next Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, at which time the future work will be determined. Now is the time to get busy in the interest of the needy of our city. Get under the load or get off the job is the decision of at least some members of the committee. What are you going to do in this urgent call of the mission.

Notice

Notice to representatives of fraternal and religious organizations for city mission work is hereby given that a special meeting of the authorized representatives of the various organizations, who are responsible for the election of the present city mission board, is appointed for Monday evening at 7:30 at the county court room at the call of your executive board. It is imperative that every representative be present.

J. O. GOULD (Pres.),
LLOYD THOMAS,
MRS. HACKER,
J. S. RHEIN,
F. A. LAPE,
A. J. KEARNS (Sec.-Treas.),
Committee.

FURTHER ADVANCES IN RETAIL PRICES

W. R. Harper Sees No Prospects for Lower Selling Costs for Several Months to Come

W. R. Harper returned the first of the week from a two weeks' buying trip that took him to several of the wholesale centers of the country. Among other places, he made extensive purchases in Chicago, Pittsburg and New York city of goods for the spring and summer trade. He found great activity in practically all lines of trade, with the demand far exceeding the supply.

Prospects are that there will be no let down in prices for several months, Mr. Harper says. Wholesale prices have gone up to the level of present retail prices, and this can mean only one thing. Production is greatly curtailed, in the clothing lines especially, where the rate is only 50 per cent of normal. There is a scarcity of labor, and it is necessary to pay high wages to get workmen.

There seems to be plenty of money in the east. Retail stores are doing a record amount of business, and are getting record prices. Mr. Harper made some investigation of the prices charged in the cities and reports that they are considerably higher on practically every article than Alliance people have to pay.

The wholesale houses no longer accept orders of any and every size. Customers are limited as to the amount they may buy, in order that every dealer may have something to sell. Mr. Harper bought to the limit in every line. He is looking for a record business during the coming months, and has done his best to get in a position to take care of it.

BOY SCOUTS PLAN AN EXHIBITION

"A Day in Camp" to Be Presented at the Presbyterian Church Next Thursday Evening

On next Thursday evening, January 15, Alliance citizens will be given an opportunity to see what sort of training the boy scouts are receiving. At 8 p. m. on that day at the First Presbyterian church, Troop No. 1 of Alliance will stage an exhibition of scout work, under the name of "A Day in Camp," at which time the members will show the results of their training in first aid, in signaling, knot tying, cooking and various athletic stunts, such as pyramid building. There will be no admission fee, and the public is invited to attend.

Troop No. 1 is the first boy scout organization that ever succeeded in Alliance. It came into existence a year and a month ago, and has been going strong ever since. There have been numerous other troops that have organized, but which disbanded after a few weeks or months. Due to the rules, which limit the membership of a troop to thirty-two, there are now fifteen boys on the waiting list hoping for some of the members to leave town or get cold feet, but the prospects are that they will have to wait for some time. Another troop could easily be organized, but there is no one to take charge of it.

J. B. Miller is scoutmaster and K. R. Hamilton and George W. Simpson are assistants. The troop meets every Thursday night, and there is a tremendous interest among the members. The training is the sort of stuff that not only appeals to the boys, but is the best in the world for them. The membership is divided into classes, in accordance with the amount of scout knowledge they have. There are now three first class scouts out of the thirty-two—boys who have absorbed the knowledge prescribed—and all but three or four of the remaining twenty-nine are ranked as second class.

A first class scout must be able, among other things, to pass the examinations in advanced first aid. He must be able to draw field maps, and signal at a certain rate of speed. He must have taken one fourteen-mile hike and have written a full account of it.

The second-class scouts must be proficient in first aid up to a certain degree, and must have attained skill along the lines of signaling, cooking and observation.

The troop here has been handicapped in the matter of hikes. There is no particularly suitable routes, but during the fair weather several of these have been staged. The fourteen-mile hike took place some months ago, and another is scheduled for this summer, when a number of scouts will attain the first class rating.

VAUDEVILLE AT THE IMPERIAL SATURDAY

Another five acts of Pantages vaudeville will appear at the Imperial Saturday, matinee and night. The list comprises The Daltons, supreme novelty entertainers; Williams & Miller, in songs and comedy; Irene Zolar, with her Three Blue Streaks of Jazz; Chet Wilson, in comedy talking and cartooning; Pitroff the Great and Company, the most sensational of European novelties.

The photoplay portion of the program will include Alice Brady in "The Better Half," in which the star plays a double part. The play is an adaptation of Miriam Michelson's novel, "Michael Thwaite's Wife," and deals with the story of twin sisters who are of entirely different types. Tom Mix in a burlesque, "Starring in Western Stuff," and a Mutt and Jeff cartoon, "The Birth of a Nation," conclude what promises to be an exceptional bill.

Sunday, the second episode of the serial, "The Invisible Hand," will be shown, together with Ethel Clayton in "Men, Women and Money," and a comedy, "The Footlights." Considerable interest was aroused by the first installment of the serial, which artfully left off in a most exciting place.

Monday's bill is featured by "The Escape," starring Blanche Sweet and Owen Moore. It is a story of the slums, produced by D. W. Griffith, and has been pronounced a "thoroughly enjoyable" show.

If you would be happy let the other fellow do the worrying.

GREETINGS TO WOMAN'S CLUB FROM BELGIAN BOY

Mrs. L. H. Highland, chairman of the Belgian relief fund for the Alliance Woman's club, received a New Year's card written by one of the little Belgian orphan boys in a good, plain American hand, of which the club is very proud. The following is a copy:
"DE PAUNE, Belgium.—Dear Madames: Just a card wishing you all a very happy New Year. From Charles Christian."

The Woman's club has contributed for two years to the support of a mother and two small sons. By giving this family aid the mother kept these boys in school and it is very gratifying to the club members to receive these cards written in the American language.

A STATEMENT BY DR. MAHAFFY

To the Public:
Certain individuals, because of ulterior motives best known to themselves, have seen fit to circulate a report that I intend to remove from Alliance.

The report is, of course, untrue. Dentists, like other professional men, are not in the habit of abandoning lucrative practices, and, inasmuch as mine is highly satisfactory to me and is growing steadily in volume as the months go by, I certainly have no intention of bidding it farewell.
W. J. MAHAFFY, D. D. S.

STEVE CANNON TO MEET WHEELER

Thursday, January 15, Date Set for Interesting Wrestling Match at the Armory

Thursday, January 15, is the date set for what promises to be an exceptionally interesting grappling contest at the armory. On that date Steve Cannon, weight 150, will again meet A. B. Wheeler, who tips the scales at 212 pounds. The last time these two men met on the mat, Cannon received some damaged ribs, but he is back in prime condition now and has a hunch that he can put Wheeler on his back. To show how strong the hunch is, it might be mentioned that the match is for the entire gate receipts and there has been a side bet of \$100 laid, with Jack Riordan holding the stakes.

Cannon has mapped out a rather strenuous wrestling program for himself this month. One the 15th, he will meet Wheeler. On January 21, he is scheduled to wrestle Joe Stakes at Scottsbluff, and on the 28th the postponed match with Pete Buzukos will be pulled off. Cannon has been doing some hard working out, and says that he never felt more fit. Wheeler is feeling pretty fine himself, and the contest ought to be a shummer from start to finish.

Buzukos has been receiving a lot of publicity down in the capital city, where he is scheduled to meet Adam Krieger, Lincoln's claimant of the world's welterweight championship, this evening.—Advertisement.

BILL HART AT THE IMPERIAL TONIGHT

It's a good program that the Imperial has provided for this evening. William S. Hart will appear as "The Two-Gun Man" in "The Bargain," and the producers have promised several reels of the kind of thrills that Bill manages to produce. There is one scene that will make every young lady in the audience positively gasp, and some of the men folks will probably gulp a little. Folks who like western plays in which the hero isn't merely a combination of a bandana handkerchief and a six-shooter always manage to come out the night a Bill Hart play is scheduled. A Harold Lloyd comedy and Universal Weekly complete the bill.

POSTPONE MEETING OF AMERICAN LEGION

The meeting of the American Legion, scheduled for this evening at 7:30 at the armory, has been postponed until next Tuesday. At a meeting held last Tuesday, plans were made to hold the first rehearsal of the legion's minstrel show tonight, but Mr. Mann, who has consented to lead and train the chorus, is ill and unable to be present.

Every legion member who is willing to take a part in the coming production is asked to show up promptly at 7:30 next Tuesday evening for the first practice.

HOME BUILDERS ARE READY TO BEGIN ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL MEETING WAS HELD ON TUESDAY EVENING

Old Officers and Directors Re-elected Additional Sales of Stock Reported

The first annual meeting of the Alliance Home Builders' association, held in the Community club rooms Tuesday evening, found the new organization in an exceedingly prosperous condition, considering the fact that it is less than two months old. Considerably over half of the \$100,000 stock to be issued has been subscribed for, and no difficulty is anticipated in disposing of the balance. There is no doubt that Alliance will have at least two hundred new homes in which to house its citizens as a result of the activities of the association.

The members re-elected the officers and directors, as follows: President, G. L. Griggs; secretary, M. E. Hargraves; treasurer, J. W. Guthrie; directors, H. A. Copesey, F. W. Harris, A. D. Rodgers, Glen Miller, F. A. Bald, B. J. Sallows.

An executive committee of three members was appointed, which will have charge of the purchase of lots and materials, subject to the approval of the board.

Additional stock subscriptions were reported as follows: H. L. Dierks, James Dobry, E. T. Kibble, Forest Lumber company, J. A. Robinson, Burr Printing company, O'Bannon Bros., C. H. Fuller, Fowler Lumber company, O. C. Moore. Three of these had previously made subscriptions, but decided to increase the amount of their holdings.

No aggressive campaign to secure stock subscriptions has been made previous to the first annual meeting, but from now on an effort will be made to complete the sale of stock. The more money the association has on hand, the sooner it will be able to complete the ambitious program it has laid out. Citizens of Alliance who have the interest of their town at heart will not delay a minute to come forward and place a subscription which is not only a good investment but a direct aid in making the city what it should be. As the Community club, which fathered the organization, is fond of saying, "Let's Go!"

LON DRAKE RELEASED AND VINDICATED

Lon Drake, who was brought back from Lincoln the first of the week by Sheriff Miller to answer to a charge of drawing a check on one of the local banks when he had no funds on deposit to pay the same, was released shortly after his arrival. It developed, according to Sheriff Miller, that Drake had received a telegram from a sister in Illinois to the effect that his mother was seriously ill. He had gone to the bank, told them of this, and wanted to draw out what money he had on deposit. He reminded them that he had a check out in favor of F. E. Holsten for \$6.26, and requested them to take out the money to pay it. They did so, and gave him the balance. It seems that after he left, a check for \$10 in favor of himself, drawn to "cash" and cashed at the bank was discovered. This, due to some oversight, had not been deducted at the time the account was closed. The arrest followed. Drake asserted that he had no desire to defraud the bank, and in fact, the evidence was all in his favor. Immediately upon his release from custody, he hurried to Chicago, to be with his mother.

LACKEY HEARING MONDAY MORNING

A preliminary hearing for Lawrence H. Lackey, charged with murder in the first degree, will be held in the county court room on Monday, unless postponement is ordered. Considerable public interest has been aroused in the case, and defense and prosecution have indicated some interesting testimony.

A special meeting of the Alliance Volunteer Fire department has been called for Saturday evening, at which time plans for a special train to the state convention will be discussed.