

The Alliance Herald

Twice a Week—Tuesday and Friday

VOLUME XXVII.

ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1920.

NUMBER 43

EIGHT LOSE LIVES IN CLOUDBURST

Family of Five Drowned While Trying to Escape to Higher Ground.

At least eight people lost their lives in the cloudburst of Tuesday near Ardmore, just across the Nebraska line. One entire family of five were drowned while trying to escape from their home to higher ground. Had they stayed in the house they would have been safe as the house was only moved from its foundations. The bodies of the father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. F. Darby, were found lodged against trees two hundred feet from the house today. The body of a daughter, Frances, was found two miles away. The bodies of two sons are still missing and have not been located.

Three homesteaders, Charles Certz, John Langly and Harvey Bell, are reported missing and their cabins washed away by the floor. Their bodies had not been found this afternoon.

Searching parties are making their way slowly about the flood stricken country through the heavy gumbo of the South Dakota bad lands, hunting for the bodies of flood victims and for survivors who may have been injured. Hundreds of cattle and horses perished in the high waters which swept down from the plains into the narrow, winding arroyos which usually carry water only a few times each year.

No additional discoveries of bodies had been made up to noon today, the eight fatalities reported Thursday being the only ones known so far. It is expected that other lives were lost in districts in the flooded territory.

GUTHRIE SECRETARY OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

At a special meeting of the board of directors of the Alliance chamber of commerce, J. W. Guthrie was elected temporary secretary to serve at least until after the race meet. In the meantime, the directors will keep their eyes open for a good man, and with Mr. Guthrie on the job will have an opportunity to make a thorough investigation of the qualifications of applicants for the position.

J. W. Guthrie has had ample experience to make a success of the job, and particularly of the race meet. The directors felt that a local man would be able to put this feature across better than any stranger could do, no matter how gifted a commercial secretary he was, and they have persuaded Mr. Guthrie to listen to the call of duty and neglect his business somewhat for the next month or so.

Rufus Jones, who recently purchased a half-interest in a Denver investment brokerage concern, will probably leave the city the first of next week to take up the duties of his new position.

W. R. HARPER ELECTED REPUBLICAN DELEGATE

W. R. Harper was again selected to head the Box Butte county republican central committee at a meeting following the county convention Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Nellie Wilson was chosen vice chairman and F. M. Knight treasurer.

The county convention passed resolutions declaring adherence to the w. k. party principles; and also endorsed separately woman suffrage, prohibition and Governor McKelvie's code bill. County Judge Tash acted as secretary for the meeting. W. R. Harper, K. L. Pierce of Hemingford, Lee Basye, Mrs. Lee Basye, Mrs. Fred W. Melick of Hemingford and James E. Rice were selected as delegates to the state convention, to be held at Lincoln next Tuesday, where the Box Butte delegation will make an effort to place Mr. Harper on the state committee.

Women voters took an exceedingly active part in the convention, among those in attendance being Mrs. S. I. Thompson, Mrs. J. Hall, Mrs. J. M. Wood of Hemingford, Mrs. L. A. Bowser of Hemingford, Mrs. Ed Zochal, Mrs. R. L. Harris, Mrs. James Dickey, Mrs. James Kennedy, Mrs. Nellie Wilson, Mrs. Fred Crawford and Mrs. Lee Basye.

Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Therber spent a few days in Alliance the first of the week. They are moving to Hyannis where Mr. Therber, Jr., and father have the contract for building a large grain elevator.

THE WEATHER

ALLIANCE, Neb., May 14.—Partly cloudy east and north; showers southwest portion tonight and Saturday; slightly warmer tonight and east portion Saturday.

Carl Rockey, president of the Alliance fire department, received a telegraphic request today from A. T. Sibbitt, mayor of Hyannis, requesting the loan of six links of fire hose. Mr. Sibbitt stated that a fire Thursday evening at Hyannis six links of hose were cut by parties unknown. Mr. Rockey replied stating that it was impossible for the Alliance department to grant the request, being somewhat shy on hose themselves.

SPECIAL MEETING TO TALK FRANCHISE

City Council Will Again Meet With Representatives of Nebraska Telephone Company.

The city council, at its regular May meeting, held at the city hall Tuesday evening, decided to hold a special meeting some time within the next two weeks, at which time representatives of the Nebraska Telephone company will have another suggested franchise to present. E. K. Halde-man of Grand Island, commercial manager for the Grand Island district, was present at the meeting, and requested the council, at the time it took up the occupation tax ordinance, postpone action until the new franchise was ready. The council granted the request.

An ordinance was introduced Tuesday evening imposing an occupation tax on the telephone company. City Attorney Metz, who drew up the ordinance, had left the amount of the tax blank. At a previous meeting, Councilman Harris had suggested that \$100 a month ought to be about the right figure, but no sooner had the clerk finished reading the document than he announced that he had changed his mind. He had talked with business men and representatives of the company, and believed now that amount was a trifle high. It would amount to about 5 per cent. Mr. Harris said, on the company's gross revenue. This is more than the city of Omaha receives.

Comparative figures on the occupation taxes charged by different cities in the Grand Island district were given, and the matter was discussed at some length. Mr. Halde-man's proposal putting an end to telephone talk for the session.

Mr. Halde-man said that the franchise he would prepare would take care of most of the suggestions in the report prepared by Councilman Johnston and City Attorney Metz, and he believed he would be able to present reasons why the few points omitted should not be pressed. He said that the council and the telephone company were really not so very far apart, and that he believed it would be possible to draw up a franchise that would be acceptable to both.

CITY PHYSICIAN HAND MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS

City Physician G. J. Hand, at the Tuesday meeting of the city council, made recommendation that the city pass three or four ordinances that were needed. Undertakers, he said, should be required to report all deaths on regular blanks. During the past month, the doctor stated, he had received several inquiries concerning deaths, and that with the present lack of system there was no way to trace it.

The Lackey trial, Dr. Hand said, had caused him to think of other ordinances that should be in force. He urged the council to require physicians to make immediate report in detail of all deaths about which there were questionable circumstances. Another suggestion was that druggists keep a record of all poisons sold. At present the state law requires this, but he did not believe that it was being done.

The recent flu epidemic had shown the need of another regulation. Physicians should be required to report all contagious and infectious diseases to the city physician immediately.

Another recommendation was that the council make arrangements to empower the city physician to institute action in insanity cases. Dr. Hand mentioned one or two instances where no action had been taken, and said that some kind of an ordinance with teeth in it would put him in a position to demand action, with some hope of getting it.

WASHOUTS HIT RAILROADS HARD

No Less Than Thirty Reported Between Alliance and Edgemont—Through Traffic Delayed

Through traffic on the Burlington-Casper line to Billings, which was expected to be restored today, will be delayed until sometime Saturday on account of the overturning of a bridge pier near Silesia, Montana, during Thursday night. Burlington through trains had been routed that way from Alliance in the hope of getting through today.

No more attempts will be made to transfer passengers by automobile at Silesia, as was done Thursday when three hundred and thirty-five passengers were hauled fifteen miles, over forty automobiles being used. The trip took several hours each way through the almost impassable roads.

Telegraph service between Alliance and Hat Creek, just west of Ardmore, has been established by a crew of daring linemen who traversed the flooded district from Crawford west, repairing breaks and stringing temporary lines where the poles and wiring had been washed away.

Rain continues to fall over a large portion of the flooded district. Many people are remaining at Alliance, waiting for an opportunity to reach points west of Crawford.

Many Held at Alliance
Substantial progress is being made in bridging the washouts between Crawford and Edgemont. Three pile drivers are working incessantly, one at the west end and two at the east end of the flooded district. The men are working two twelve-hour shifts while the officials directing the work, both at the scene of operations and at Alliance, have been without sleep for many hours and are working until they are ready to drop from exhaustion.

Burlington officials predict that trains will be again running through the main line by Tuesday of next week, although they are unable to definitely ascertain the amount of damage done to the line east of Ardmore until it can be reached by inspection parties. The heavy waters are gradually subsiding.

Busy Making Repairs
Repair work has been proceeding rapidly all day on the two bridges which were put out of commission at Silesia, Mont., twenty-five miles south of Billings. They expect to have this line repaired again by sometime Friday morning and in anticipation of this are ordering all through passenger trains sent via Casper.

There are several washouts near Hill City, S. Dak., on the Deadwood line of the Burlington. Heavy snow in the Black Hills has been hindering the repair work to some extent. The Rapid City, Black Hills and Western railroad, running from Mystic to Rapid City, will probably be out of commission for a period of thirty days, so bad was the damage done by the floods.

With the clearing of the skies and the temporary cessation of rainfall (Continued on page 8)

COUNCIL TALKS OF A CITY MANAGER

Impossibility of Offering Permanent Job Stands in Way—Mayor Rodgers Ineligible

The city council again took up the question of a city manager at the Tuesday evening meeting, after a delay of several weeks. The question was brought up at the April meeting by Mayor Rodgers, who stated that the demands made upon his time were too great for the salary the position paid. He offered at that time to give up his whole time to the job, and declared that the salary paid former City Manager Smith was acceptable.

Councilman Harris raised the question of eligibility, and the matter was turned over to City Attorney Metz for an opinion. Thereafter during the month the council met five times, but the city manager problem was not discussed.

Councilman Harris again brought up the matter Tuesday by asking the City Attorney to read the law in the case. Mr. Metz quoted section 4872 of the statutes, to the effect no member of the council could hold any appointive office, or any office created by the council during his tenure. This seemed to settle the question.

Mr. Harris said that the city was faced with the same old problem. A definite head was needed for the city's business. At this time, when thousands of dollars are being spent for public improvement, and when the city's light and water plant was a big business in itself, a competent man was needed to give his whole time to these various activities. Mr. Harris thought the city manager should be a practical electrician, because of the importance of that branch of the city's activities.

There was considerable discussion by the members of the council, the majority of whom conceded the need of a responsible head. Councilman Sturgeon thought there was a demand on the part of the citizens. Councilman Moore believed that it was unnecessary to go outside of Alliance for a competent man. He said that if the former city manager was a practical man, he didn't care for any more of that kind.

Councilman Harris finally settled the argument that he had started by saying that the question of permanency of employment was a bar to the council taking any steps. Under the law, the council cannot enter into a contract with a city manager for a period longer than its incumbency, which is less than a year. He didn't think that a really good man would consent to come here with no prospect for a permanent position. "He might be perfectly satisfactory to us," Mr. Harris said, "and be fired within an hour after the new council took the oath of office." He regretted that a city manager should be subject to the whims of whoever might be in office, but the council was powerless. And right there the discussion ended.

License for Electricians
The council passed an ordinance providing for the licensing of electricians doing wiring within the city. The license fee is set at \$7.50 per year. (Continued on page 5)

CITIZENSHIP SCHOOL AT BAPTIST CHURCH

Miss Margaret Schaffner of Chicago, recently returned from ambulance service overseas, will hold a citizenship meeting Thursday, May 20, at the Baptist church.

Three meetings will be held in the morning and afternoon for women; evening, a mass meeting for men and women to discuss the proposed changes in the constitutional amendment. She comes under the auspices of the League of Women Voters.

Women of all organizations are urged to be present.

A picnic lunch will be served at noon. Come and bring your lunch and enjoy a social time at the noon hour.

On page 7 of this issue of The Herald will be found a more extended account of Miss Schaffner's work.

HAGERTY CASE ON IN DISTRICT COURT

Will Probably Occupy the Rest of the Week—Tom Rubis Discharged

After four days, the case of Hagerty vs. Hagerty still occupies the attention of district court, with Judge Bayard Paine of Grand Island presiding. The time has been occupied with an account extending over a period of twenty-two years. It is expected that the case will occupy the rest of the week, at which time Judge Paine will leave for Theford, where the Halsey bank case is set for trial next Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

One juror was excused this morning, after he had listened to the testimony for the other three days. He had entered the box with the idea that he knew nothing of the case or the principals, but when Mrs. I. D. Hagerty went on the stand this morning, he recognized in her a school-teacher of former days, and said that he no longer desired to serve. The case will be finished with eleven jurors.

The Hagerty case involves something like \$75,000, and is one of the most important that has come up in some time. Both of the parties interested come from Morrill county, and the ranch in the case is located in that county. The case is tried in Box Butte because there is nothing but personal property involved and John Hagerty, the father, removed to Alliance and lived here at the time of his death. J. D. Hagerty, the son, sues for \$34,000, claimed to be due him during the period for which he managed the estate, while Mike Hagerty, another son, disputes the claim and sets up a counter claim of \$46,000. Judge Paine tried to induce the principals to submit the case to a referee, but they declined.

F. E. Williams of Bridgeport and A. W. Lane, former United States district attorney at Lincoln, represented J. D. Hagerty, and Burton & Reddish represent M. H. Hagerty. W. R. Metz assisted the latter in selecting the jury.

Tom Rubis Discharged

Tom Rubis, whose trial on the charge of sodomy was to come up at this session of the district court, was discharged and his \$2,000 bond exonerated by Judge Westover, who arrived here Wednesday and who has been holding a second session of district court in his office while Judge Paine has been trying the last jury case. The state made a motion for a continuance, which was overruled, the judge holding that inasmuch as the state had made no effort to secure its witness, no subpoena having been issued and the sheriff not having made a trip to Sidney to look for him, while Rubis was ready for trial, it was unfair to the defendant to delay the case.

Judge Westover will take the bench as soon as the Hagerty case is completed, and the prospects are that court will be in session all next week.

Alex Kosciski, deserted from the United States navy, surrendered at the local recruiting office yesterday and is now confined in the city jail awaiting the arrival of Omaha officers. Kosciski was stationed at Goat Island, deserting September 18, 1919, being persuaded, he says, by a companion. Since that time he has wandered all over the west, dodging the officers, and finally decided to face the music.

W. I. Blaine of Grand Island, perhaps the largest horse dealer in the United States, is in Alliance this week, being stranded here by the washouts.

—The Herald—\$2.50 a year.

PROGRAM FOR THE GRADUATES

End of the School Year Finds Twenty-Five Ready for Commencement.

The city schools will close Friday, May 21. The opening event of the closing week will be the Baccalaureate sermon at the high school auditorium on Sunday evening, May 16. The class program will be given Tuesday, May 18, the combined city and county eighth grade exercises, Thursday evening, May 20, and the Senior Commencement Exercises Friday evening, May 21. The public is cordially invited to attend all these exercises. There will be no charge for admission.

Class Program.

The following Class program will be given at the high school auditorium, Tuesday May 18 at 8 p. m.:
Welcome Address, Glen Joder.
Class Poem, Madelaine Zediker.
Class Song, Leah Weaver.
Violin Solo, Helen Woods.
Class Prophecy, Asenath Schill.
Class History, Ruth Hawes.
Class Will, Russell Mann.
Class Statistics, Eva Simpson.
Duet, Selected.
Farewell Address, Ray Edwards.

Baccalaureate Service.

High school auditorium, 8 p. m., Sunday, May 16.
Male quartette, Messrs. Walker, Lamont, Thomas and Chaffee.
Scripture reading, Dean A. H. Dixon.

Vocal duet, Mrs. Thomas, Miss Acheson.
Prayer, Rev. M. C. Smith.
Vocal solo, Miss Simmons.
Class Sermon, Rev. Stephen J. Epler.
Vocal Solo, Miss Grassman.
Benediction, Rev. J. O. Gould.

Eighth Grade Program

To be given at the high school auditorium, Thursday, May 20, 8 p. m.:

Gypsy song, City 8th Grades.
Welcome to spring, City 8th Grades.
Invocation, Rev. A. J. Kearns.
Mammy's voice, Picked voices from city 8th grades.
Address, Rev. W. C. Rundin.
Welcome Pretty Primrose, City 8th grade girls.
Presentation of Diplomas.
The Garden by the Sea, City 8th grades.
Benediction, Rev. Stephen J. Epler.

Graduation Exercises.

To be given at the high school auditorium, Friday, May 21st., 8 p. m.:

Piano, Miss Grace Spacht.
Vocal duet, Mrs. Duncan, Miss Williams.
Invocation, Rev. M. C. Smith.
Violin solo, J. P. Mann.
Address, Chas. A. Payne. University extension lecturer for the Universities of Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Indiana, Kansas and Nebraska.

Vocal duet, Misses Dye and Young.
Presentation of diplomas, Judge Jas. H. Hewett.
Awarding of scholarship honors.
Vocal quartette, Messrs. Walker, Lamont, Thomas and Chaffee.
Benediction, Rev. A. J. Kearns.

Candidates for Graduation.

GIRLS
Abegg, Mildred Newhirter, Leila Baker, Katherine Reeves, Lesslie Bauers, Rose Schill, Esenath Carr, Grace Simpson, Eva Hawes, Ruth Stephens, Margery Lunn, LaRhea Weaver, Leah Lunsford, Alberta Woods, Helen Zediker, Madelaine

BOYS
Brennan, Clinton Gavin, Harold Cusick, Joe Joder, Glenn Donovan, John Lee, Scott Edwards, Ray Mann, Russell Fuller, Horace Rominger, Wray

TRAINS PUT ON NEW SCHEDULE

There will be a change made in the train schedules here effective on June 1st. This schedule is expected to be a great improvement over the old one. On the Alliance and Edgemont division number 43 will leave Alliance at 1.25 p. m. and number 44 at 4.50 a. m. There will be a new train added to this division number 35 which will leave Alliance at 4.15 a. m. On the Seneca and Alliance division number 43 will leave at 9.45 a. m. and number 41 at 1.10 a. m. There is also a new train added to this division number 39 due to leave at 10.15 a. m.

WELL, WHO IS TO BLAME?



(With Apologies to Jack Warren Carroll)

Oh, the grimy mud, the slimy mud, the mud that makes you swear,
The cheesy mud, the greasy mud, that filters through your hair.

Oh, the ruddy mud, the muddy mud, the mud that gets your goat,
The sliding mud, the gliding mud, that sprays your pants and coat.

Oh, the dank, dank mud, the rank, rank mud; there's just one guy to blame;
We'll wish him well (we will like h—1) and ———'s his name.