

The Alliance Herald

Twice a Week—Tuesday and Friday

VOLUME XXVII.

ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1920.

NUMBER 39.

MURDERER HERE FOR SAFE KEEPING

Roy Braunia Twice Brought Here From Bridgeport to Escape Possible Mob Violence

Deputy Sheriff Gene Hall of Bridgeport brought Roy Braunia, murderer, back to Alliance Monday evening, where he will be held for safe keeping until a jury is impaneled in district court, now in session at Bridgeport. He will probably be again returned to Bridgeport Friday.

Roy Braunia, self-confessed murderer of John Watts, rancher near Bridgeport, was brought to Alliance via automobile late Friday evening by Sheriff Dyson of Morrill county, in order to save him from the vengeance of friends and neighbors of the murdered man. Braunia, a young man of twenty-four, killed Watts, his employer, on Thursday morning. He was arrested a few hours later and confined in the jail at Bridgeport, and later, when rumors of mob violence became prevalent, was brought here for safe keeping. Chief Nova Taylor took him back to Bridgeport Monday morning, where his trial was held in the afternoon.

Sheriff Dyson's original intention had been to drive to Angora and catch the train for Alliance, but on arrival there a phone call from Bridgeport brought the news that several ranchers were on the train they intended to catch, and that in addition several autoloads had left that city, presumably filled with mob members. For a time, the Alliance police authorities wondered whether there might not be an attempt at rushing the city jail, but if the ranchers were bent on mischief they concealed it well after their arrival in this city.

When interviewed by a Herald reporter, the murderer showed no hesitancy in telling of the crime. He did not regret his action in the least, he said, and did not particularly worry about the outcome. He hoped that he would get off with less than life imprisonment, and said that if he had a good lawyer and his employer's wife would stand by him, he thought it would come out that way.

The young murderer possesses a weak face, but not a vicious one by any means. He hasn't the highest grade of mentality, but he's nobody's fool. In a soft drawl, he told of the struggle to make his own way in the world ever since he reached the age of eight. His parents lived in Arizona, where his father was a rancher near Phoenix. When he was four years old, his father died, and his mother lived four years longer. His father had possessed some livestock, but there was nothing left when his mother died. "I haven't been home or had a home to go to since I was eight years old," he said. "I never got to go to school much—only a little at a time. All I know I've had to learn by hard work and experience."

Most of his work has been upon farms and ranches. He came to Bridgeport about two weeks before the tragedy. He never liked his employer. "He was a mean man," he said. "A mighty mean man. He was always whipping the horses or dogs. He would get sore if something didn't go just right, or just the way that he thought it ought to, and take out his spite on his horses. I've seen him hit them with clubs or the doubletree off the wagon. He was mean with his stepchildren, too. He used to get on his horse and ride around the house half a dozen times, firing his .38 revolver, just to scare them."

Braunia killed Watts, he said, because the latter called him a particularly vile name. Watts had hitched up a team and was preparing to drive to Bridgeport, when something went wrong. The horses became fractious, and the next minute they were both tangled up with the harness. Watts was some distance away, and came running over. He called out to Braunia, as he came: "Well, you're the craziest — of a driver I ever saw." Braunia, who had been trying to straighten out the tangled horses, dropped the reins and started toward the house.

"I was wearing a pair of gloves that he'd bought for me," the murderer said, "and he yelled at me: 'Come back here, you — come back and give me them gloves!'" I came back and laid them on the ground near him. Then he struck at me. I left the horses standing and ran across the field and he chased me. He nearly caught me once, but I jumped a fence and got away.

"I went right into the house and

took down the .22 Winchester that hung over the middle door. I hurried so as to beat him there. I knew he had a loaded .38 pistol, and I was afraid of him. You know that no man keeps a loaded pistol in a house for any good purpose. I took the Winchester and went to the door, and there 'e was, comin' toward the house. I called out to him:

"John, I says, 'don't you step another step farther. Stop right where you are!'"

"He ducked and ran around the milk house. I could see his head bob out now and then. I told him again:

"John, don't you come another step farther. I've told you for the last time!"

"He stepped out, and I let him have it."

This was the story that the youthful murderer told, in a low voice, without the least hint of passion, or without emotion of any kind. Braunia's one hope, he says, is in the wife of the murdered man. He has hopes that she will corroborate his story. "She sympathized with me," he said, "because I was a young fellow who had been knocked around all his life and had never had a home." His one fear, he said, was that she wouldn't want to do it. He has no hope that the will get away without paying a penalty for his crime, but he believes he will escape the supreme penalty.

FRANCHISE QUESTION UP WEDNESDAY NIGHT

A special meeting of the city council will be held Wednesday evening, when special representatives of the telephone company and other citizens will be present and the franchise question will be threshed out. Mayor Rodgers wants the advice of the citizens on this matter, and present prospects are that some kind of a solution will be arrived at. The company is awaiting the granting of a franchise, they say, to begin needed extensions and improvements.

DAREDEVIL LOCHLEAR AT IMPERIAL TONIGHT

Lieutenant O. L. Lochlear, whose daredevil stunts with the aeroplane have thrilled thousands since his discharge from the army, is the attraction at the Imperial tonight, in an exciting photoplay written for the purpose of displaying the nerve of the lieutenant. The name of it is "The Great Air Robbery," and it should keep you roused out of your seat during a good share of the performance. Wednesday, Bill Hart is the feature in a characteristic Alaskan play, "The Hell-Hound."

ALLIANCE BRIBES.

Assistant Burlington Agent Todd left for Denver Monday evening, where he will appear as witness against Nora Lauder, colored, who left Alliance a few days ago on a Burlington employes' pass. The case will come up in federal court.

J. H. Dorrell barber of Ardmore, S. D., was placed under arrest by Burlington Special Agent T. J. Smith last week. Stolen property belonging to the state agricultural school was found in his possession. He was arrested for suspected complicity in box car robberies, and while no evidence was found on this count, he waived preliminary hearing on the other hearing.

Fire about 10:30 Sunday morning burned the roof of the house at 105 Sweetwater occupied by Gertrude Jackson and Goldie Fuller, colored. The contents of the building were badly damaged. A second alarm an hour or so later was without foundation.

J. C. Osborn of Corning, Calif., an old time Hemingford resident who left for California on a visit several months ago, has purchased a fruit farm at Corning, Calif., said to be the show place of that section. He will still retain his Hemingford interests.

Smith P. Tuttle last week disposed of his office building on Box Butte avenue, adjoining the new Lowry & Henry garage, to James L. Blake, the consideration being \$4,000. Mr. Tuttle will probably leave within the next few days for California, where he will make his home with his son or daughter.

Four boys, Orle McFarland, Herman Liedloff, Emmett Wilson and Charles Wolfe, will appear in county court at 4 p. m. today to answer to a charge of vandalism and general cussedness. During the teachers' party at the home of J. C. Morrow last Friday evening, the boys are charged with entering the house and raking away with sundry and various edibles.

NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO BUILD SCHOOLS

Prospect That Further Fans Will Have to Be Voted to Carry Out Plans as Outlined.

Secretary Pate and two members of the school board met with the directors of the chamber of commerce Monday evening. The report was made that the architects, Fisk & Maginnis of Lincoln, had given a preliminary estimate on the plans approved for the new high school building, and the total was \$190,000 exclusive of furnishings, which would amount to at least \$25,000 more.

President Glen Miller suggested that a combination gymnasium and auditorium might be built, which would answer present needs and the building program could be resumed in two or three years, when prices were done skyrocketing.

Several of the directors called attention to the fact that when the bond petitions were signed, they contained a definite promise that the east side of the city should have a building, and they insisted that no building program should be adopted which would break that promise. If there were not sufficient funds, then the board should ask for sufficient funds. There is bound to be trouble, they said, if all the money to be raised by the sale of the bonds is spent on one building.

Mr. Pate explained that the board's intention had been to build the high school and construct one unit of a ward school on lots recently purchased on the east side. It was pointed out, however, that funds were not available for even this much.

Mr. Harris said that the board had asked for estimates for both buildings, and that in all probability the district would be asked to vote the additional money required. There is some question, he said, as to whether bonding houses will accept the bonds voted by petition, although there is certainly legal provision for such means. He thought it possible that the board would, after learning how much money was needed, ask for a special election to vote the entire amount.

OFFICIAL TABULATION OF ELECTION RETURNS

Members of the city council met last evening and compiled the official tabulation of votes for last Tuesday's election. The totals follow:

For Councilmen.	
First ward:	
H. D. Hacker	69
A. V. Gavin	12
Second ward:	
O. C. Moore	86
L. T. Burrows	51
Third ward:	
E. D. Henry	55
A. G. Wright	22
Fourth ward:	
L. H. Highland	18
A. B. Sturgeon	37

School Board Members. K. J. Stern and F. A. Harris were elected members of the school board. Mrs. Mose Wright received within four votes of the number required to elect. This was the only case where there was a possibility that the official totals would show a change from the unofficial returns published last Friday. Votes of the three principal candidates follow:

Ward 1 2 3 4 T	
K. J. Stern	45 29 38 42 154
F. A. Harris	18 22 30 37 107
Mrs. M. Wright	30 36 31 6 104

Clarence Johnson of Long Lake came to Alliance Monday to meet Mr. and Mrs. Charles Johnson, who recently returned from Long Beach, Cal.

AUTO CAMPAIGN ENDS APRIL 24

Contestants Who Make Best Records This Week Will Probably Be Winners.

Rushing through the last few days in their final efforts for supremacy, candidates in the Herald's now justly famous prize and auto campaign are racing swiftly and determinedly toward the goal as the "treasure chest filled to overflowing" comes in sight.

Personal Pride at Stake.

A striking feature of the past few days is the personal pride that has become manifest. Several candidates have voiced the determination to win at all hazards. One declared that to accept defeat would be a disgrace. Another says that she owes it to her friends who have helped her so loyally up to this point, to put forth every effort to win so that when the final day comes everything will have been done, and nothing left undone to better her chance to win.

So, as the basis of civic and individual pride, and for the reason that the cash difference between the first prize and the second prize is more than \$1,800, quite a tidy sum in itself, you can expect to see a desperate struggle on all sides before the big prizes are finally awarded on April 24.

How Prizes Will Be Awarded

Next week, the last one of the campaign, no votes will be issued at The Herald office, nor will payments for subscriptions be accepted there. Subscriptions, with remittances to cover, are to be enclosed in sealed envelopes and deposited in the locked ballot box which will be placed in a local bank. Full particulars of how the contest will close will appear in an early issue.

The winners will be determined by their accredited votes, added to the number of ballots due for subscription found in the sealed ballot box. The contestant having the largest number of votes will be awarded the Red Six, the contestant having the next largest number of votes will be awarded the free trip to California, and so on.

Special attention is called to the following: In the original advertisement announcing the campaign, Rule 4 reads: "The winners of the prizes will be decided by their accredited votes, said votes being represented by ballots issued for subscriptions, job and advertising cards, and by coupons clipped from The Herald." Therefore, the winners will be decided by votes secured exactly as advertised — subscriptions, job printing and advertising cards, and coupons clipped from The Herald.

Four Days More of Big Votes.

Only four more days and again the vote schedule is reduced. This time reduction is more extreme than before. You lose more than 30 per cent of the voting power of subscriptions by holding back orders until the final week of the race, and no votes at all are allowed for job work and advertising cards after this Saturday night. Don't think that the loss of a few votes will not mean anything. From surface indications the race will be won by a very narrow margin and the loss of ballots sustained between second period votes and last period votes may be just enough to turn victory into defeat.

YOU CAN GAIN ON COMPETITORS by making every minute of the remaining four days count in your favor. More than one automobile has been lost because candidates did not realize that the second period was just as important as the first, AND FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE FINAL ONE.

Saturday is the end of the second

CHAPLAIN SQUIRES OF PIERRE, S. D.

Will Speak at the District Court Room, Alliance, Neb., Friday Evening, April 16, at 8 p. m.

Chaplain Squires will appear in the interest of the candidacy of General Leonard Wood. The chaplain served through the war with the Thirty-second division, and was wounded. He has one of the most thrilling stories you have ever been privileged to hear. The public has been invited, and ladies will be made especially welcome.

period—WIN OR LOSE—as you benefit during the ensuing FOUR DAYS.

Final Warning.

As a final warning, candidates should not be afraid of having too many votes. Such is not possible. More than one race has been lost by over-confidence. It will be better to win by a million votes or so more than enough than to lose by a few thousand. IT IS THE FINAL BURST OF SPEED THAT WINS.

EX-SOLDIERS PAYING MONEY NEEDLESSLY

In the past two weeks, according to Miss Josephine Ganson, home secretary for the Red Cross of Box Butte county, no less than six ex-soldiers have reported to her that they have been paying bills for medical attention, due to some disability received in the service. She feels that ex-soldiers should understand just what their rights are and that they should make an effort to get the compensation due them from the government.

There is a government physician in Alliance, Dr. Minor Morris, who is authorized to give treatment to those suffering from service disabilities. First, however, it is necessary to make a claim. Miss Ganson has all the necessary blanks, as well as the experience in filling out these formidable documents, and is anxious to have any soldier entitled to medical attention get all that is coming to him.

Under the law, the ex-soldiers have only one year from the date of their discharge in which to file claims for compensation, unless there is a surgeon's certificate of disability written on the discharge, and time is passing every day. Every ex-soldier with a disability resulting from service, no matter how slight, is urged to make claim at once. Slight disabilities may become greater with the passage of the years, and unless the claim is made out within the time limit, no help may be expected. This compensation is not charity in any sense of the word. The soldiers paid for it out of their government insurance, and they should be as quick to file claims for what is due them as they are in ordinary business life.

CARRIER SERVICE TO BE EXTENDED

City carrier service in Alliance will, in all probability, be extended within a short time, according to an announcement made today. A recommendation has gone in to the department that the service be given to a part of West Lawn, Emerson avenue and a part of Platte.

In order for the recommendation to be allowed, it will be necessary for the people living in the section indicated to comply with the postal regulations, which reads:

"City delivery limits may not be extended by postmasters without specific authority from the department. Such authority will be given only when the territory to which it is proposed to extend service is provided with good, continuous sidewalks, crosswalks, street lights and street signs, and when the houses are numbered and provided with mail receptacles or slots in the doors for the receipt of mail. Service will not be extended to any block in which less than 50 per cent of the building lots are improved and houses occupied. When two or more building lots constitute the grounds of one residence the plot may be regarded as improved."

After reading the instructions, it's simple enough. If the residents of the section want city delivery—and they do—they'll hustle and comply with the requirements. The sooner this is done the quicker the carrier service will come.

PROMISE SAVING IN POWER PLANT

Chamber of Commerce Hears a Representative of the Sethman Company

The chamber of commerce directors' meeting last Monday evening would have passed very well for a council meeting—we men at an outsider. For the first two propositions, which took up about three-fourths of the session, were matters which were referred to the council as the proper place to take action.

H. A. Hamilton, representing the Sethman Generator company of Denver, presented a most startling proposition to the members. In brief, it is that Mr. Sethman, who was at one time in business in Alliance, has made a big electrical discovery, and by rewinding ordinary generators, can more than double their production of the juice that runs up the light bills. Mr. Hamilton was able to give estimates, but he had no very definite idea of the nature of the discovery, and when he got through the directors were in just the same shape as he was.

However, the company has some good recommendations from other towns, and the directors finally voted to recommend that the city council investigate the matter. The cost of rewinding the city's smallest generator was given at \$2,800, and for this small amount of money Mr. Sethman guaranteed that he could produce three times the amount of juice with the same generator. He offered also to wait for his pay until the city was satisfied. "If his plans work out, we'll soon be able to heat a four-room house for \$7 a month by electricity—and the saving in fuel will enable others to buy coal at much lower prices."

J. W. Guthrie told of his experience with the Whitney Electrical company when the study of electricity was in its infancy.

Sam Shelton, city scavenger, asked the directors to endorse a contract which he will present to the city council this evening. The terms of this contract will give Sam exclusive scavenger rights in the city for a term of five years. The city has been growing each year, Sam says, and has grown to the point where he can't afford to put in additional equipment unless the council will give him a sort of franchise that will enable him to make a profit on the investment. A majority of the council having already approved the proposition as individuals, the directors did not see that any action on their part was required.

R. E. Plumb, president of the Alliance Packing company, was present and urged that the directors assist the company in securing suitable office quarters. The company is at a point now where it must have additional room to carry on its work. Mr. Plumb called attention to the fact that there are a number of residents living in the business section, and believed that the directors should help these people find other locations in order that the town's business have every opportunity.

There was some discussion of the fair grounds lease, and the directors voted to put up a counter-proposition to the fair association.

Secretary Jones reported that M. E. Cunningham, formerly superintendent of schools at Antioch, but now of Shelby, had approached him with a proposition to get the chamber of commerce behind him in an effort to sell a little stock and start a school supply house in Alliance. Mr. Cunningham thought it would grow to be a big institution. The directors told him that the whole world was his to sell stock in, and that if he came to Alliance he might have the privilege of selling anyone he was able to convince.

UNION STRIKEBREAKERS RETURN TO ALLIANCE

Four of the ten men who left last week for Chicago where, it was announced, they would assist in breaking the strike of the outlaw switchmen's union, returned to Alliance on Monday morning, without having helped or hindered either side. At least four others would follow them within twenty-four hours, one of the men said. They refused to comment on the situation.

"All I can say is that Chicago is still a nice town," one of them said. "We didn't see much of it this time save the union station. We didn't care to act as union scabs."

Herschel Barnes of Chadron spent Sunday with friends in Alliance.

Here's How They Stand In The Herald's Auto and Prize Campaign

MR. B. M. KELLY	Angora	3,829,500
MISS MARGARET BARRY	324 First	3,172,600
MR. RALPH COX	523 Cheyenne	3,058,300
MISS MARABEL NEWMAN	222 Toluca	1,898,500
MISS L. GASSMELING	Hemingford	1,500,500
MRS. J. WONG	1011 Box Butte	361,900

"Second Period" Ends Saturday Night