

The Alliance Herald

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BETTER PRICES FOR WESTERN POTATOES

Potato Growers Seek Means to Eliminate the Middlemen in Spud Production.

Potato growers from several western Nebraska counties met at the court house in Alliance at 10 a. m. Wednesday. It was an all-day session with a night meeting which lasted until 11:45 p. m. About thirty potato growers, county agents and others were present. J. Pedrett, president of the Nebraska Potato Improvement association, presided at the meeting, and H. V. Werner, secretary of the association and a member of the faculty of the extension service of the state agricultural school, was one of the principal speakers.

The chief problem that came up for discussion was the elimination of the middlemen, and the stabilization of prices. It was pointed out that spuds sold at Hemingford and other nearby towns 10 cents or more per bushel cheaper than in Alliance. The speakers urged that not only should means be adopted to bring about an equalization of prices, but that the cost to the consumer should be reduced.

One remedy suggested was the appointment of one man as traveling representative for the potato growers, who should sell direct to retailers until the wholesalers see the handwriting on the wall and agree to buy the entire crop of spuds. They believed that the state agricultural department would support them in their efforts and assist in selecting the proper man to handle the selling. Proper inspection was also urged as a means to bring the wholesalers to time. In the past, whenever they desired, the wholesalers would grade a car and the producer would have to accept the price offered. With a system of state inspection in force, this could not happen.

A Belmont man told of one experience that he had with a wholesaler. He knew a wholesaler in Grand Island and last fall sent him a carload of prime spuds. He received word within a day or two that his spuds were of inferior quality. He hopped on the train for Grand Island, and when he arrived there was informed that they had been sold. He had in the meantime received an offer 2 cents per bushel higher than that offered by Grand Island, and was finally able to force a settlement at the original price, which the Grand Island wholesaler had attempted to reduce.

Another suggestion was that the potato market should be handled on the same principles as a live stock or grain exchange, and until this was done there was little hope for equitable conditions.

H. F. McIntosh, of the agricultural department of the Omaha chamber of commerce, told the potato growers that it was "painful" to learn that Omaha is considered to be the least honorable market in this territory. Omaha is the largest consuming center in the middle west and buys its supplies from every part of the country. Potatoes from California come there washed and packed in boxes like oranges, selling by the pound. There are some things in agriculture, he told them, which neither the market nor the state can accomplish. Co-operation was the solution, and he urged a state association with a competent man in charge. The department of agriculture has urged farmers to organize, he told them, and declared that without co-operation little could be accomplished. He thought better results could be secured by the aid of the farmers' union.

At the close of the afternoon session, it was decided to authorize the chairman to appoint a committee to send out questionnaires to three thousand farmers in this part of the state, asking them to join a potato growers' association. When this has been done, another meeting will be called within the next thirty days, at which an organization will be perfected.

The committee of five members held an evening session. Leo Stuhr, state secretary of agriculture, read the rules and by-laws of a similar association in Michigan. These were approved by the committee, and later by the convention, which decided to use them until the next meeting.

Those present were: C. O. Sawyer, Agr. agent at Rushville, Anton Janson, Rushville, Wm. G. Vahle, Rushville rancher, Otto Smith, Antioch, county commissioner of Sheridan county, E. S. Videtto, manager potato ware house at Minitar, August Gadeken of Bushnell, interested member of association, J. R. Lawrence of Alliance, farmer, George R. Boomer, Agr. college at Lincoln, L.

UNION CHURCH SERVICES

Owing to the fact that the Chautauqua tent will be set up back of the Central school building, the big Union services Sunday evening will be held in the tent instead of the roof garden as previously announced.

L. Friske, Agr. college at Lincoln, G. A. Forsling, Kimball, farmer, Phil Sheldon, Agr. agent, Scottsbluff, H. R. Beal, Alliance, farmer, H. F. McIntosh, chamber of commerce at Omaha, C. F. Mills, Minitar, representative Minitar warehouse association, H. G. Gould, county agriculture agent at Sidney, Fred L. Taylor, Chadron, county agricultural agent, R. O. Fithian, Minitar, farmer, R. E. Holland, University extension at Lincoln, E. L. Deltz county agent at Kimball, George H. Kellogg of Ogallala, county agent; R. M. Tyson, manager produce department of Farmers' Union at Omaha; C. C. Gignoux, Union Pacific agent at Omaha; H. A. McComb, county agent of Morrill county at Bridgeport; H. J. Schifferle, broker from Omaha; George Neuwanger, county agent of Alliance Farmers' Union store; J. Pedrett of Kimball, president of Potato Improvement Association.

UNION SERVICES FOR CHURCH SOCIETIES

At a meeting of the officers of the young people's societies of the Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist churches of Alliance, at the Baptist church last Monday evening, it was decided to hold union services just preceding the Sunday evening church services at the roof garden during the months of July and August. The president of each society was elected to act as an advisory board with instructions to appoint all committees necessary to carry on the summer's meetings. Following is the advisory board and committees as appointed:

Advisory board: Harold Thomas, Epworth League, chairman; S. B. Mitchell, Baptist Young People's Union; Mary Woods, C. E.

Program committee: Lela Larkin, chairman; Gladys Wager, Grace Spacht.

Social committee: Carl Powell, chairman; Vera Spencer, Floyd Donovan.

Lookout committee: Jay Vance, chairman; Edna Benedict, Mrs. T. A. Cross.

Music committee: Glen Mounts, chairman; Alta Dye, Larhea Lunn.

Publicity committee: S. B. Mitchell, chairman; Frank Smith, Jay Vance.

Last evening the program committee and advisory board met and selected topics and appointed leaders for the two months the union meetings are to be held. There will be three leaders for each meeting, one from each society. As there will be but eight meetings, the very best talent in each society will be brought into use and the meetings should be unusually interesting.

The first meeting will be held Sunday evening, July 4th, and the topic will be a patriotic one. The leaders are Grace Spacht, Lela Larkin and Vera Spencer.

These services will be held on the roof garden, beginning promptly at 8:45 and ending at 7:45. This will leave fifteen minutes between these services and the union church services following at 8:00 o'clock.

Every young person in Alliance is cordially invited to attend each one of these meetings. They will be interesting, instructive and should accomplish much good.

COUNTY JUDGE TASH ISSUES AN INJUNCTION

County Judge Tash Tuesday afternoon issued an injunction, the effect of which will be to prohibit Mike Banjo from appropriating water from the private irrigating ditch of the Beal brothers, T. J. and H. R. The Beal brothers have a truck garden south of the tracks, and adjoining a similar garden owned and hoed by Mr. Banjo. The Beals have arranged an irrigating system for their garden, and the ditch runs along one end of Banjo's.

The Beals, who asked for the injunction, declared that Banjo had dug holes underneath the fence and was diverting the water to his use. They set out that he has not helped to construct the irrigating ditch, and that he had no permission to use the water. Judge Tash granted an injunction restraining Banjo from continuing the practice, and the Beals departed much improved in spirits.

IN READINESS FOR OUR CHAUTAUQUA

Impromptu Fourth of July Celebration to Be Staged the Opening Day

Everything is in readiness for the Alliance chautauqua, which opens July 5. Since Alliance is to have no Fourth of July celebration, the chautauqua people have planned something special for the first day of their program. At 2 p. m. a parade will be held, in which the Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, chautauqua talent and citizens will join. It will form at the chautauqua grounds and the line of march will be through the principal streets.

J. C. Williams, who was here to organize committees a few weeks ago has been assigned as platform manager. This selection is most popular with the local committees and citizens who have met him. Mr. Williams comes here from La Junta, Col., where the same circuit was presented, and says that it is one of the best programs in ten years.

The ticket committee, with the assistance of the T. P. A.'s are out selling tickets, and present plans are to complete the sale by Monday noon. Over half the required number have been sold to date. The committee wishes it understood that only season ticket sales help on the guarantee, and believe that a word to the wise will be sufficient. Rev. Stephen Epler is chairman of the committee.

The big tent arrived in the city yesterday and will be erected tomorrow afternoon. Sunday evening the union church services will be held there, in place of on the Lowry & Henry roof garden, as previously announced.

PICNIC ON JULY 5 AT WARD MILES RANCH

About the best place for Alliance citizens to spend the Fourth of July will be at the Ward Miles' ranch, six miles east of Aurora, where there will be a regular celebration Saturday, July 3, minus nothing but a few of the unimportant frills. There will be material at hand for ninety-seven varieties of a good time, as well as a place to have it. Those who own, or can borrow automobiles, should take a good hint.

Mr. Miles has just completed a new house, and a new barn, 40x56, and this picnic is in the nature of a house-warming. He has invited all his neighbors and friends, as well as the public in general, to attend. A six-piece orchestra from Alliance will furnish music for dancing, and the new barn gives plenty of floor space. The place is lighted by electricity, and there is an abundance of good water. It's an ideal place for a picnic. Bring basket dinners if you wish, or if you don't want to go to the trouble, refreshments of various kinds will be on sale at the ranch, this, the sole concession having been turned over to parties who will take proper care of the guests.

In addition to the dancing and picnic, there will be a sports program, including a baseball game or two and a rough riding exhibition. It will be an old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration, and will be worth coming a good many miles to attend.

SHRINERS' SPECIAL STOPS IN ALLIANCE

Twelve cars—a trainload of Shriners, on the return trip from the national convention at Portland, stopped in Alliance for the better part of an hour Thursday evening. The special train whistled in at 7:10 and was met at the station by a big delegation of Alliance Shriners, who took the visitors over the city in automobiles and had a pleasant visit with them.

There were 260 passengers on board the Shriner special, a number of Shriners bringing their wives and families along. The Shriners band played a few selections on the station platform. It was a most good-natured crowd and a merry occasion all around. The train will disband at Kansas City. The passengers were all from Texas.

Two field clerks will be at the local recruiting office about July 1st to receive applications for victory medals. Either mail or bring in your discharges. This applies to all discharged soldiers who have been in service in United States army more than 90 days.

DEMOS ARE BUSY FRAMING PLATFORM

Irish Plank Included in Draft Submitted to Delegates—Favor League of Nations

The democrats, now in national convention at San Francisco, are considering a platform. The committee report which was being read at the time The Herald went to press, contains a plank expressing the sympathy of the democratic party with the aspirations of Ireland for self-government within the limitations of national comity.

There is no mention of the liquor convention. This may spell the defeat of William J. Bryan, who was bound and determined that the party should take a strong stand for prohibition enforcement. It may mean on the other hand, that the fight will be carried to the floor of the convention, and if so there will be fireworks and to spare.

The platform contains a strong league of nations plank. It advocates immediate ratification, but does not oppose reservations making clearer or more specific American obligations to league associates. This plank is infinitely stronger than the one adopted by the Chicago convention.

Candidates Nominated

The democratic convention has adopted the plan of having the nominating speeches before the adoption of the platform. This acts as a time-saver, for usually there is a long wait while the platform committee is getting ready to report.

The following shows the names of those nominated, and the manner in which their names were received by the convention:

Demonstrations for various candidates to date:

Owen—One minute.

Gerard—None.

Cummings—Band played "Star Spangled Banner," everyone standing. Little noise.

Hitchcock—No demonstration; not even seconding speech.

Palmer—Thirty-five minutes, with some quiet lulls between cheers.

Meredith—None.

Cox—Thirty-five minutes, largely aided by Ohio band and college cheer leaders.

Smith—Twenty-three minutes, in which practically every state banner joined.

McAdoo—Forty-two minutes of real noise, with scarcely a letup. The biggest demonstration.

Edwards—None.

McAdoo Well in the Lead

Although McAdoo requested that his name not come before the convention, he was "drafted" for the place and his name invoked the greatest applause of any candidate suggested. There will be a strong effort made to prevent his nomination, however, and it should not be difficult. The democratic convention has a two-thirds nominating rule, and this means that a third of the delegates can prevent the nomination if they so desire.

The democratic convention has been much more spectacular than the republican meeting. Ballots will be taken some time today or tonight, according to advice. The Herald's bulletin service from San Francisco has interested a crowd of spectators, and the interest will be still greater when the balloting begins. These bulletins are here for your information, as a part of regular Herald news.

ESCAPE INJURY WHEN AUTOMOBILE ACTS UP

Joe E. Bates and sister, Mrs. Jas J. O'Neil, of Omaha, narrowly escaped serious injury when the Ford car in which they were coming from Hemingford turned completely over. The accident occurred about 10:30 Wednesday evening two miles from Berea and was caused by a defective wheel. Mrs. O'Neil was thrown clear of the car, escaping with a hurt knee and ankle. Mr. Bates was pinned underneath the car, and with the help of his sister was able to extract himself. They were brought to town by Mr. Christensen near whose home the accident took place.

George Duncan suffered a painful burn yesterday evening when the fan belt on his automobile broke and his left forearm was scalded with boiling water. He wears no bandages, but carries his arm most gently.

Wednesday evening Mayor Rodgers and several members of the council inspected the work of Smith & Chambers for the city. A report will be made at the next meeting of the council, Tuesday evening.

ALLIANCE BRIEFS

Due to the intercession of friends the sentence of Mrs. Floyd McCone, colored, who was arrested during the race meet on an adultery charge and given thirty days in jail, will be commuted to a fine. She will be released this evening and permitted to leave town.

It's not difficult for anyone to find work in Alliance. In addition to the city improvements going on, which offer an opportunity to men who are willing to labor, the potash plants are seeking to enlarge their forces all the time. Leo Watson, employing manager for the Hord Potash plant, at Lakeside, has been making trips to Alliance every other day in search of men.

The ladies' missionary societies of the Methodist, Christian, Presbyterian and Baptist churches met on the high school lawn Wednesday evening, the guests of the Baptist societies. Ninety-two ladies were in attendance. The program was impromptu, but exceedingly enjoyable. The ladies' band was one of the features. It consisted of an assortment of instruments. A tub was the bass drum, the ten drum was a dishpan, and coarse and fine combs with paper served as horns. A demonstration of the New Edison was staged, the instrument being a large box in which two girls were concealed.

"SHOD WITH FIRE" AT THE IMPERIAL TONIGHT

William Russell in "Shod With Fire" is the attraction for the Imperial tonight. It is a breezy story of western life on the plains and in a little mining town has delighted and thrilled those who have witnessed the picture. It tells of a woman's brave fight for the regeneration of a worthless husband and of the unselfish devotion of a brave man. A comedy, "A Scented Romance," and a current events reel complete the program.

Saturday's bill is featured by Mary Miles Minter in "Rosemary Climbs the Heights." With a heart free from callous Rosemary, a village product with a talent for doll carving, is precipitated into the turmoil of the city. She is chased but chaste throughout and braves the snags of intrigue and under-hand connivance to the end. Mutt and Jeff in "Nothing but Girls" and "Flat Broke," a comedy, are additional attractions.

There are enough comedy situations in "Double Speed," the Sunday feature, to furnish material for five ordinary feature films. Conjure up the picture of Wallie Reed in chauffeur's togs making love to his pretty girl-employer. Come and see what happens when a "busted" million aire innocently assumes the name of a notorious crook and then is obliged to post as his real self. You will also see the thirteenth episode of "Lightning Bryce" and a comedy, "Caves and Coquettes."

"The Career of Katherine Bush" is the bill for Monday night—and it's some career.

PAVING GANG GOING ALONG NICELY NOW

The paving gang has been making hay while the sun has been shining. The curbing is complete now, and the contractors, Smith & Chambers, have left the city. There has been one block covered with cement from Third to Fourth on Laramie, and all the alleys, with the exception of half a block, are completed. It takes about two to three days to pour a block, depending on the width of the street. It will be some time before the brick-laying begins, but the contractors are scattering this material all over the right-of-way.

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON A. H. JONES GARAGE

Work on construction started the first of the week on the new garage building for the A. H. Jones company at Third and Cheyenne streets. The building will be 130x75 feet in size. Excavation for the basement has been completed and the foundation laid. The contract has been let to Dutton & Kendall, a Denver firm.

The main floor will contain a repair shop, show and office rooms. The basement will be used for fuel storage and heating apparatus.

A. H. Jones of Hastings was here last week with Mr. Kendall, and final approval was given the plans. The building will be completed the latter part of September.

The county commissioners in session last week received a petition from Hemingford people asking for the improvement of the Hemingford-Chadron road.

COUNTY AGENTS HOLD CONFERENCE

General Discussion of Farm Problems—No Particular Shortage of Labor

Seven county agents, representing seven counties in western Nebraska, met at the Box Butte county court house in Alliance Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning for a conference at which there was a general discussion of the problems of farms and farmers. The following agents were in attendance:

C. O. Sawyer, Rushville; Phil Sheldon, Scottsbluff; H. G. Gould, Sidney; Fred L. Taylor, Chadron; E. L. Dietz, Kimball; George H. Kellogg, Ogallala, and George Neuwanger, Alliance.

The grasshopper situation is not as bad as it was last year, or the year previous, due chiefly to an active campaign to eradicate these pests. In localities where poisoning was faithfully carried on last year, there are no grasshoppers now, but where this measure was not taken, the grasshoppers are showing up in greater numbers than ever and are encroaching upon territory where poison was used last year. In the North Platte valley, where five poison mixing plants were operated last year, the farmers are of the opinion that the use of poison resulted in saving crops of the value of over one million dollars.

The county agents discussed the planting of trees on farms for furnishing shade and acting as wind-breaks. The agents are now working out a plan to make a more thorough study of the various varieties adapted to this western Nebraska climate.

Another topic that came up for discussion was that of county and state fairs. The county agents are unanimously in favor of holding county fairs and of sending exhibits to state fairs. This is done in most of the counties having agents. In some places the agents act as secretary for the county fair association. Plans for successfully handling fairs and preparing exhibits were discussed.

The chief topic for discussion at the Wednesday morning session was the farm labor situation. There is apparently no particular shortage of labor, and farmers are not alarmed over the problem of securing sufficient help to harvest their crops. It is the general opinion of farmers in this territory that 50 cents per hour will be the average wage offered for help during the harvest season, with a slightly higher scale for skilled help, such as grain stackers.

Conditions affecting the hiring of labor were discussed and the census of opinion was that conditions must be improved in order to attract a better class of labor to the farms.

A Bee keepers' association has been formed in Morrill county and an inspector appointed. This has been accomplished through the farm bureau. Interest in honey production is extending to other counties in the district.

Leo Stuhr, secretary of agriculture for the state of Nebraska, was present and told of the co-operation of the state in control of live stock diseases. He also discussed the accredited herd plan and the dieting of dairy cattle.

About thirty farmers from the county were present during the sessions. It is planned to hold these district conferences several times a year.

ANOTHER BOOKKEEPER PASSES BAD CHECKS

Sheriff Miller of Alliance, Sheriff Bruce of Rushville and the deputy sheriff from North Platte arrested Roy S. Wasmund, bookkeeper in an Antioch potash plant, at Antioch Wednesday on a state warrant charging the issuance of "no fund" checks at North Platte and other places in that vicinity. Wasmund lived in North Platte and Sutherland previous to accepting the position at Antioch. He was released after making good the shortages, due to the efforts of Sheriff Bruce, the young man's guardian.

According to reports, Wasmund owns some property, but until a month or so ago was not of age. Sheriff Bruce, his guardian, kept a fairly strict hand on the purse strings, and Wasmund wanted plenty of money. When he could not get his guardian to advance it to him, he wrote checks for the amounts desired. He has been doing this for some months, it is said, and Bruce has previously been forced to settle for his bad checks.