

The Alliance Herald

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MAY RECOGNIZE CENSUS RECOUNT

Letter From Washington Says Depends Upon the Comparison of Lists

Secretary J. W. Guthrie of the Alliance chamber of commerce this morning received a letter from W. M. Stewart, assistant director of the census, which gave information additional to that contained in his telegram received last Friday.

It appears that a comparison of the names taken in the recount will be made with those taken by the regular enumerators. If the six hundred new names are in addition to those appearing on the list now on file in the census department, J. J. Tooley of Broken Bow, supervisor of the census for the Sixth district will be directed to make a canvass of the six hundred people not included in the first census for the purpose of enumeration. If, however, the list comparison shows that the recount added hundreds not included in the first census, and omitted hundreds that were included there, no action will be taken.

Following is Mr. Stewart's letter:

WASHINGTON, July 30, 1920.—Chamber of Commerce, Alliance, Neb.—Gentlemen: Upon receipt of your telegram of July 29, the following telegram was sent you in reply:

"Telegram received. Mail immediately your list showing names and addresses if addresses are given of persons residing Alliance, January first. List will be compared with enumerators' returns and appropriate action taken. Letter follows."

If the comparison of your list with the official returns of Alliance shows that your canvassers have returned the names of practically all the 4-591 persons who were listed by the official enumerators in January, and in addition approximately 600 names of other persons, the Bureau will direct the supervisor of census for the sixth district of Nebraska (Mr. J. J. Tooley, of Broken Bow) to make a canvass of the 600 persons who were not enumerated, for the purpose of officially enumerating such of them as he finds to have been bona fide residents of Alliance on January 1.

If, however, a comparison of your list with the official returns shows that your canvassers missed hundreds of persons who were returned by the original enumerators and listed hundreds of other persons who were not returned by the original enumerators, it will be evident that your canvass did not relate to January 1. In this case, the Bureau may not consider itself under any obligations to take further action in the matter.

As soon as the comparison of your list with the official returns is completed you will be informed as to the results.

Very truly yours,
W. M. STEWART,
Assistant Director.

Mr. Guthrie will forward the sheets containing the recount to the department today. The work of typing was concluded Monday afternoon. It will probably be some weeks before any definite word is received.

LOCAL CRAPSHOOTERS DEFENDING THE CUP

There has been something akin to terror in the local crapshooting camp this week. A stranger, whom they took to their bosoms in a spirit of pure friendliness, has darned near ruined the lot of them. He has a way with the little African golf-balls. In fact, he can talk to them like a father. To be exact, he has enjoyed just \$800 worth of conversation during the past four days.

A week or so ago there blew into Alliance a seedy looking individual who has not over forty cents to his back. He got a job. When he had drawn his first pay check, someone suggested rolling the bones. He wasn't unwilling, and they held a little session last Friday night. The stranger picked up a few dollars—enough so that the members of the local fraternity wanted revenge. Last Saturday night, Sunday afternoon and Sunday night they got it.

When the storm was over, only the stranger was smiling. He felt just as good as though he had busted the bank at Monte Carlo. In his pocket were eight hundred odd simoleons that had once had other homes. Monday morning he breakfasted on porterhouse steak and trimmings, and when he left the restaurant a

THE WEATHER

For Alliance and vicinity: Generally fair tonight and Wednesday; warmer east portion tonight and extreme southeast portion Wednesday; cooler northwest portion Wednesday.

Mr. Cigar was carelessly jangling his lips. The danger is still in town and is still being heard in the barber shops, to his luck. He hasn't lost his rabbit's foot, and the local fraternity hasn't been able to get back so much as a thin dime.

LOAFERS ROUNDUP STARTED TODAY

Sheriff Miller and Chief of Police Reed Joins Hands Against Sons of Rest

Bright and early this morning, Chief of Police Oscar Reed and Sheriff Miller began the roundup of the Sons of Rest. The chief has been tackling the problem alone for several weeks past, and has made good headway, too, but decided that with the co-operation of the sheriff a whole lot more could be accomplished. Hence, he delayed not in suggesting it to Mr. Miller. And the sheriff was fully as prompt in taking him up.

For the past few weeks there have been a gang of loafers, white and colored, hanging about the depot, yards and other and more quiet spots about the city. Incidentally, there have been a larger number of petty thefts. It isn't a good thing for the city, and it means more work for the police department. Of late the rule has been to quietly order them to show that they possess jobs or to move out of town. Most of them have taken the latter course.

But the new era, inaugurated this morning, will do more than this. It will be the most thorough of roundups, of course, and will clear the town of Weary Willies, but it will do more. It will mean that the glad news will be spread all over the state. Alliance is unfortunate in one way because it is a railroad center. Hoboes naturally congregate where trains are apt to leave every once in a while. But when they go from Alliance from now on, they are pretty apt to warn other hoboes that it isn't a healthy place for those who dislike to work.

Just to show that the city and county police authorities mean business, it may be remarked that four extra plainclothesmen have been placed on duty, two of them in the employ of the city and two of them employed by the county. There are now eight men seeking out the bums—and they will pretty near find them, too. In addition to those eight, the police are receiving the co-operation of the railroad special police. It won't be merely a roundup—it'll be a clean-up.

When the officers come upon anyone who appears to be of the floater type, they'll ask him just one question: "Are you employed in the city?" If the right answer isn't forthcoming he'll receive an invitation to move on. And the chances are that he'll move. If not, there'll be a personally conducted excursion to the city jail, and the unfortunate brother will work for the city, and all he'll get out of it will be his board and room. He'll earn at least that much.

Someone will be on the lookout all the time until the situation is materially improved. The police officers have to sleep, but there'll be enough of them on duty at all times to spot the loafers. By the end of the week, the street and shade population ought to materially decrease.

AMERICAN LEGION ELECTION TONIGHT

Alliance post No. 7, American Legion, will hold its annual election of officers this evening at the city hall. In addition to the post officers, delegates to the department convention at Hastings will also be elected.

The election was announced for last evening, but in the meantime officers of the post and several members had spread the word that the meeting was to be held Tuesday night. The attendance was so slight because of this misunderstanding, that postponement was decided upon. All members of the post have been urged to attend. Tentative plans for the coming year's work will be decided upon, and this is the most important session of the year.

Mrs. William Vernon of Scottsbluff visited in Alliance last week.

GATE OPENING CASE IS CLOSED

Section Line Is Not a Highway Unless Regularly Established As Such

Ray Tompkins, who it will be remembered was fined by Judge Tash last week for leaving a gate open on the property of Leo Kastner east of the city, and who furnished an appeal bond for the purpose of carrying the case to district court, after thinking the matter over and upon advice of his counsel, Harry E. Gantz appeared in court Saturday and paid the fine and costs amounting to the sum of \$12.20 and the case was closed.

Mr. Tompkins stated to the court that as he knew the gate was on a section line, he was under the impression that all section lines were public roads, and that gates on such lines were there in violation of law. This impression seems to be quite prevalent among the traveling public, and to correct the same, and for the information of travelers, we will state that a section line is not a public highway, any more than a half section or any other line unless the same has been regularly established and declared a road after regular proceedings governed by the laws of the state, are had before the county commissioners.

Many years ago there was a law, passed which declared all section lines public highways, but was later declared unconstitutional, because, it appropriated private property for public use without just compensation to the owner of the land. It is safe for the traveler to assume that when he finds a gate across a road that it is private property, because the party who placed it there would subject himself to a heavy fine for obstructing public highways, should it be across a regularly established public road.

DOPE FIEND BREAKS INTO DOCTOR'S OFFICE

Thieves in search of cocaine broke in the office of Doctor H. A. Copsey, Monday evening. Doctor Copsey had used the last of his supply on a patient during the afternoon, so the would be robbers were unsuccessful in finding either cocaine or morphine.

Entrance was gained by breaking the glass on the door that leads to the private office. The cupboards and cases had all been searched, and the contents were scattered on the floor.

This is the third attempt of this kind during the past few months but each attempt has met with failure.

AUTOS MAKE TROUBLE FOR THE PAVING GANG

The superintendent in charge of the brick laying gang is beginning to look wild-eyed. It seems to him that every man in this neck of the woods is trying to make trouble for him. The cement men have their troubles, too, when people walk across the new stuff and leave tracks of their brogans. This can be repaired with comparative ease, however.

It's the brick-laying tribe which suffers most. They get a nice bunch of cushion sand laid, leveled and rolled—and along comes an automobile. The driver looks neither to the right or left, but drives up on the sand—and then somebody swears. Last night no less than ten automobiles drove up on a bunch of cushion sand—and brick laying was delayed some time in consequence.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Ackerman was held from the late home, east of town Monday afternoon at three o'clock. The deceased was sixty-eight years, three months and fifteen days old. She leaves a husband, three sons and two daughters.

PROSPECT OF PASSING TELEPHONE FRANCHISE

After several months' inactivity, the council is about to take up the matter of a telephone franchise again according to Mayor Rodgers. The mayor says that a letter has been received from an official of the Nebraska Telephone company which grants most of the things the council has been standing out for. The council will meet Saturday evening, and in all probability the matter will be brought up at that time. The company has been operating without a franchise for the better part of a year.

BRIDGEPORT MAY BE THE TERMINAL

Railway Construction There Taken As Preliminary to Building of New Main Line

The latest rumor in railroad circles—and there has been at least one a month during the past year—is found in an article in last Sunday's State Journal, which says that the construction now going on is taken by (some) Burlington officials as a promise that the Platte river line from Kearney to Bridgeport will be built as soon as conditions permit. The article follows:

"Burlington men see a promise in the construction of the new Platte river bridge at Bridgeport and the building of four long yard and passing tracks between Bridgeport and the river that the Platte river line from Bridgeport to Kearney, will be built as soon as conditions permit. In fact they see in this construction a part of the necessary river double track crossing and the terminal facilities for such a line. The railroad is building the terminals in advance of the main line construction, because when built the main line will need all the terminal facilities available.

"The new bridge will be ready for service in about a month. In many ways it is a duplicate of the Platte river bridge built by the company between Grand Island and Phillips. It is built on Bignell hydraulic placed piling, 548 of them supporting the concrete pier headwork, the piers being built wide enough for double track, although the superstructure now being placed is single track. When this is complete and the four long yard tracks are in place completion of a double track between Bridgeport and Northport will be a minor matter requiring a minimum of expense and time. The bridge is built after what is becoming known in Burlington circles as the 'Platte river standard.'

"Further out on this low grade railway, dream of the late James J. Hill, a low grade line from the crest of the Rockies to the Ohio river, the company is doing more permanent work. No newly built railroad. No newly built railroad work is made permanent. Preliminary engineering may contemplate permanent work but the early construction is always subject to change, and the Wyoming line is no exception. Between Casper and the north Wyoming line were many bridges and culverts not built in the permanent way. These are being replaced, flood troubles cared for and traffic difficulties removed. These changes are being made this year and a considerable force is now being employed in this work.

"Business came with a rush on the part of the low grade line east of Casper after this road was built and to handle the heavy traffic a great amount of money was spent on the roadway and on permanent construction. The time for betterments has come for the north end of this line, which, too, has developed a mighty lot of long haul traffic, and a far-flung construction force is making the best of the present season in doing needed work."

The Adams County Democrat published at Hastings, is considerably excited over the prospects of that city for being on three transcontinental lines. That newspaper says: "Some years ago the writer was the first Nebraska newspaper publisher to give publicity to the plans of James J. Hill as somewhat detailed to us at the time by Will Owen Jones in the State Journal editorial rooms soon after the death of the great railroad magnate. Briefly Mr. Jones related how Hill had planned a low-grade railroad in the west—from Lincoln via Hastings, Kearney, west of latter city along south side of Platte river to North Platte, on up the valley west to Bridgeport and to extend on into the great northwest territory.

"The Aurora-Kearney branch line through this city was to be made a part of this plan which would give the Burlington the longest low-grade line of any railroad system in the west. Once completed then all the heavy traffic that now goes over the Billings line from the south southwest—from St. Louis and Kansas City—in north Nebraska, will go via Aurora, Hastings, North Platte and Bridgeport and along with the eastern end to the Ohio valley comprise the greatest low-grade transcontinental railroad in the United States.

"It will mean the second (main) transcontinental line of the Burlington through Hastings and with the carrying out of the Union Pacific plans as represented in outline so far in terminals here and in the building of the cut-off from this city to Gib-

son, will give Hastings three transcontinental lines of railroad and in this respect make it a second Wichita as an exceptional railroad center. Editor Jones of the Journal said to the writer at the time that had Hill lived this would have been carried to completion. Ultimately it is intended to carry forward this construction as originally planned by Mr. Hill. It is expected that a forthcoming session of congress will legislatively provide financial ways and means to meet railroad improvement demands and that the Burlington will then get busy in this direction."

CENSUS RECOUNT AN "EMPTY HONOR"

Scottsbluff Republican Concedes, However, that "It Hurts No One But Ourselves."

The Scottsbluff Republican, which did a little crowing when the official census figures gave Alliance a population of less than five thousand, takes no stock in our recount figures. Its editor evidently has the erroneous idea that this city has added enough imaginary citizens to make up the total we desire, overlooking entirely the fact that if the chamber of commerce and the business men who took the recount were inclined to be crooked, we might have made a much larger gain than six hundred. However, the Scottsbluff newspaper's ideas are entertaining. This is the tale:

"The recount of the census which has been taken by volunteers at Alliance have found about three hundred more people than the official census gave them in January. While this may be of some satisfaction to the home people there will be little if any attention paid by the outside world to the new count.

"All the cities of the northwest felt that they had not been rightfully counted by the official count of the census department but that count once having been made public there is little chance of changing it, whether there are as many people as the official count gives or not.

"Twenty years ago Hastings was not satisfied with her count, and received the right to make a new enumeration, and when it was finished they bragged about being larger than Grand Island. Ten years ago she actually had a lead, but the census just taken by the census department shows that Grand Island is in the lead, where it has been for twenty years.

"Chadron and Alliance have both assumed positions as cities of the first class by reason of estimates made and certified to by their respective mayors, and as such are allowed to hold position which are not rightfully theirs. It hurts no one, however but themselves and when the next census is taken their percent of increase will be smaller by just what they add to the present correct enumeration.

"A recount of Scottsbluff might have shown that we were a hundred or more short, but had we taken a voluntary census, and it proved above the figures given by the department, no one would have taken any stock in the revised figures, and we would only be fooling ourselves with the new figures. As it is our count 6,912 goes and if the people doubt that we have that many people the tax returns for the city will surely convince them."

PARKING CENTERS ARE SOURCE OF WORRY

Those pretty little parking centers on upper Box Butte, which were abolished by the passage of four ordinances by the council last week, are still a source of worry. Now the paving men are fretting about them. Suppose, they say, that Sprague & Nicely shouldn't get the contract for them, or that they have to wait for days before it is let and they can legally begin work. Under the law, separate contracts must be let in each of these four blocks—and all this takes time.

The pavers will be ready to go to work on the Third district next week. When they come to these blocks, will they lay cement across the whole street, or will they leave a hole for the ornamental parking—to be filled up later when they have been awarded the contract. It's going to cost some extra money for the paving of these parking centers as it is. Asphalt, brick, sand and cement cost more than they did. But if the pavement cannot be laid all at once, the people in that district will be sorry they ever heard of ornamental centers. At least, so says one of Grant & Fulton's engineers. And he ought to know about it.

GUTHRIE GIVEN A SIX-MONTHS JOB

To Be Secretary of Chamber of Commerce Until Next Annual Meeting in March

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Alliance chamber of commerce, held at their rooms Monday evening, the directors accepted the proposition of Acting Secretary J. W. Guthrie and made him permanent secretary to serve until the next annual meeting of the club, in March, 1921, at a salary of \$2,500 per year.

The chamber of commerce will give up its rooms in the Alliance national bank building, and will hire no stenographer or extra help. This step is made necessary because of the failure of the race meet, which left the chamber facing a deficit of several hundred dollars. Collections for the present quarter, which are now coming in, will enable the club to pay its outstanding bills. It is policy of retrenchment, the directors believe, will enable the organization quickly to regain its feet, and still furnish the city the services of a competent secretary. It is believed that Mr. Guthrie will be able to attend to the duties of the position in his own office, and save the chamber of commerce an enormous overhead charge.

Figures were submitted showing the club has fixed expenses amounting to \$4,550 a year under the old plan. These expenses included salaries of \$350 per month, rent \$240 per year, phone, \$42 per year; light, \$21.50 per year; janitor service, \$1 per month. When supplies are paid for, the total will reach \$4,750 or \$4,800. The quarterly collection amounts to not over \$1,200, and it figures out that the chamber of commerce has about been paying its way.

By accepting Mr. Guthrie's proposition, the chamber of commerce will have no fixed expense but the services of the secretary, and it is believed that by the time of the annual meeting, the board can present a report showing the organization to be out of debt. Under the new plan, it was brought out, there will be a surplus which can be devoted to the work of the organization. Due to the lack of money, the club has been hampered in the past.

Plans will be worked out, it was said at the meeting, to permit the membership to take a greater part in the work. Among the things in prospect is a monthly dinner, with talks by men of note, which will be open to the business men of the city. Another plan is to secure, as soon as the club's finances will permit, rooms available to the members for recreation.

While the new plan did not receive the endorsement of the entire directorate, there were no votes cast against it. Some of the directors suggested various other schemes, but none of them spoke against the plan adopted.

SCOTTSBLUFF FACING A SHORTAGE OF COAL

Superintendent M. D. Parks, of the Intermountain Railway Light & Power company, is having his full share of trouble. He has been bending every effort to secure additional coal storage capacity, and with the bins ready, finds his efforts unavailing in even keeping sufficient supply on hand to meet the daily needs. The Great Western Sugar company has even been requisitioned in order that the light company may keep up service. Today the situation is so serious that Mr. Parks has been visiting their patrons, especially the power users, and telling them of the serious condition. Unless the situation is relieved at once Mr. Parks states that they will be compelled to shut down tomorrow at noon. Of course this is day service only, as they will keep going for lights and water if there is any possibility of doing so. He thinks that they will have some coal in by Monday. The light company has been buying a good portion of their coal of the Kirby mines, but lately have been trying to get coal of the Sheridan mines too. It is a serious situation and patrons should govern themselves accordingly, says the Star-Herald.

That the coal situation is serious can easily be confirmed by consulting any of the local dealers here. That the situation is serious all over the country, with strikes on in many of the coal producing districts is easily confirmed by consulting your daily paper.

Harry Shreve has accepted a position with the Duncan grocery.