

# The Alliance Herald

Twice a Week—Tuesday and Friday

VOLUME XXVII.

ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 1920.

## ALLIANCE REFUSED A CENSUS RECOUNT

Bureau's Decision Is That No Evidence Shows Original Enumeration Was Defective.

The jig is up, as they used to say in the old melodramas. We are discovered. It is perhaps just as well that Alliance citizens took some little comfort out of the dispatch published last week from Washington, which intimated that the returns for Nebraska might be held up while Alliance was being recounted, for a letter dated October 4, from W. M. Stewart, assistant director of the census, simply knocks the props out from under us.

According to Mr. Stewart, the lists of names taken by the regular enumerators have been compared with the names secured in the chamber of commerce's special census, and the results are disappointing, to say the least. The disparity between the lists is much greater than had been expected. The official returns contain 1,041 names which do not occur in the special census, and 1,235 names appearing on the chamber of commerce census were not on the official lists. Several errors were discovered. The bureau's decision is to the effect that the total shown in the special census cannot be accepted as evidence that the original enumeration was defective, and that no further investigation is required.

Mr. Stewart points out, however, that Alliance has made a most satisfactory growth, the increase between 1910 and 1920 (47.8 per cent) is greater than the corresponding increase between 1900 and 1910, 22.5 per cent. This increase is greater than will be shown by the country as a whole or by most of the state and cities.

There is no question that Alliance's population at the present time is well over 5,000, although it is a matter for regret that the original enumeration was not sufficiently thorough.

The letter from the census bureau follows:

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4, 1920.—J. W. Guthrie, secretary Alliance Chamber of Commerce, Alliance, Neb., Dear Sir: The results of your special canvass of Alliance, transmitted by you to the bureau on August 10, have been compared with the official returns for the city. This comparison shows:

That your list contained a total of 5,071 names instead of 5,121, as stated by you.

That of these 5,071 names, 289 were duplicates, leaving a net total of 4,782.

That of these 4,782 names, 3,547 were found on the official enumerator's returns and 1,235 were not found.

That the official returns contain 1,041 names which do not appear on your list.

Thus the net difference between your total and the official total is only 194, instead of 533.

A canvass of the persons whose names appear on your list but not on the official returns would almost certainly result in the reduction of the net difference between your total and the official total, through the elimination of names which represent persons who were not bona fide residents on January 1.

If your canvassers had succeeded in listing practically all the persons who were officially enumerated, together with about 200 other persons, the Bureau would have been willing to make a special canvass of these additional persons for the purpose of officially enumerating such of them as might be found to have been bona fide residents of Alliance on January 1. It appears, however, that your canvassers, if they endeavored to make their canvass as of January 1, were unable to do so, since they missed 1,041 persons who were officially enumerated. It is presumed that the 1,041 persons left Alliance between January 1 and the time of your special canvass. This being the case, it is not at all remarkable that 1,235 other persons took up their residence in Alliance during the same period.

It is obvious, in the light of the facts set forth above, that the total shown by your canvass cannot be considered as evidence that the original enumeration was defective. The bureau's decision in this matter, therefore, is that no further investigation is required.

It is regretted that the total shown by the official announcement of the population of Alliance is disappointing to the officials and citizens of the city, but it must be borne in mind that, according to the official census returns, the increase between 1910 and 1920 (47.8 per cent) is must greater than

the corresponding increase between 1900 and 1910 (27.0, or 22.5 per cent). The increase during the past decade is very much greater than that which will be shown by the country as a whole and by most of the states. In fact, the increase during the past ten years throughout the United States was materially less than the increase for Alliance, there being no other city in Nebraska which would be highly gratifying, instatingly disappointing, to the people of this city.

Very respectfully,  
W. M. STEWART,  
Assistant Director.

Miss Josephine Ganson, secretary of the Red Cross home service bureau, with offices in the court house, is again inviting ex-soldiers who have troubles connected with travel pay, bonus, compensation, liberty bonds, allotments, or compensation, to call at her office for free aid. It is possible that the home service bureau may close its Alliance offices within the next few weeks, and it is desired to take care of every possible case.

Arthur G. Wray of York, non-partisan league candidate for governor, spoke to an enthusiastic audience at Reddish hall Wednesday evening of this week. Mr. Wray made a favorable impression on his hearers. He remained in Alliance Thursday morning, and devoted the time to interviewing the voters.

## PRESBYTERIAN MEN FORM BROTHERHOOD

A number of the men of the Presbyterian church met at a banquet at the Alliance hotel Thursday evening, at which time a men's organization was effected. Glen Miller, president of the board of trustees, presided at the meeting, which was addressed by Dr. Taylor, field man for the western district, and Dr. W. H. Kearns of Omaha. The matter of an organization was also discussed by Messrs. Prince, Rhein, Burr, Zamow and Overman.

A definite program of activities for men was adopted and officers of the new organization are as follows: Otto Zamow, president; F. C. Prince, vice president; Edwin Burr, secretary and J. H. Vance, treasurer. October 19 was set as the date of the next meeting.

Dr. Kearns outlined three great fundamental activities for men's organizations in the church: First fellowship and social life among the men of the church centering about the monthly fellowship luncheon of the men's brotherhood; second, the religious life. Dr. Kearns said, in part, "that an organization of this character must find its strength in something even deeper than the social instinct, namely, the religious instinct, which finds its center in organized bible study." Third, the outreach of the organization in its cooperation with other men's organizations in civic betterment and other community enterprises and the solving of the moral problems in community life. The men were very enthusiastic in the organization and a worthy program is before them.

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN TAKES A STRAW VOTE

The league of women voters met at the home of Mrs. F. M. Phelps yesterday afternoon with a large and enthusiastic attendance. Meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. J. J. Vance, after which the regular order of business was carried on. Several papers were read concerning the influence of the carnival on our city. An interesting discussion followed.

The president then turned the meeting over to the women to tell which candidate she was for and the reasons why. This brought out many very interesting discussions, after which a straw vote was taken. Harding receiving 8 votes, Cox 8 votes, and Watkins 4 votes. There were some present who did not vote at all.

A called meeting will be held previous to the November election to discuss the state candidates.

Gale Overstreet was the victim of another automobile accident last Sunday. George D. Darling, Ed Bishop, George Dorn and himself were on a hunting trip. The car got stuck in the sand near the Reeves place. Three of the men were pushing the car, when Overstreet stumbled over a post, fell and his hand was caught in the hind wheel. Two fingers were badly lacerated. His wounds were dressed at Antioch, and the hunters continued on their way.

## BOILERMAKERS OUT 24 HOURS

Seventy Alliance Railroad Workmen Back to Work After a One-day Strike

About seventy boilermakers employed in the Alliance shops walked out Thursday morning, following a disagreement over the installation of the new turntable. Reports reaching this office are to the effect that those in charge thought the work should be done by the boilermakers, because of the fact that it required considerable riveting, but that the boilermakers and the maintenance of way employees believed that the job should be done by the latter.

The men returned to work at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning, following a conference between Superintendent of Motive Power Troop of Lincoln, and local union officials. General Chairman Reese of the boilermakers' union, with headquarters at Kansas City, came to Alliance, but the difficulty was settled before he arrived.

All men returned to work with the understanding that there would be no discrimination shown by the company, against the men who went out and that future troubles should be handled through the regular grievance committee. Under the terms of the settlement, it is said, the maintenance of way employees will install the turntable.

## ALLIANCE MEN HEARD HARDING AT OMAHA

W. R. Harper returned this noon from Omaha, where he went to hear Senator Harding. Among the Alliance delegation were Dr. C. E. Slagle, E. H. Boyd, Hugh Beall, Charles Brittan, Jay Walker, Earl Mallory, Chase Feagins and Dr. J. P. Maxwell.

Harding arrived in Omaha at 5 p. m. and the car passed through a line of automobiles on both sides of the street extending from the union station to the Fontenelle hotel. The Omaha speech was given at 8 o'clock in the auditorium, and by 6:30 the place was packed. Senator Harding took a stand against any kind of a league of nations, with or without reservations; urged that radicals be treated with gentleness as well as firmness; and declared for maintaining the present wage standard, but only in connection with 100 per cent efficiency. His speech went well with the crowd, and later in the evening, the senator is said to have declared that Omaha gave him the best reception of any city on his itinerary.

Later in the evening, a semi-private reception was held in the Fontenelle ball room, at which Mr. Harper and Dr. Slagle were the Alliance representatives. National Committeeman R. B. Howell introduced the Alliance men to the senator and told him they had come five hundred miles to hear him speak. The senator told them that he would like to have gone farther west, and that if he ever did, Alliance would be one of his stops.

## COLD WEATHER ALONE WILL STOP PAVING

Despite all sorts of rumors to the effect that when the paving gang has concluded the paving up to Sixth street they intend to shut up shop till spring, there is nothing to it. Weather of this kind this time of the year is unusual, and the contractors plan to take full advantage of it.

The work will continue so long as materials can be secured. Brick has been arriving a little more slowly of late, but so long as it continues to come and the snow or bad weather doesn't stop operations, the work will go on. It is not impossible that the work may be practically finished this year, if luck is with the contractors.

The concrete pouring will be finished today for the third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh districts, the latter four being the ornamental parking spaces. The contract for these four spaces was let at a special meeting of the council last Wednesday evening, but at the time it was officially done, at least one of the holes had been filled. If the brick can be secured, and indications are that it will arrive, the big paving job will be done by the time the snow flies. One of the contractors has set November 1 for the windup, but others believe he is too hopeful.

## MAN OF MYSTERY BOBS UP AGAIN

This Time He Was Seen Inside of Waycar—Two Switchmen Cleared of Theft Charge.

The man of mystery, that ubiquitous gentleman who uncomplainingly takes the blame for nearly everything that happens, is on the job again—or, rather, to be exact, was discovered in the act last Saturday morning. Everybody has heard of this man, and a few have been privileged to gaze upon him. It's easy to describe him—he's short, but rather tall; thin, but inclined to stoutness; his hair is light, but dark, with a grayish white tinge to it; he wears good clothes, but is dressed shabbily; he wears a hat that sometimes resembles a cap; has a beard, but no moustache, or a moustache and no beard.

Whenever whiskey is smuggled into the city, the man of mystery is the bootlegger; whenever girls steal away from home to go to the awful skating rink, it's the man of mystery who enticed them; when a man's wife goes joyriding, or a watermelon disappears from the back porch, or a pie from the pantry, or anything out of the way happens, depend upon it, the man of mystery knows something about it.

The latest appearance of the man of mystery was last Saturday, when five switchmen saw him. They saw him in a waycar, the interior of which looked like a cyclone had struck it. They were standing at the east end of the car, and he called to them from the inside. They saw him, with his light blue eyes that shined to a dark brown or deep black, and he disappeared. But one of the five saw him go, and this man didn't know where he went.

But, to begin at the beginning. Tuesday afternoon, John Shay and Norman C. Musselman, brakemen, were arrested by the sheriff's force on complaint of T. J. Smith, Burlington special agent. They were charged with breaking into lockers on a waycar and taking therefrom a pair of blankets, a suitcase and a mackinaw coat, the property of Conductor Clyde Lang, brakemen John Bayer and J. W. Ellis, last Saturday morning. Hearing was held in county court before Judge Tash Wednesday afternoon.

John Bayer was the first witness called by the prosecution. He said that on Saturday morning, he had gone to the waycar to report for work, and as he approached he saw John Shay and Musselman leaving the car. Shay was carrying a sack containing the blankets, Musselman the suitcase and mackinaw. Bayer said the men took the articles to the engine attached to the waycar, of which Harry Beans was engineer.

Conductor Lang and brakeman Ellis testified that they were not there at the time, and they could only identify the property in question as theirs. At this point the prosecution rested. The defense did not make the customary move to dismiss, but called the defendants to the stand.

Both Shay and Musselman denied Bayer's story, accounted for where they were and what they were doing during the time in question, and their testimony was corroborated by Switchman Frank O. Rowe, Paul Jesse and O. B. Adkins. Engineer Beans also testified that these articles were not put on the engine by the defendants.

Shay testified that he worked from 9 p. m. to 7 a. m., having some overtime Saturday morning, and that he and Musselman had gone to the depot and later to the stockyards to see an engineer. On their way back they saw the switch engine with the waycar attached, hopped on the platform next to the tender. On the platform with them were Rowe, Jesse and Adkins. A voice from inside the waycar called out: "See here—what a terrible condition this car is in." All of them entered the car, and saw that the doors had been broken from the lockers and the contents were strewn about the floor. They looked it over, and then went out, all five of them getting off. They did not see Bayer in, on or around the car.

The men said that they did not know the stranger. It was not uncommon for car cleaners, stock shippers or others to be in waycars, and they paid no attention to him. One of them thought he wore a cap. Another believed that he had a hat on. Still another thought he had on overalls, while some were not sure. They thought he had a right to be there. One of them thought he got off the car before they did; another thought he got off later; a third mentioned the fact that he carried a bag over one shoulder; a fourth

thought he stayed in the car and other didn't see him get off.

At this point, the testimony in, Judge Tash announced that he believed an argument by the attorneys would be interesting and entertaining, but he didn't think it necessary. He saw his duty clear, he said, and intended to end the suspense, and discharge the defendants. He said he was clear on that point, but that he wasn't sure as to just what had occurred. The testimony had showed that the stove was upset, the lockers torn open, and their contents scattered over the floor. He thought it might indicate a long war between the switchmen and the train crew, or it might be simply that someone was searching for booze.

Judge Tash made it plain that he didn't believe Shay and Musselman guilty of stealing the stuff charged. "I can't believe these defendants would steal a lot of second hand junk," he said. "The suitcase has a hole in it that a man could stick his foot through, and isn't worth 15 cents; the blankets are soiled and dirty, and the mackinaw is pretty much the worse for wear."

The judge absolved T. J. Smith from any blame in filing the complaint. "He is a zealous and efficient officer, and I am sure he was misled," the court said, "and from the information given him, which has been thoroughly refuted, he was justified." Costs in the case were taxed to Box Butte county.

## POTATO INSPECTORS TO MEET IN ALLIANCE

Potato inspectors for this district have been called to meet in Alliance on October 15, at which time the acting chief of the state bureau of markets will be present and give complete instructions concerning potato grading.

Due to a misunderstanding on the part of some of the inspectors, there has been some difficulty experienced by shipping associations who sent potatoes to markets outside of the state. It seems that in some respects the state rules for grading differ from the federal and potato grades No. 1 have been given a lower grade in some of the markets.

This step is taken in order to protect the potato growers of the state. The higher the grade, the better the price, and shippers all over the state have been trying to get the highest grades on their shipments.

Unfavorable weather conditions may possibly cause a temporary decline in the market, the local potato exchange announces today, and shippers have been advised not to ship any more than is absolutely necessary. Prices during the past few days have been exceptionally good, sales being made yesterday of a car of No. 2 Triumphs, sacked, at \$1.65 and another car of No. 1 Ohios at \$1.90. These prices are at least 30c above the market.

## MUCH INTEREST IN HIGHWAY MEETINGS

J. W. Guthrie, secretary of the Alliance chamber of commerce, and Lloyd C. Thomas, secretary of the Potash highway association, have received letters every little while from organizations in towns along the proposed route from the Lincoln highway to the Black Hills, assuring them that delegations will be sent to Alliance for the annual meeting of the Potash highway association on October 14.

Arrangements have been made for one of the biggest good roads boosting meetings ever held in this section of the state. The session will be held in the roof garden of the Lowry & Henry garage, and in addition to the business meeting, a big banquet, with good speakers, will be a feature of the entertainment.

The latest assurance of support comes from the Broadwater Community club. Secretary G. R. Harries writes as follows: "We are in receipt of your letter of the 24th ult. in regard to the meeting to be held in Alliance October 14 for the purpose of discussing ways and means of obtaining a real highway from the Lincoln highway to the Black Hills. Broadwater is very much interested in this highway, and we expect to send a delegation to the meeting. We will advise you a little later how many will attend."

The suit of Bernard D. Shepard vs. J. D. Iverson on a note for \$150 with two years' accrued interest was settled in county court Wednesday by the defendant paying \$180.65, note and interest in full, before the case came to trial.

The Alliance Herald, \$2.50 a year.

will be held in Alliance, Neb., on October 14, at which time the matter would undoubtedly be taken up at the next council meeting. The opposition may take the form of a remonstrance or a delegation may be sent down to the hearing November 4.

Telephone rates are rather a sore subject with the council, as well as the citizens in general, many of whom recall the days when the company's franchise contained a rate provision which was thrown out by the railway commission, over the protests of the council.

The application for increased rates will probably knock the new franchise galley-west, also. For nearly two years the Nebraska Telephone company has been attempting to take the place of the last one, but the council has been coy and hard to suit. Time and again officials of the company have appeared at council meetings and held out inducements of one kind and another, especially in the way of increased facilities. For months there have been arguments concerning the provisions to go into the new franchise, and at the last meeting a document suitable to both parties was introduced and got as far as first reading.

According to Mayor Rodgers and other members of the council, this is about as far as it will go. The company, according to its officials who have been in Alliance, is holding up a number of improvements until it gets a franchise, but the boost in rates is likely to prove the last straw, according to some of the councilmen. Already the company's facilities are taxed by the demand for phones, and several applications have been made which the company is unable to handle.

The Herald was the only Alliance newspaper Tuesday to tell of the application for an increase in rates. The following letter from the secretary of the state railway commission gives some additional particulars:

LINCOLN, Neb., October 4, 1920. Editor, The Herald, Dear Sir: The Nebraska Telephone company has filed application with the Nebraska state railway commission for an increase of ten per cent on exchange rates and for certain change in differential as to toll calls. For your information I am sending forth the application in part as follows:

"Your petition shows that as compared with the costs of material and labor prevailing prior to 1914 and which said costs were the basis of the rates then charged by your petitioner for telephone exchange and toll service, present costs of material and labor have increased almost approximately one hundred and twenty per cent and that some of the increases in the cost of labor and material are as follows:

"Interest rates have increased from five and six per cent to nine and ten per cent, making an increase of eighty per cent;

"Your petitioner's plant and labor costs have increased approximately one hundred twenty-five per cent;

"Your petitioner's operating or traffic costs have increased one hundred per cent;

"Materials have increased from seventy-five to one hundred twenty-five per cent.

"Your petitioner further shows to this honorable board that with its present rates and charges your petitioner does not derive sufficient revenue to keep its property in a proper state of repair and to set aside a depreciation reserve such sums as should be set aside for that purpose. That unless the revenues of your petitioner are promptly increased your petitioner will be absolutely unable to furnish the kind and character of telephone service which should be furnished to the people of the state of Nebraska.

(Continued on page 4)

## H. LYONS GOES TO THE GOLDEN RULE

H. Lyons, who has been in the employ of The Famous for some time past, has accepted a position as manager of the men's furnishings department of the new Golden Rule store, and took up the duties of his new position recently. He is very popular among his many Alliance acquaintances, and will prove a good addition to their sales force.