

The Alliance Herald

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WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT LEGION

Alliance Railroader Asks for a Statement as to Where the Organization Stands

The Herald is in receipt of the following letter from an Alliance railroader, who wants to know exactly where the American Legion stands in regard to unionism and strikes:

ALLIANCE, Neb., Aug. 17, 1920.—To the Editor of The Herald:—I wish that you would kindly publish the following in the Legion Notes, and if possible secure response from some one of the officers of the Legion, publishing same. In advance will say that there seems to be quite an argument, both "pro and con" among the brotherhood men, regarding the attitude the Legion takes regarding unionism and strikes.

For some time past I have been forced to wage a strong argument in defence of the Legion, and have always done so willingly. It seems that some of the brotherhood men have the idea that, to belong to the Legion means that the members were subject to be called upon to act as strikebreakers at any time that the officers in charge requested, or in other words to act the same and under the same principles as the state militia. Have just read an article in the July edition of the B. of L. F. and E. magazine on page 24 where the Legion post at Great Bend, Kas., mobbed five men and one woman, Americans by birth, but who happened to favor the non-partisan league and who were to have addressed the farmers of that vicinity on non-partisanship.

The league was explained to me to adhere to neither religion or politics, labor or capital. But the Great Bend post, who possibly were not the perpetrators, but who were instigators in the mobbing, I thought that the Legion stood for 100 per cent Americanism and were for law and order, but judging from this Kansas report (and I happen to be a native of that part of Kansas and know the exact conditions that existed there) am sure that they have fallen considerably from 100 per cent Americanism, for when a woman is driven "in company with friends" into a stockyard and there jeered at by 300 Legionnaires in full uniform and said Legionnaires are upheld and backed by both city and county authorities, then and there I denounce the American Legion and the principles that caused me to put on the uniform that afterwards made me eligible to the American Legion. I still hold a card in the Legion, but if I am not convinced that the Legion is not responsible for this outrage, it's the G. I. for my button. Now some of you legionnaires who are up to snuff on the by-laws and requirements of a Legionnaire come out with some dope and if it's worth pulling for, all right; if not, say so. Give the public the truth and let them know what you are and what you are striving for. Respectfully,
B. H. SHOOFSTALL.

J. B. Miller, commander of Alliance post No. 7, has submitted the following reply to Mr. Schoopstall's communication:

Alliance, Neb., Sept. 3, 1920.—B. H. Shoopstall, Esq., Alliance, Neb., Dear Sir:—Your letter dated August 17th addressed to the Editor of the Alliance Herald was handed to me today. I believe that you will agree with me on sober second thought that the proper place to correct abuses, if there are any, in any organization is in the organization itself and not through the public press. I know nothing about the occurrence at Great Bend, Kansas, or the action of the members of the Legion at that place, but, even if they were carried away by their feelings and did wrong that was absolutely inexcusable, that does not necessarily mean that the LEGION itself is wrong. You undoubtedly noticed the reports in the papers of the actions of a mob in Denver recently in which the Denver Post building was almost wrecked, but I do believe that you would ascribe that to the strikers although some people so do. You have heard of the actions of some ministers of different denominations who fell from grace and broke the laws of God and man, but did you remain away from church on that account, or claim that the particular religion to which that minister belonged was wrong? There is no accounting for the actions of human beings when wrought up to a high pitch by the eloquence of some spell-binder or monomaniac and the trouble at Great Bend may have been started by some irresponsible character who carried the crowd with him to results of which

they probably were ashamed of themselves afterwards.

As I stated above, I know nothing about the circumstances or trouble at that point and, as you are aware, the reports published in the press and are very badly colored and are always even bordering on the truth and we cannot believe everything we read. I would be very much obliged to have you call at my office any time you see fit and discuss this matter fully and freely, or come to the meetings of the Legion and take this, and other matters, of real and actual interest up and go into them thoroughly. If the Legion is on the wrong track the proper place to set it right is inside itself. In any organization of a large number of people there are bound to be some goats with the sheep and it is necessary to separate them and possibly expel them from the herd or more properly the organization, and I believe that you will see that more good can be done by going at a matter of this kind in a calm and impartial manner, looking into every detail, obtaining full information from both sides and if a wrong has been done, to try and right it, instead of getting into an endless discussion through the press and not accomplishing any good either for the order or for any individual member of same.

Assuring you that I will be glad to co-operate with you in every way to make the Legion right in every way and asking you to meet me and the other members in the same spirit, I am, Sincerely yours,
J. B. MILLER,
Post Commander.

The Herald editor is a member of the American Legion. He is also a member of the typographical union, and he does not for one moment (Continued on page four.)

WOMEN ARE NOT QUITE MEN'S POLITICAL EQUALS

Women will not be serving on juries in the courts of Nebraska "just yet," in spite of the passage of the 19th amendment to the federal constitution giving universal woman suffrage, says the Omaha Bee.

This is the unanimous opinion of Election Commissioner Moorhead and the judges of the district court. "Amendment to the statutes providing for the mode of operation of juries in this state will be necessary before women may serve on juries," said Mr. Moorhead.

"The statute plainly provides that 'all males' of certain qualifications are eligible to jury service. Of course, this excludes all women. And, as the 19th amendment gives to women nothing but the right to vote, it may be some time before they are given the right or duty to serve on juries, though I believe this will come within a short time.

"Even men must be at least 25 years old to be eligible to jury service. And if they are more than 60 they may claim exemption. There are many provisions for exemption from service. Judges and clerks of courts, sheriffs, jailers and ex-convicts are not permitted on juries. Ministers, attorneys, physicians, postmasters, mail carriers and some others may claim exemption.

"In some states where women are now permitted to serve on juries a much wider range of exemption is allowed."

Jury service in the district courts pays only \$3 a day and is usually esteemed a duty rather than a privilege.

A marriage license was issued Wednesday to Gustave T. Erickson and Miss Mary E. Brown, both of Alliance, where the groom is employed as a carpenter. Both of the contracting parties were but eighteen years of age. It was necessary for the prospective husband to secure his father's permission, and the request was made by telegraph. The father, who lives at Rockford, Ill., apparently is an absent-minded man, for he thoughtlessly sent the consent by mail instead of helping Cupid's cause by using the telegraph. This delayed issuance of the license for several days.

Occasionally Old Ed Howe uncovers a grouch with which we can sympathize. A recent complaint is the overworking of the term "pep." Old Ed defines "pep" as the sort of thing a Y. M. C. A. secretary has when he urges a tired audience to try the second verse again, with more spirit. "The pep gentlemen are mainly trying to do things that need not be done," says he.—B. L. T. in Chicago Tribune.

Miss Alva Reed, formerly a teacher in the high school, was visiting at the home of Mrs. Fred Carlson Wednesday.

FIND BODY OF CHARLES SMITH

Companion of "Red Mike" in Alliance Burglary Found Dead Near Ardmore

Chief of Police Reed received word Wednesday morning from police officers at Ardmore, S. D., that the body of Charles Smith, colored, had been found dead in the weeds along the right-of-way near that town. The body was badly decomposed and physicians said the man had been dead for at least four weeks. There were three bullet holes in the chest and one through the head. Smith was at one time a resident of Alliance, leaving this city the night of July 22 with "Red Mike" another colored man. The two were suspected of having pulled off several robberies among their colored brethren here.

The most spectacular crime with which they were charged is the robbery of two employes of Sam Shelton of \$257 and \$46, respectively. The men were staying at the place a mile or so out of Alliance where Shelton keeps his horses and equipment. They shoved a gun in the face of the older of the two men, who answered the door when they knocked, and took the smaller roll of bills from the pockets of the other man's trousers, which were hanging over a chair. They didn't even awaken him.

The last night of the two men in Alliance was a regular thriller. They entered no less than four houses, and collected a revolver in one and cash of varying amounts from the others. Before the alarm reached the police, they had caught a passing freight and were a good many miles away.

Chief Reed, in company with Charles Todd, Burlington special agent, a few days later, made a trip to Ardmore and other towns in that part of the country following reports that "Red Mike" had been seen. They were forced to return empty-handed. It now develops that Smith and two companions were in Ardmore the night Chief Reed and Todd were in town hunting for them, and it is said that they took to the weeds until the police had gone. None of the men was again seen in Ardmore. "It looks suspicious for the police," Chief Reed declared, "but neither of us killed him." The chief didn't say that they wouldn't have done it if they had caught sight of him.

It is quite probable that the two men who were with Smith killed him, the theory of the Ardmore police being that the motive was to secure his share of the spoils left over from the Alliance robberies. "Red Mike" is not believed to have been implicated, as word comes that he was seen in Kansas City about the time the murder is supposed to have taken place.

BRAKEMAN'S HAND CRUSHED BY ENGINE

Sam H. Fink, Burlington brakeman, whose home is in Alliance, had his right hand crushed last Tuesday afternoon at Hyannis. He was firing on a freight which was waiting on a siding for No. 44 to pass. Fink was sitting on a railroad tie beside the engine tender. When No. 44 came in sight, the engineer, Fred White, kicked the airbrake release, and the engine lunged forward a foot or so, one of the beams striking Fink on the head. He put out his right hand to steady himself, and his hand struck the track, the engine wheel running over it and smashing it.

Medical attention was secured at Hyannis, and the train conductor secured permission to make a fast run to Alliance, where Fink was taken to St. Joseph's hospital. It was found necessary later to amputate a large part of the hand.

Mr. Fink is now at the hospital, and greatly enjoys visiting with his friends. He has asked them to call.

F. M. Finkbine, prominent young Des Moines, Iowa, business man spent Tuesday in Alliance looking after land which he owns in Box Butte county. Mr. Finkbine made a trip over the territory west of the city while here and was much pleased with the crops being raised. It had been several years since he visited Alliance and he was almost amazed at the change in the city. "Alliance is going ahead rapidly and will make a real city," he said. He returned to Des Moines Tuesday night.

Jim Hunter was able to be abroad Thursday, after an illness of several days.

NEW CAR TAKEN FROM REO GARAGE

Thieves Effect Entrance Through Basement and Make Getaway With Demonstrator

Thieves broke into the A. H. Jones company garage early Thursday morning and made a clean getaway with a new Reo Six. The car had been used as a demonstrator, and was well filled with oil and gas sufficient to make a long trip. Entrance was effected by prying open the basement door, which was secured by a wooden bar. The car had been driven into the garage shortly after midnight and was directly in front of the rear door. After the thieves had selected their car, they returned to the basement and propped the bar against the door.

The Buick garage was also entered during the evening, presumably earlier. Here the thieves pried the rear door open but found a big G. M. C. truck securely locked directly in front of the door. The garage was well filled with cars, and the thieves saw that it would necessitate moving several trucks out of the way before they could secure a passenger car. Apparently they feared that someone might come before they could complete the theft, and they retired, leaving the door open. At the Jones garage they found conditions more favorable.

The car stolen had been brought back to the garage about 12:30 and one of the employes debated for some time as to whether he would go home or sleep in the rear seat. He even went so far as to get a robe and place there, but finally decided that he preferred the feather tick. Whether this decision lost an automobile or saved his life is what is worrying him now.

During the past few weeks, car thieves have come to life again after some months of comparative inactivity. At Chadron last week two cars were stolen from private garages and from other towns in this part of the state similar thefts have been reported. H. A. Rust's Buick was also taken from his garage in Alliance a few days ago. It has not been recovered.

A BIG PROGRAM FOR LABOR DAY

Next Monday to Be Fittingly Observed by Members of Alliance Unions

Monday, September 6, will be observed by over a thousand members of labor unions in Alliance. Beginning with a parade of organizations, which will form at the depot at 1 o'clock, the afternoon's program will include a ball game, address and various races and contests. Following is the program for the afternoon:

1 p. m.—Parade of labor organizations, led by members of the American Legion in uniform.

2 p. m.—At the fair grounds. Address, G. C. Porter of Morrill county.

3 p. m.—Races and contests, including the following:

Shetland pony race.
Nursing bottle contest.
Fat men's race (over 200 pounds.)
Lean men's race (over 6 ft. tall).
Ladies' ball throwing contest.
Men's ball throwing contest (for ball players only).

Girls' race (under 12 years).
Boys' race (under 12 years).
Married women's race.
Tug of war between shopmen.
Bicycle races.

Watermelon eating contest for colored men only.

Ball game between Alliance Q team and Bayard.

Members of the American Legion have been requested to meet at the city hall at 12:30 p. m. for the purpose of marching in the parade. It is planned to have at least two squads in uniform heading the column, and other members of the legion, with or without uniform, will follow. An especially good turnout of legion men is hoped for.

A committee appointed by the executive committee in charge of the celebration Saturday afternoon solicited the various business houses for prizes to be awarded in the various contests. Other expenses will be met by the labor union men themselves.

A. Segar, who has been employed on the state highway this summer, has resigned his position and left for his home in Scottsbluff, where he will attend school this year.

VAUGHN & SONS SELL THREE OIL STATIONS

Vaughn & Sons of Alliance this week disposed of their gasoline and oil business, including the three stations at Alliance, Hemingford and Antioch, to the Mutual Oil Company of Kansas City. The consideration is said to have been well over \$50,000. The new owners will assume charge immediately.

D. McNitt has been appointed as local manager and will have supervision over the three stations. The Mutual company plans to conduct a strictly wholesale business, and will secure local agents to handle their product, featuring Samson gasoline, Radiant kerosene and a complete line of lubricating oils and greases of all kinds.

GOOD SAFETY FIRST RECORD FOR MONTH

Today ends the special campaign on the Alliance streets to get through the month of August without a single injury to an employee. The score is not quite perfect, although all but one of the accidents were of a minor nature. Up to August 25, the only man injured was an Edgemont machinist who lost a finger at the first joint. Since the 25th the score has been marred by one or two slight injuries. The men have taken a great interest in the "no accident" drive.

A man giving his name as F. J. Moore and his residence as Newcastle, Wyo., drew a fine of \$10 and costs, a total of \$15, in police court Wednesday morning. Night Watch Traber picked him up at the Burlington station along about midnight Tuesday and helped him navigate to the city jail, where a charge of drunkenness was placed against him.

"THE HELL SHIP" AT THE IMPERIAL TONIGHT

A thrilling tale, containing such things as pirates and love, is scheduled for the Imperial tonight when "The Hell Ship," with Madeline Travers, will be shown. In this play, Miss Travers takes the part of Paula, the girl captain of a "hell ship," of which she forcibly takes command when her father is killed in a mutiny. She subdues a mutinous crew, but falls in love and finds herself "merely a woman." Also a comedy "The Detectress," and the latest current events.

Nazimova, in "The Brat," is the attraction for Saturday. One preacher told us the other day that he had seen it—in Lincoln—and that it was a fine play. To take the curse off a recommendation from the clergy, it's no more than fair to say that he admitted it was somewhat spicy.

The story relates the experience of "the brat," a nameless girl who loses her job in the chorus and who, cast forth into a pitiless world, is first insulted by a masquerade and then hailed to the Night Court on a trumped up charge. There an author in search of "local color" and especially for a heroine for his forthcoming novel, rescues her and takes her to his aristocratic home. After that things happen rapidly.

Six reels of love, thrills and adventure are billed for Sunday, when Houdini appears in "Terror Island." Here Houdini has the role of an inventor—of a new submarine for salvaging wrecks. You can guess that it'll abound with miraculous escapes and baffling feats of every description. A comedy, "His Naughty Wife," and another installment of the "Hand of Vengeance" serial complete the program.

A. R. Rankin of Bridgeport, local commercial manager for the Nebraska Telephone company at that place, came to Alliance Wednesday evening after a day's automobile trip inspecting the Bridgeport-Alliance toll line. For a good part of the way, the toll line does not follow established roads, and after a man has put in a day inspecting it, he feels that he has been somewhere. Mr. Rankin returned to Bridgeport by train Wednesday evening.

Miss Naomi Veach of Rushville, was the guest of Judge and Mrs. I. E. Tash Thursday. Miss Veach, who was a teacher in the Alliance school last year, was on her way to Mullen, where she has accepted a position for the coming term.

For rent—Furnished room for two gentlemen in all modern home. Phone 279, 708 Toluca.

THE WEATHER

For Alliance and vicinity: Partly cloudy and somewhat unsettled tonight and Saturday; not much change in temperature.

NO EVIDENCE TO SUSTAIN CHARGE

Judge Tash Finds Fred Thompson of Denver Not Guilty of Bootlegging

Fred Thompson of Denver was found not guilty of the charge of bootlegging filed against him in county court at the hearing held before County Judge Tash at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. Thompson was arrested by Chief of Police Reed at Hemingford a week ago Tuesday, following the confiscation of a booze car and a five-gallon keg of hooch. He was in company with Allen A. Cox, who pleaded guilty to having liquor in his possession in a place other than his residence and transporting liquor into Box Butte county.

No evidence was introduced in court to show that Thompson had anything to do with the transporting of the booze, or that he was the owner of it. He admitted being in company with Cox, but denied any connection with the traffic in liquor, in which he was corroborated by Cox himself.

Testimony was given by O. W. Reed, chief of police. The chief said that he had never seen Thompson until he arrested him at Hemingford. Mr. Reed stated that when he first discovered the booze in the car, neither man was anywhere near it. Later he located Cox, who said that the car belonged to a friend. They went to look for the friend, and Cox managed to slip away. Later the two of them were arrested.

The other witness called was Joe Blake of the Lowry & Henry garage. Mr. Blake testified that Cox had brought an automobile to the garage for repairs, and had purchased gas, lubricating oil and other supplies. At Cox's request, Thompson gave a check covering the expense.

Thompson has been released, having dug up the requisite \$500 bail. He left for Denver last night, and the folks up at the court house figure that he will arrange bail for Cox, who is still being held. The two men were taken before United States Court Commissioner L. A. Coffey last Friday, pleaded not guilty, and held for the federal grand jury, bond being set at \$500. Cox has placed a \$200 check for collection with a local bank to pay his fine.

ELECTRIC SIGNS ARE TO BLAZE FOR COX

Within a week or two the country will be blazing with Cox electrical signs, erected by members of the Cox electric league, which was formed a few weeks ago and already consists of 9,000 members, electrical workers, in all parts of the United States.

The model sign, consisting of a circle with an "X" in it, was designed by George Williams of New York, who originated the idea of lighting the Statue of Liberty and carried out the details of the work.

First, three-quarters of the circle are lighted, forming the letter "C", then the entire circle, making the "O", and last the cross in the center.

M. E. CONFERENCE MAKES ASSIGNMENTS

The northwest Nebraska M. E. conference, which met at Valentine last week, made the following assignments, among others:

Alliance—M. C. Smith.
Hemingford—A. J. May.
Marsland—To be supplied.
Crawford—E. C. Newland.
Harrison—Claire Van Meter.
Whitney—J. L. Shaw.
Chadron—Clinton Sneath.
Antioch and Lakeside—C. H. Burleigh.
Mullen—Edward Magill.
Morrill—F. R. Williams, formerly of Marsland.

The conference was entertained at Valentine by Rev. N. G. Palmer, who formerly held pastorates at Hemingford and Crawford.

The Nebraska territorial pioneers' association will hold its annual summer reunion Tuesday, September 7, 1920, in the parlors of the Grand hotel, Twelfth and Q streets, Lincoln, Neb. The session will open at 10 a. m. and continue throughout the day, with a luncheon and social hour at noon. The association will also maintain headquarters on the balcony of Agricultural hall on the state fair grounds. All persons who have lived in the state for thirty-five years or more are eligible to membership and may register at the Tuesday meeting or at the fair grounds.

Miss Leila Nabb has accepted a position at the Alliance Candy Store.