

The Alliance Herald



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THE NEW CITY MANAGER

Alliance's new city council, chosen to put the city manager plan into effect, has gone about its duties as the supporters of the plan had predicted—as business men selecting an executive. Without consultation with the politicians, they have selected N. A. Kemmish to have charge of the administration of the city's business. Those who have known Mr. Kemmish are satisfied that no better choice could have been made.

The new city manager is peculiarly fitted for the position of civic administrator of Alliance. He has lived in the city, and has managed the light plant, the chief department of the city's activities. He knows that this department can be immensely profitable and the council believes that under his supervision, it can be put and kept in first class condition. In addition, his years of work along executive lines fit him peculiarly to select his assistants in other lines. If the city manager plan is the right one, and it is generally conceded that it has many advantages over the old mayor and council system, Mr. Kemmish should be able to make a remarkable showing. He will have the undivided support of the council and of every citizen who is interested in good government. Any man or woman who pays taxes should be interested in an economical administration.

The council is to be congratulated upon its choice. It is also to be congratulated upon the way in which it conducted negotiations, and upon fixing the salary at an amount sufficiently large to secure and hold a man who is large enough for the place. The city manager plan fell down when tried out in Alliance a couple of years ago because the man selected was not big enough for the job. The salary paid was not sufficient to attract the sort of a man needed. In this instance, after deciding that Mr. Kemmish was the man they wanted, they proceeded to make the place attractive to him. The salary he will receive here is practically the same he has been receiving with the Public Service company and Alliance is fortunate in that the council was able to induce him to make the change. It is probable that he would not have been willing to do this with his position depending upon the average sort of a council. With the men composing the present council, the prospect of working with this class of men was a decided inducement.

Weeks before Mr. Kemmish ever thought that he would be tendered the position of city manager, he had written Alliance friends his belief that the plan was fundamentally sound and was just as applicable to municipal affairs as to a private business. He has announced that he stands for a strictly business administration with the same square deal to all alike. He would not consider the place until he was assured that it was to be a business position, with all authority out of politics and away from the politicians. The new city manager realizes that local politicians, with their constant agitation, can hamper any man in work of this kind unless he is given a free hand.

The city manager plan in Alliance starts out this time under particularly auspicious circumstances. The council is thoroughly imbued with the fundamental principles underlying the plan and they have selected a strong manager and will see to it that he is not hampered in his work in any way. The new plan is certain to result in a better, more efficient and more economical government for Alliance.

BLUE DAYS IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Reports that come in from South Dakota show a peculiar state of affairs. An attempt is being made to enforce strict Sunday observance under some laws that have long been on the statute books. In certain cities and towns of the state, the law enforcement officers have taken up their task with a will and it is impossible to buy a magazine, a loaf of bread, a gallon of gasoline or anything save medicine for emergencies. In other towns in the same state the officers are inclined to overlook purchases of commodities that have always been for sale on Sunday.

Two Alliance men had a peculiar experience in a South Dakota town, last Sunday. They arrived along about noon and were ready to head back for Alliance. An examination of the gasoline tank showed there was but two gallons of gasoline in the tank. This was manifestly insufficient to bring them to Alliance, and the next town on route was forty-odd miles away. There was but one garage open and the proprietor received them smilingly, but informed them that it was not legal for him to sell them gasoline. What to do, what to do?

The Alliance men finally betook themselves to the home of the public prosecutor, who heard their tale of woe with sympathy, but he informed them that he could not authorize the violation of a law. The victims of the blue laws pondered the matter, and finally bethought themselves of a way out of their difficulty. "Will you prosecute us very hard," they asked, "if we should force that garageman to sell us gasoline and make him take the money for it?" The prosecutor was amenable to reason. He indicated that if the matter ever came up in court he would not ask for more than life imprisonment. The Alliance men proceeded to the garage, but a crowd had gathered. It was impossible to violate the law in the way they had expected with so large an audience. They fell upon the mercy and the neck of the garageman and he indicated there was a three gallon can in the rear room. As they left, he confided that he was the mayor of the city.

The South Dakota newspapers are treating the situation that obtains in that state in a serio-comic sort of way. The officials who are enforcing the law rigidly are doing it either from a sense of moral obligation or because they wish to make conditions so intolerable that there will be a revolt. But should there not be some way to handle such matters so that the man who needs gasoline to complete

a business trip shouldn't be compelled to hold up a garageman or visit a gasoline bootlegger? Isn't there a limit to the idiocy of lawmakers and reformers?

The word has gone out officially that the so-called "blue law" agitation is only a myth, fathered by the distillers and the advocates of light wine and beer and those who would commercialize the Sabbath: The W. C. T. U. has denied that their campaign against tobacco is at all active and insist that it is purely educational. But with situations existing in various parts of the country such as are to be found today in South Dakota, it behooves the average man who values his liberty to do his kicking now before someone gets the idea of resurrecting a number of dead letter laws that are now on Nebraska's statutes. Otherwise, there's no telling when someone with a whole lot more moral zeal than sense will take steps to enforce them. In South Dakota they say it is decidedly unpleasant, and Nebraska people are not apt to look upon such a program in any other light. In time, this sort of thing ceases to be a joke, just as it has ceased to be a myth.

A CRIME AGAINST CHILDHOOD

(Cornopolis (Pa.) Record)

Cornopolis people who have read the proceedings of the sensational Stillman divorce case, now being aired in the courts of New York, will denounce most heartily the dragging into it of a question concerning the illegitimacy of the little Stillman child. It is bad enough for even the father and mother to have their shame to the world, but couldn't even that have been done without dragging in the name of an innocent child—a child who must now carry the stain of this filthy affair through life?

This innocent child cannot be held responsible for the sins of the parents, yet fate has decreed that he must shoulder them. Fate has decreed that he must be pointed out in his play, in the school, at the movie show, later on wherever he may be in the business world, as the victim of a father's hatred and a mother's attempt to secure legal separation from a man with whom she claims she cannot live. This boy's life has been wrecked simply because two other wrecked lives have seen fit to go to court with their sordid tale of sexual indiscretions.

And that is the trouble with most every sin we commit in this world. It hurts others more than it hurts us. There is hardly a breach of the law that can be committed that affects alone the one guilty of such violation. There is always some innocent one to suffer. We may feel sure when we know we are doing wrong that it is going to strike someone else ere we are through, even though we feel sure we alone will be the only one to suffer.

It is a shame that such cases as the Stillman case are permitted to get to the public—or at least that part of it which affects an innocent child. And the few-minded man who reads such matter will always feel there should be some sort of punishment for the father and mother who will deliberately besmirch the name of an offspring to gain their own ends.

CRIME ON INCREASE

(Lincoln Daily Star)

A questionnaire sent out by the Associated Press bureau in Lincoln to the sheriffs of Nebraska recently brought the information that crime has shown an astounding increase in Nebraska.

The result of the questionnaire was recently published in The Star. In a few counties of the state, the sheriff reported an increase of 400 per cent in crime. In other counties the increase ranged from 40 to 30 per cent.

The reason for the increase varied in a large number of the replies. Undoubtedly unsettled conditions following the close of the war, lowered standards of morals, and the recent months of the depression which has covered the entire country has been a very material factor. Undoubtedly it is only a passing lapse and conditions will soon right themselves.

One fact which is worthy of some reflection however, does the increase in crime spring from an increasing disrespect of law?

One only needs to talk with a few of the prosecuting attorneys in this state to appreciate the task which confronts the average law enforcing officer. Perhaps abuse of the matter of enforcement have done much in recent years to create that condition, but the fact remains that there is not the reverence for law and order which should exist. Men who are scrupulously careful in their own private life and honest and fair in their business dealings—unwilling to serve as jurors, show a surprisingly peculiar attitude in passing on the cases presented to them. Many times the clear unmistakable evidence points to the guilt of the person on trial and yet the jury deliberately wink at the law.

This is a far more serious question than any temporary increase in crime.

Lenine is dead, dying, assassinated, has the croup, the measles, is crazy, has a nervous breakdown, has resigned. That man may not be much of a statesman but he knows a good press agent when he sees him.—Wichita Eagle.

We were afraid we were late for the picture at the movie show last night, but when we arrived they'd only reached the fourth assistant camera man, so we had oodles of time.—Quincy (Ill.) Journal.

The chief difference between the two political schools of the present day seems to be that one wants to scrap the navy, while the other wants the navy to scrap.—Colorado Springs Democrat.

Wouldn't it save a lot of work and bother if the picnicker in Washington could be run on the cafeteria plan with every fellow helping himself to what he wants.—Raleigh News and Observer.

Over the top are lined with White Sox at the present time but this does not prevent a fellow from taking a sideways glance at the other kind.—Washachie (Tex.) Enterprise.

Dr. Crane says men who have their convictions must have their trials. What the country needs is the vice versa of that.—Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont.

The Englishman considers prohibition a joke, which doesn't change our mind about an Englishman's idea of a joke.—Little Rock Arkansas Gazette.

A good driver may be able to drive within six inches of the jumping off-place and then stop, but a good driver doesn't.—Jewel (Kan.) Republican.

After all, a shortage of white paper does not bother some of us as much as a shortage of long green.—Pekin (Ill.) Free Press.

If movies cause all the wickedness now, what caused it in the old days when there were no movies?—Toledo News-Bee.

We are not worrying so much right now about the fool killer as we are the cool filler.—Brookfield (Mo.) Budget.

Some people cast their bread upon the waters and expect it to come back buttered.—Brookfield (Mo.) Budget.

Every bill-collector has heard a story similar to the one Germany is now telling the world.—Columbia Record.

Some men do what their wives tell them to do, and some men are not married.—Rochester (Minn.) Sentinel.

Money may talk, but have you ever noticed how hard of hearing it is when you call it?—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The cheek-to-cheek dancers naturally have to have their weak heads popped up.—Flint (Mich.) Journal.

We wonder that the reformers haven't taken the glass from Father Time.—Chicago Journal of Commerce.

State Game Department Planting Fish in Lakes and Streams in State

The division of game and fish of the department of agriculture has begun a special distribution of fish from the various hatcheries in the state. This distribution consists principally of trout in the fry stage and a limited amount of larger fish held over from last fall, says the Omaha Bee.

A seining crew is at work in the lakes in the northeastern part of the state in the vicinity of Jackson where a large amount of fish are being conserved and distributed to more favorable and permanent lakes and streams. The fish taken there consist largely of croppies, bullheads and a limited amount of perch and pike. It is the intent to maintain this seining crew as long as the weather will permit the distribution of the conserved fish.

The crew will be taken to Peru and other sections of the state and it is the intent to conserve as large a number as possible and make the distribution in car lot shipments, preferably to the lakes and sandpits adjacent to the larger cities of the state, so that the best possible angling will be provided within the next few years.

The co-operation of municipalities through local officials or organizations is solicited in carrying on this program of the conservation and distribution of fish. This is a continuation of the work that was started last fall at which time eight car loads of fish were distributed in this manner.

The trout nursery pond at Royal, in Antelope county, for which an appropriation was made by the 1919 session of the legislature, is nearing completion and will be available for use this spring. This pond will be stocked with trout which will be distributed next fall to the streams in the northeastern part of the state which are especially adapted for this species of fish.

Fancy and ornamental combs at Thiele's. 35

KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR EYES

See Bauman and See Better

Expensive Economy

Indeed! It is the height of folly to neglect your greatest gift—your EYESIGHT!

Most of us—fully 70%, according to statistics, are unconsciously neglecting our eyes. We "think" they are all right, when, as a matter of fact, they are not. Play safe—know! The cost of an examination is small, while perfect vision is beyond the reach of "cost." If you do not need glasses I will tell you so—gladly.

B. G. Bauman,
Alliance, - Nebraska

KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR EYES

The reformer's idea of a debauch is to paint the town blue.—Long Island City Star.

Another difference between death and taxes is that death is frequently painless.—Louisville Post.

G. O. P. politicians are showing a lively interest in the plum plan.—Nashville Banner.

Politicians will soon be divided into two classes—appointed and disappointed.—New York World.

Ackerman's 5 Piece Orchestra

—AT THE—
ARMORY

Tuesday the 12th
REAL MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENT

We wish to announce to the general public that we have purchased the restaurant formerly known as

Harvey's Cafe

AND WILL ASSUME POSSESSION IMMEDIATELY.

The firm of Reed and Trabert wishes to take this opportunity of thanking their former patrons for their past patronage and cordially invite them to patronize the new restaurant.

We have demonstrated our ability to serve clean, wholesome, tasty meals and we assure the public that the quality will be maintained on the old high level.

It will be our earnest endeavor to give rapid and efficient service in connection with meals that you will not tire of. Come in and give us the opportunity to show you what we can do.

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220 Box Butte Avenue

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At Which End of the Month Do You Save?

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There is only a few days difference between banking at the end or the beginning of the month—but what a world of difference in results!

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