

The Alliance Herald

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OFFER ALLIANCE HEADQUARTERS OF ASSOCIATION

BARTOW PRESENTS PLANS TO COMMUNITY CLUB

Would Utilize Flood Waters That Now Do Damage to Make Millions of Acres Fertile

Judge H. C. Bartow of Fort Pierre, S.D., president of the Great Plains Irrigation association, at a meeting of the directors of the Community club Tuesday evening, offered to bring the headquarters of the association to Alliance provided the club would pledge its support. Mr. Bartow will return to this city within the next two weeks, at which time it is probable that a special meeting will be called, at which he can present more complete data on the project.

In his talk before the directors, Mr. Bartow unfolded plans for a gigantic irrigation project, which would furnish water for a strip of land a thousand miles long and twenty-five miles wide—sufficient for over three million forty-acre homes. The plan is to store up the flood waters that, upon reaching the lower Mississippi valley, do millions of dollars worth of damage, and by building a huge pipe line, distribute them over the states of North and South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. Since the way is uphill, it would be an engineering feat of no small magnitude, but Mr. Bartow has reports from various civil engineers as to the feasibility of the project.

The association was formed in 1912, Mr. Bartow said, and completed its own preliminary survey, presenting to the senate, through Senator Newland of Nevada, information that was sufficient to carry an appropriation measure through the senate. The death of Senator Newland, the Mexican trouble and the European war all served to delay matters, until Mr. Bartow feels that the work will largely have to be done over. He plans to finance the preliminary expense by organizing an association of interested people in the area to be affected, and knows that it can be done, for it has been done before.

A brief statement of the plan, prepared by Mr. Bartow, follows:

"The object of this association is to use the water of the great watershed of the northwest to irrigate a strip of country down across North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. We find upon investigation that it is the crest of the floods that does the great damage in the lower Mississippi valley. They have no use for these floods nor room for them in the lower Mississippi valley, while we have lots of room and plenty of good use for these flood waters up here near their sources. The Great Plains Irrigation association was started on the 16th day of July, 1912, with the intention of building a dam near the mouth of the Yellowstone, and skimming off the flood waters that come together near the mouth of the Yellowstone. The first plan was to use this water down across North and South Dakota.

"State Engineer Lee made an estimate of the cost of putting in a dam and the building of a pipe 520 miles, which would amount to \$8,000,000. The strip was to be twenty-five miles wide and 520 miles long, making a covering area of a little over eight million acres and the average cost per acre about ten dollars.

"After we organized this association, we put out a number of men in the field to get petitioners for government aid. During the summer of 1913, I spoke in 183 towns and secured about 7,000 petitioners for this association, at \$1.00 each, to help to defray the expenses of the reconnaissance survey.

"We made the survey, and found we would have to build a dam 175 feet high, a sluiceway 150 feet wide and thirty feet deep, to run this water into a natural reservoir that lies south of the Big Missouri, east of the Yellowstone, and north of the Little Missouri, that will hold with a little fixing 37,000,000 acre feet of water.

"We found that these 20,000,000 acre feet of flood water would pass through between these two stone bluffs every year. We decided that an inch a week on any of that land in North and South Dakota during the twelve growing weeks will make a crop, regardless of climatic conditions.

About the time we got through with that survey, in the fall of 1913, Senator Newland of Nevada notified

us that he had got up a bill called "The River and Regulation Bill," that would cover all of this deal of ours. It called for ten million a year for ten years for the Missouri river above St. Louis. He invited us to throw in with him, and boost that bill with sixteen other associations and to help push it through. At that time there was a vote taken in the senate, and it won out, 43 to 37. We had to take our turn at coming around, Mr. Benton in Mexico was murdered, we were pigeon-holed and the bill has lain there ever since.

"Since then, Mr. Newland died, and we do not know how hard his successor will work for the bill. We believe the bill has fallen through. We have been advised lately by some of our friends in Washington that the quickest and surest way to get this bill before congress would be to reorganize and raise a membership of this association to 40,000 represented by all classes and trades of people, gathering them up all over the United States and at the same time raise money enough to make our own permanent survey. If it will cost \$80,000,000 to put it down across North and South Dakota, it (Continued on Page 8.)

WRESTLING COWBOY LOOKING FOR MATCH

Charles Johnson of Lewellen, Neb., known in this part of the country as the wrestling cowboy, is looking for an Alliance match at as early a date as possible. He has issued a challenge to any Alliance wrestler, and the limit is off on the question of weight. Johnson tips the scales at 168 pounds ringside, but he has no hesitancy in saying that he would like to tangle with anyone, although he prefers a man under 175 pounds. Jerry Robinson is Johnson's manager, and backers of any mat artist are requested to get into communication with him, the quicker the sooner.

The Lewellen man's challenge reads as follows:

"I challenge any of your local wrestlers to a bout, best two out of three falls. I would prefer a man under 175 pounds, unless it would be Wheeler; in that case I ask for no weight limits. I would like to meet Cannon in a return match. I will furnish a side bet if necessary. My present weight is 186 pounds ringside. I prefer an early date if possible."

There's the proposition. Who'll be the first man to take a chance with the wrestling cowboy?

TEN MARY PICKFORDS YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN

Alliance film fans will have an opportunity to look upon Mary Pickford in ten new roles, and all of them in one play, "The Hoodlum," the second production from her own studio. You don't need to know what it's all about to be interested. All you need to know is that she takes the part of a spoiled heiress who dropped through a coal chute to real life and adventure. There are a thousand laughs in the picture and you are at liberty to count them if you don't believe us. We can assure you that most of the movie palaces hike the prices for Mary's new plays, but the Imperial will put it on at the low rates. In addition, there is a kid matinee at 4:30 which will cost still less. Joe Martin in "The Jungle Gentleman" is thrown in for good measure.

HOME BUILDERS TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION

At a meeting of the directors of the Alliance Home Builders' association, held Thursday evening, arrangements were made to procure plans and specifications of residences. According to present indications, construction work will be begun on not less than twelve houses within the next week or two.

HEMINGFORD SILENT ON THE POWER LINE

The city council of Hemingford is maintaining a silence on the question of the power line to connect with the Alliance municipal plant. Not a word has come from the neighboring town since the committee asked for and received an estimate.

E. G. Laing is spending several days in Omaha this week, in attendance at the state convention of retail clothiers.

TO HOLD OFF ON PHONE FRANCHISE

Council Will Wait to See What Action Constitutional Convention Takes

Announcement was made today that, in all probability, the city council would delay action on a franchise for the Nebraska Telephone company until the constitutional convention finishes its sessions. The convention has been considering the state railway commission, and the prospects are that they may make some changes in its regulatory powers.

Under the circumstances, sentiment in the council does not favor going ahead with a franchise with the prospect that within a few months the whole thing may have to be done all over again to make it conform to the new laws. It might be that the city councils will have more power when the new constitution is adopted, and the members do not care to tie themselves up for twenty years without taking every precaution they can.

The telephone company has been operating for several months without a franchise. Representatives of the company submitted an ordinance, but the council, instead of passing it, appointed a committee to make suggestions. The committee brought in its report two or three weeks ago, and it was the intention to argue it out with the company, but the whole matter, it seems, will be held in abeyance, until the council knows exactly what the situation will be.

WINNERS CHOSEN IN DECLAM CONTEST

The annual declamatory contest of the Alliance high school was held at the Imperial theater Wednesday evening, and winners were selected in three classes to represent the school at the district contest, which will be held later.

There was a marked improvement in the class of selections presented by the contestants, and the work of each one showed the results of careful training. It would have been a difficult task to select any one as the best, and the judges needed all the time that was allowed them to compare markings and arrive at a decision.

In the oratorical class, Robert Lawrence, with "A Plea for Cuba," was given first place, and Edward Morrow, who presented "The New South," was given second. Madeline Zediker, with "Rock of Ages," won first place in the dramatic, second place being awarded to Ruth Stanton, who read "The Soul of the Violin." In the humorous class, Asenath Schill, who gave "Aunt Elvora's Hero," was given first, and second place was given to Ruth Scott, with "Mandy's Organ."

The judges were: Superintendent Wright of the Hemingford schools, County Superintendent McFadden of Cheyenne county and Superintendent Bailey of Dalton.

A LITTLE ACTIVITY IN POLICE COURT

After fully ten days of inactivity, without a single case to consider, the police court Friday morning disposed of two in rapid succession.

Ben Edwards of South Alliance was fined \$10 and costs on a charge of disturbing the peace by discharging firearms. Edwards shot a horse belonging to him about 10 o'clock and was arrested and fined with very little loss of time.

A Mexican taken in charge by a Burlington special agent, who said he had broken quarantine regulations by entering a bunk car containing flu patients, was released after examination.

Earl Friday afternoon, Frank Devoreau received a fine of \$5 and costs for violating quarantine regulations.

ALLIANCE MEETS CRAWFORD TONIGHT

The Alliance high school basketball team will meet the undefeated Crawford high school basket tappers at the high school this evening, and the chances are the leaders of the neighboring league will be glad the game doesn't count after the evening's entertainment is over. The Alliance team is playing mighty well these days, considering the break in the lineup caused by Captain Joder's illness.

The Alliance girls' team will leave for Crawford tomorrow and play the Crawford girls tomorrow evening.

KEEPING UP WITH GORDON MILLER

Wounded Soldier Has Been Searching for His Aunt in Various Nebraska Cities

Once more Gordon Miller is heard from—this time at Lincoln. Ever since Gordon hove in sight on our horizon, he has kept moving. To date, he has hit Alliance, Scottsbluff and Lincoln, but it is likely that he'll bob up again before long some place else, as the last word from the capital city was to the effect that he has again dropped off the face of the earth.

Knowing what we do about the awful price of carfare, we were inclined to wonder just how Gordon could travel so far on the \$20 that represented his sole capital when he was discharged from Walter Reed hospital in Washington, D. C. At least that was his story in Alliance, and we're not disposed to be critical. He may tell his story any way he wants to tell it. So far as is known, he secured no money here, but the mystery of funds is solved.

The Scottsbluff chapter of the Red Cross, which shares the regular Scottsbluff antipathy toward any other place on the map and the city of Gering in particular, furnished the ticket to Lincoln. Miss Ganson, Alliance Red Cross secretary, had communicated with the county chapter at Gering, but the Scottsbluff branch consulted no one. They dug up the carfare without any inquiry. Miller didn't include Gering in his itinerary.

Gordon's story is practically the same as he told in Alliance. There are minor variations in detail. For example, while here, he said that his two brothers were serving with the Canadian troops. Now it appears that one brother was killed by his side at Verdun and the other a lieutenant in aviation, fell in No Man's Land in an airplane accident.

The injury to his wrist, according to latest reports, was due to a bayonet thrust while defending a comrade in a hand-to-hand encounter. For this he was decorated for bravery. The Alliance story was that he had received this in a fist fight at Verdun, although other wounds were due to shrapnel.

He is still seeking his aunt, Mrs. Anna Connors, but she has managed so far to move just a day or two ahead of him.

Indications are that Miller, occasionally using another name, has been traveling about the country using this table wherever he goes, changing the details at will, but holding to the general story. A letter from Edward McLean, Red Cross agent for the mountain division, with headquarters at Denver, contains further information:

"Your letter of January 29, concerning the above-named man, has been handed to me, and beg to state that any beliefs put in the stories of this man are worse than wasted. He travels under two or three different names, and the Walter Reed hospital has no report of man nor is there any army records of him, and there are reasons to think the man has never been in the service.

"Story about family's death is absolutely false. A letter from Detroit states that man has given 555 High street, Detroit, Mich., as his home address, and made some statements there of loss of family at one blow somewhere in an automobile wreck. The man has never lived in Denver and has no parents here, and we have had no contact with him in any shape, form or fashion, except the letters which have been mentioned.

"See no reasons to believe about dishonesty on the part of the man's aunt for the whole story is false. There is absolutely nothing that can be done and I hope you have not made this man any loans."

SANDHILLS THE PLACE FOR CATTLE RAISING

Ray Hammond, who grew up in Hamilton county a few years before The Herald's owners attained that distinction, was in Alliance Thursday morning and made this office a visit. It had been some years since we had a visit with him, and we listened to a lot of interesting experiences.

Hammond sold out in Hamilton county shortly before the last big raise in land values, and had a try at the Scottsbluff irrigated country. He finally decided that, no matter how profitable it was, he preferred ranching to farming, and let go of his holdings at a big advance. Then, for five or six months, he had a look

around. He visited North and South Dakota, Texas and two or three other places, and just a few months ago selected the sandhills as the best place in the world to raise cattle. He is now the owner of a big ranch, forty-five miles out of Mullen and the same distance from a railroad, where he is curing for about a thousand head.

He is outspoken in his enthusiasm for the Alliance Packing company. For years, he says, he has shipped his cattle to more or less distant markets, and you can't tell him a thing about shrinkage and other evils of long hauls. He has figured it out that, although he ninety-odd miles out of Alliance, he can drive his cattle in overland and save time, freight money and shrinkage loss. The Alliance concern plans to pay Omaha prices, and he isn't a bit backward about saying that he can see fatter profits in the stockraising game than ever before.

USE FIREMEN'S HALL FOR FLU PATIENTS

At a special meeting of the board of health held Thursday evening, it was decided to take over the firemen's clubrooms in the city hall temporarily and establish therein quarters for influenza patients. There will be separate wards for both men and women, and competent nurses will be in charge. The authorities wish it understood that patients will be expected to pay a nominal charge of \$3 per day for attendance, and this fee will not reimburse the city for the expense to which it is being put. Medical attendance will also be paid by the patients.

These quarters will be available to every physician in the city.

The city physician is asking for the co-operation of every person in the city, both in the matter of reporting cases and in observing the quarantine rules. The term of quarantine is a short one, and it works no particular hardship on those affected to strictly observe the regulations.

There has been no particular increase in the number of cases during the past three days. The physicians of the city have been able to take care of the patients. There have been no deaths reported, and, in fact, every case to date has been mild.

Every situation in Alliance is not at all alarming, and there is no indication that it will be necessary to close the schools or interfere with business.

YAMA YAMA DANCE IS THE LATEST ONE

W. R. Harper, chairman of the entertainment committee of the Alliance Elks lodge, is making a record. Every little while or oftener he comes out with something new and this time it's to be a Yama Yama dance. The uninitiated don't know exactly what kind of a dance this is to be, but the members of the order are in a fair way to find out, at least by Tuesday, February 10, on the evening of which day the event will take place.

So near as we can discover, a Yama Yama is a variety of masquerade. At least costumes are required. Harp has arranged for a supply to arrive from Denver for everyone who hasn't time to figure out one for himself, and they will be on hand at the hall for folks who prefer to wait and see what happens. No dancer will be allowed on the floor unless in costume. It'll be a generous affair, and there'll be a grand assortment of get-ups and disguises.

The entertainment committee has been working overtime getting up programs that will entertain, and they are expecting a full-sized crowd to do justice to this one. There are a lot more of just such entertainments under consideration, and prospects are that the Elks will fully enjoy themselves in the best year of their history.

SILVER GRILL CAFE HAS CHANGED HANDS

The first of next week the Silver Grill cafe goes under new management, the business having been purchased by a Hastings man with considerable experience in the restaurant game, who expects to make a number of changes.

The Grill will be closed Monday and Tuesday of next week, and during these days a force of workmen will be busy making it look different. It will open up Wednesday morning, a new place, changed in appearance and personnel.

TOM RUBIS IS ARRESTED ON A SERIOUS CHARGE

WILL BE TRIED FOR A CRIME AGAINST NATURE

Case Continued for a Week and Bail Placed at \$3,000 by County Judge Tash

On a complaint filed in county court Tuesday of this week warrant was issued for the arrest of Tom Rubis, a young Greek who has been in business in this city until recently, on a charge of sodomy. The state is detaining the principal witness in the case, and other witnesses will be called.

Attorneys for the defense asked for a continuance at a preliminary hearing Friday morning, and County Judge Tash set the trial for 10 a. m. next Monday. Bail was set at \$3,000, which has not yet been furnished.

The complaint alleges that the offenses were committed on Monday and Tuesday of this week. Tuesday evening Rubis left town, telling some of his friends, it is said, "that he was in bad." Chief of Police Nova Taylor kept the wires hot for hours and finally located him in Scottsbluff. The chief went over to the sugar city and returned with his prisoner Wednesday evening.

Mitchell and Gantz are the attorneys for the defense and Eugene Burton is representing the state.

TO HOLD CHAUTAUQUA SIX DAYS IN JULY

Fifty-eight business and professional men of Alliance have signed the required guarantee, which means that the Standard Chautauqua system will put on a six-day program in this city some time during July. Dates for the event have not been definitely arranged, although it is likely that it will take place during the early part of the month.

The men who have sponsored the movement will form themselves into a chautauqua association and the booster spirit always present for better things for Alliance will put the proposition over. A number of men may have refused to sign the guarantee, but this does not mean that they are opposed to the chautauqua idea or that they will withhold their support from it.

No one disputes the fact that the chautauqua brings to a city some talent which it would be hard to secure in any other manner. Those who have interested themselves in this project have no hesitancy in saying that they will make it go.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INITIATION SUNDAY

Alliance council No. 975, Knights of Columbus, will hold an initiation Sunday, February 8, at which a class of between fifty and seventy-five will be given all three degrees. State deputy E. H. Whelan will be among the visitors, and there will be delegations from nearby cities.

In the evening, at the armory, a banquet will be given to the members of the council, visiting knights and their ladies, at which the following will respond to toasts: State Deputy Whelan, Thomas Morrow, W. R. Metz and W. P. Miles. J. W. Guthrie will be toastmaster.

TO HOLD CLERK-CARRIER EXAMINATION FEB. 14

The United States civil service commission announced that on February 14, at the postoffice in Alliance, Neb., an open competitive examination will be held for the positions of clerk and city carrier. The initial salary will be \$1,000 a year, to which has been added a temporary increase of \$200 a year, making the salary \$1,200 a month. For substitute service the rate is 50 cents per hour. Applicants must have reached their eighteenth but not their forty-fifth birthday on the date of examination.

CITY HALL IS NOW A LONELY PLACE

The city hall seems lonesome the past few days. City Manager Smith is at home, quarantined, a victim of the epidemic, and Mrs. Grace Kennedy, city clerk, is ill from a cold. E. G. Campbell is in charge of the whole works.