

The Alliance Herald

Twice a Week—Tuesday and Friday

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ANOTHER FAILURE TO GET FRANCHISE

Council Listens to Telephone Company Representative, But Takes No Action

F. A. May of Omaha, commercial superintendent of the Nebraska Telephone company, on his second appearance before the city council at the Tuesday evening meeting, submitted figures showing that the company was not carting money out of Alliance by the wheelbarrow load. As a matter of fact, Mr. May insisted, the profit on the investment amounted to exactly 3 per cent, less than any other business of the size in the city.

The Omaha man made an appeal to the council to grant the company a franchise, and showed a conciliatory spirit all through his address and the discussion that followed, but the council showed no disposition to meet him half way.

Rate Clause the Trouble

The company franchise expired several months ago, and the council has been in no hurry to grant another, despite the fact that the company is awaiting the passage of an ordinance of that kind before it spends money to improve facilities in Alliance. The difficulty seems to be that the original franchise contained a rate clause, and this failed to hold when the railway commission was created by the legislature and given rate powers. Some of the councilmen declare they fail to see the necessity for a franchise when the last one didn't protect the city, and the company declares that it cannot go ahead with improvements until given "the legal right" to do so.

On the expiration of the old franchise, the company's attorneys submitted a sample ordinance similar to the franchises passed by other councils. But the Alliance council found a number of objections with it, and these were incorporated in a committee report signed by City Attorney W. R. Metz and Councilman Johnson. This report contained a number of suggestions, such as that the company be required to construct a building here within two years.

One Place to Get Money

Mr. May was present at last month's session of the council and made an argument against the suggestions embodied in this report. At Tuesday evening's session, he began his remarks with a reference to a suggestion by Mayor Rodgers that a heavy occupation tax be exacted. "You might as well make it \$500 a month as \$350," he said. "We have but one place to get revenue—from those who buy our services—and if we cannot make a reasonable profit we will have to go before the railway commission and ask for an increase in rates."

The speaker then presented figures taken from the company's books. They covered only the year 1919, but Mr. May extended an invitation to the council or a competent commission to check the receipts and expenses for any period desired. The council did not see fit to authorize the appointment of such a committee, although the invitation was extended several times.

Investment of Over \$70,000

The property was purchased in 1910, Mr. May said. Two years later, a reconstruction estimate was prepared, in which the old plant was figured at \$27,551 and improvements at \$40,224.94, making a total investment, in 1913, of \$67,775.93. The old plant was a pile of junk and a large part of it was piled up and burned, and over \$25,000 was charged off the company's books. In 1913 the company had 880 stations, representing an investment of \$50 per station. At the present time, there are 1,131 stations, with an average investment of \$65. Since 1913 additional money to the amount of \$28,331 has been invested in Alliance, making the total investment in the city \$70,000.

The Nebraska Telephone company made but \$6,897.61 profit out of the Alliance station during 1919, a total of 9.81 per cent on the investment. The state railway commission allows them to charge off 8 per cent for depreciation each year, but this they do not do. Instead they charge off 6 per cent, and this leaves a net profit of 3.81 per cent. The 9.81 per cent cares for both depreciation and interest on investment.

Mr. May has been an Alliance fan ever since he was district commercial manager in this territory. He has, he declared, at all times urged improvements here and has been remarkably successful. He cited the

toll line to the potash towns as an instance of what he had been able to secure, and expressed a conviction that the investment of over \$38,000 would eventually pay out, although for a time it appeared that the bottom had dropped out of potash. The company expected \$500 a month revenue from his toll line and the exchanges thereon, but it considers itself lucky if it receives \$150.

Not Ashamed of Figures

The company is not ashamed of the Alliance figures, Mr. May said. He believed that the railway commission would grant it permission to raise rates and earn a higher interest. The company, however, does not want higher rates. It wants to do business in the city and to extend its facilities to give adequate service, but will not do so until given the legal right by the city.

Following the talk there was a long discussion which took in such matters as the way the company figured its taxes, some members of the council objecting to the system used. Mr. May replied that it was the system approved by the railway commission and not within the province of the council to change. The matter of a depreciation fund was next brought up, and it was explained to the council that this was used for plant replacement and to cover emergencies.

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ROSETTA REJOINS THE HOLY ROLLERS

Fourteen-Year-Old Makes a Third Attempt to Lead the Religious Life

Chief of Police Nova Taylor Thursday morning received a visit from Mrs. Anna O'Neill, mother of Rose Etta and Flossie, aged fourteen and seventeen, respectively, who have a burning desire to lead the religious life. Rose Etta, a month or two ago, was taken from a band of Holy Rollers then at Alliance and returned to her mother at Seneca. That was Rose Etta's second attempt. The third attempt was no more successful, for Chief Taylor located her at Antioch and handed her over to her mother.

Flossie, the other daughter, has gone a step farther. Her mother, after locating her at Crawford, started out for Theford, her county seat, to swear out a warrant for the arrest of one of the Rollers, with whom Flossie is believed to be enamored. After her daughters had been found, and one of them captured, Mrs. O'Neill told the chief that she was completely out of funds, and within five minutes the police department head had finished passing the hat with entirely satisfactory results.

COMMITTEE TO PREPARE A BUILDING ORDINANCE

The city council, at its meeting Tuesday evening, appointed a committee to redraft the building ordinance prepared by C. C. Smith when he held the position of city manager. The ordinance was originally drafted according to suggestions of the national board of underwriters, and there is nothing the matter with it, save that it is entirely too long, covering over fifteen foolscap pages, and typewritten at that. The mayor suggested that it probably is a copy of the one now in force in greater New York, and while Alliance has considerable building activity, it is not yet necessary to make legal provision for the erection of skyscrapers.

City Attorney Metz will confer with Grand Island, Hastings, Fremont, North Platte and other cities of Alliance's class, and secure copies of their building ordinances. Then the committee will call in an experienced architect, and a set of building regulations suitable for the city will be prepared.

A building ordinance is needed but not too ambitious an ordinance. One result of the lack was pointed out when the mayor called attention to the fact that property constructed in the city four years ago had never found a place on the tax lists. With a system of building permits, this would be impossible.

Wanted—A middle aged woman for a housekeeper; must be neat in appearance and good to children; who can take a mother's place. I lost my wife. I will make a home for the right party or if you have a home, write and find out. I will call on you. G. B. Herman, Lakeside, Neb. 31

CONTESTANTS ANNOUNCED IN THE HERALD AUTO AND PRIZE CAMPAIGN

ENTERPRISING HUSTLERS ARE "OFF AT POST" IN SIX WEEKS CAMPAIGN FOR VOTES

RACE FOR THE PRIZES IS NOW ON IN REAL EARNEST

The Number of Votes Cast for Each Contestant up to 8 P. M. Monday, March 15, Will Be Published in Tuesday's Herald—Who Will Be at the Top of the List?

Names of Contestants

Following are the names of candidates who have been entered in The Herald's contest to date. The names are arranged in alphabetical order and credited with the nomination votes only. Tuesday they will appear according to vote standing—the highest first, and so on.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND VOTES TO APPEAR IN TUESDAY'S REPORT MUST BE TURNED IN BY 8 O'CLOCK MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 15.

If you have sent in your name and it does not appear below—or if you desire to compete—notify The Herald at once. Phone 340.

MISS MINNIE ANDERSON	Manhattan Cafe	5,000
MISS MARGARET BARRY	224 First	5,000
MR. NORBERT BROWN	322 West Fourth	5,000
MR. N. M. BULLOCK	220 Box Butte	5,000
MISS HELEN COKER	905 Yellowstone	5,000
MR. RALPH COX	403 Cheyenne	5,000
MR. GEORGE DAVIS	616 Toluca	5,000
MISS LYDA GASSELING	Hemingford	5,000
MISS LORETTA HODGKINSON	1004 Big Horn	5,000
MISS GRACE JOHNSON	1011 Box Butte	5,000
MRS. FRANK KOPAC	Antioch	5,000
MR. ALEX LEE	Ranch	5,000
MISS SARAH NEWMAN	222 Toluca	5,000
MR. JORDAN ROBINSON	414 Niobrara	5,000
MR. CARLETON TAYLOR	Long Lake	5,000
MISS RUTH THOMASON	904 Big Horn	5,000
MRS. J. WONG	315 Cheyenne	5,000

The first announcement of the names of candidates entered thus far in The Herald's big automobile and prize campaign, in which a brand new Reo six touring car, valued at \$1,985, is the grand capital prize, appears above.

This marks the real beginning of a race for more than \$3,000 in magnificent awards. The bars are up and every active participant has right of way.

By looking over the representative—but short—list of candidates you will likely see the name of a friend or acquaintance whom you would like to see win the new Reo six. If so, hand him or her your subscription right now—right at the start, when encouragement counts the most.

Room for Others

As there are eight valuable prizes to be awarded, and 20 per cent cash commission guaranteed all active non-prize winners, it will be seen at a glance that there is an excellent opportunity for YOU in this contest. In fact, the opening that exists for live-wire workers to make themselves important factors and big prize winners is almost calling aloud. There were quite a number of other nominations sent in which are not included in the above list. In each case the nominee was notified by letter and requested to acknowledge receipt. It is expected that a number of these will be heard from within the next day or two, and that the next published list will see new names added and interest in the race growing by leaps and bounds.

Vote Standings Tuesday

The number of votes cast for each contestant will be published in the next issue of The Herald, Tuesday, March 16. All votes polled up to 8 o'clock Monday evening, March 15, will be counted and the totals published opposite the names of contestants. The one having the largest number of votes will be placed first in the list, the one having the second largest number of votes, second in the list, and so on.

Time Is Limited—Get Busy

Less than three weeks remain during which to secure the maximum number of votes for subscriptions—less than three weeks to WIN or LOSE—for that is exactly what it means. After April 3 there is a material decrease in the schedule of votes; and, after April 17, there is an even greater decline—in fact the schedule is almost cut in half. Our best advice to those who wish to win is to hurry every available

subscription to The Herald office NOW—while the big votes are in effect. Not to do so means that you are throwing golden opportunities away—opportunities that may bring you the prize Reo, a free vacation trip to California, or one of the other valuable prizes.

No Quitters Here

With today's announcement of contestants the big race is on. Candidates are "off at the post" and the pace is growing hot.

YOUR ability and ambition are to be put to the test. Can you finish as strong as you have started, with the best talent and the keenest wit in western Nebraska pitted against you? You most certainly can if your courage does not fail you now.

Who can finish victorious in the face of keen competition? If we know character at all we opine that no such misery as a quitter will appear among those who have entered The Herald campaign. Certainly the winners will be entitled to admiration for defeating such a field, and as certainly will commendations be due those who "die game."

Get in the race with a shout for you are off in a bunch, and MAY THE BEST CONTESTANT WIN!

FASHION SHOP ANNOUNCE FIFTH ANNUAL OPENING

This week The Herald carries the announcement of the "Fifth Annual Opening of The Fashion Shop." It brings the first opportunity to Alliance shoppers to inspect a large variety of the spring designs, and many who have been waiting for it will now be able to exclaim over the wonders of the new lines in ladies' clothes.

The Fashion Shop introduces a new and entirely pleasing line of giving patrons and friends a favor at the opening. The favor is in the form of a substantial check, good for part payment of articles purchased during the month of March. Do not fail to read the announcement on page ten.

INTERRED AT GREENWOOD

The funeral of James B. Brown, aged seventy-nine years, was from the home of his sister, Mrs. F. G. Blain of this city, Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Ruthburn of Antioch conducted the services.

—Herald Want Ads get results.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

The regular election of officers for the Alliance Volunteer Fire department will be held on Wednesday, March 24. Nominations were opened at the regular meeting held on Wednesday night of this week. Those who have been nominated up to date for the different offices to be filled are: For president, Vern Register vice president, Ed Brennan, Charles Hill, George Ellis, John Hodgkinson and Guy Smith; secretary, Guy Smith, Roy Miller; treasurer, Fred Hayes, Frank Abegg; trustee, Ed Brennan; chief, Ward Hall; foreman hose company No. 1, Guy Smith, A. G. Isaacson; foreman hose company No. 2, C. H. Rocky, Ed Brennan, H. J. Ellis; foreman hook and ladder No. 1, Vivian Hall; foreman Lou Buechsenstein No. 1, Charles L. Hill, George Ellis.

A committee consisting of Lloyd Thomas, Carl Rocky and John Hodgkinson was appointed to draw up resolutions on the death of State Secretary E. A. Miller of Kearney. Carl Rocky, who attended the funeral for the Alliance department, reported that there were hundreds present from over the state. He also reported that H. A. Webbert of Kearney was appointed as acting state secretary until the next annual meeting, which is to be held at York.

CITY AUTHORITIES CLOSE A POOL HALL

And Possibly Other Such Institutions Will Meet With Hard Luck Before Long

The city council at its meeting Tuesday evening devoted some minutes to a discussion of the pool hall problem. Chief of Police Nova Taylor was present and furnished some enlightening information, and the results may be expected most any day. The Alliance Billiard parlor, recently changed hands, but the new proprietors have failed to make application for a new license as required by law, and the hall was closed on Wednesday until such time as arrangements are made.

The police have evidence of gambling, and permitting minors to play in at least one other pool, it is said, and the council decided that it would stand for strict law enforcement. This means that where conviction follows, the council will revoke licenses.

DELEGATIONS APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Several delegations were present at the regular meeting of the city council, held Tuesday evening in city hall. Among them was an aggregation of the city's plumbers, who asked for two things and were given hot hot them.

Their first request was that they be permitted to increase the price of lead pipe connections to conform with recent advances in the market price and after some discussion this was granted. The increase will make the new price just the figure it was two years ago. Last year, when the lead market dropped a few notches, the council reduced the figure.

The second request was that they be permitted to use the city's tapping machine, the plumbers setting forth tales of having to wait for hours for a city employe to show up with the machine. The council granted the request.

A second delegation presented a petition signed by sixteen residents in the district concerned, which asked for water main extensions north from Eleventh and Yellowstone to Twelfth; north from Eleventh and Missouri to Twelfth; east from Tenth and Yellowstone to furnish water to residents in the block, and north on Mississippi from Tenth to Twelfth. Deputy Sheriff McKinian, who was one of the delegation, said that every resident of the district would sign. The petition was referred to Councilman Steuber, who will consult with Mr. Knight and furnish an estimate of cost to the council.

Secretary Rufus Jones of the Chamber of Commerce requested the use of the city's streets for concession purposes during the race meet to be held in June, and after assuring the council that the streets which will then be under process of paving will not be molested and that no carnival will be run in the business section, granted the request.

Attorney F. A. Wright of Scottsbluff had legal business here yesterday.

WILL ASK MONEY TO FINISH SEWER

Council Will Submit Proposal to Issue \$10,000 Additional Bonds

An adjourned meeting of the city council will be held next Monday evening, at which, according to Mayor Rodgers, it is probable that the council will decide to submit to the voters of the city at the April election a \$10,000 bond issue for the completion of the storm sewer. A second issue will be asked for paving intersections, probably in a like amount.

At the last meeting, the council voted to purchase the half block of land on the east side of Missouri, between Third and Fourth streets from William Tatro, the consideration to be \$1,500. The prebase was contingent on the entire half-block being included in the deed. There should be six lots in this tract, but the city's plats show by one lot.

The land to be purchased will be the means of solving much more than the purchase price, as the sewer will run diagonally across it instead of around. It will save some trouble over purchasing the right of way, and will mean that the city will not have to put in as expensive construction as would be the case if it were simply buying the right to cross the land. The council feels that it secured a bargain at the price, as they had expected to pay several hundred dollars more. Mr. Tatro has sold his floral business and was in a hurry to close out his interests and made the offer conditional on immediate acceptance.

HOW GOOD ROADS SHOULD BE BUILT

A law passed by the 1919 legislature vested power in the county board of commissioners or supervisors of any county in the state, having not more than 40,000 inhabitants, to lay out, construct, or improve by paving, any state or county road within the limits of any respective county.

The initial step.—The county engineer should lay out the districts. He should prepare a sketch map showing first, the location of the land; second, the land within two miles of the proposed improvement; third, the four zones, and fourth, the name of the owner of each individual tract of land.

The first step in promoting a paving district should be taken by the parties desiring the improvement. They should first determine from the county commissioners, the amount of money that is available for application on such a paving district. In addition, there should be specified in the petition before it is circulated for signatures the amount available from state and federal aid funds.

It must be remembered that the state and federal funds have been apportioned to the counties by law, and that no funds in excess of the county's share can be used within the county.

Federal aid can be applied to paving districts only by petition through the county commissioners, and in general they will not concentrate all of the state and federal funds on a comparatively short stretch of road, in order to favor a paving district which covers a short mileage.

Though the federal government provides an expenditure up to \$20,000 a mile for roads, this does not mean that \$20,000 aid will be given to any district desiring a paved road. Federal aid will be spent on roads according to the laws of the state, and it is hardly probable under the present law that this aid will do much more than grade the road, and provide permanent drainage structures and correct alignment.

The petition should contain the signatures of a majority of the resident property owners within two miles of the road designated for improvement. After the signatures of the people living two miles on either side of the road which is to be paved have been secured, a petition should be prepared.

Petition for Improvement.—This petition should ask the county board to create a paving district. The petition should contain the legal description of the road. It should state the kind of improvement desired, and it should be published in the county newspaper three weeks successively, or should be posted in three of the most public places in the vicinity of the improvement.

For convenience, the signatures (Continued on Page 6.)