

# The Alliance Herald

Official Paper of Box Butte County

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Official Paper of the City of Alliance

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## BRINGING CITY'S ORDINANCES TO DATE BIG TASK

### BUT THERE'S NO PARTICULAR HURRY ABOUT IT

#### Many Laws on City's Books Need to Be Repealed and Others Should Be Amended

The new council isn't going to be able to let the city manager do it all, despite the fact that the new system of city government provides for taking a good share of routine work off the shoulders of the members. City Attorney Metz, who is acting in an advisory capacity to the council under City Manager Kemmish's hold-over order, pointed out the need for a thorough revision of the city's ordinances at the meeting Thursday evening, and Councilman Gavin, who was nearest the ordinance record, proceeded to discover within five minutes half a dozen ordinances that are obsolete as the old-fashioned Tom and Jerry.

Ordinances accumulate rapidly under ordinary conditions, and when a city is doing any great amount of public improvement work, it's possible to get the records so cluttered up with ordinances that even the city attorney has difficulty in finding the ones that apply to specific cases. Mr. Metz pointed out that Alliance ordinances haven't been revised since 1907, and that there are but two places where the general public could discover whether it was violating any law, even were it so minded to inquire. City Clerk Kennedy has a bulky typewritten ordinance record, and the city attorney has a pile of ordinances that would fill a wastebasket.

There are now some three hundred ordinances that have not been repealed and of this number probably less than half are of any real value, and a considerably smaller number are really enforced. There has been no attempt to codify them, and if one is seeking for the ordinance on any particular subject, it is necessary to search through the stack until it is discovered.

The council was interested in the condition of the city's statutes, but the prospect of going through the pile and sorting out the quick from the dead didn't arouse any too much enthusiasm. All of the councilmen apparently believed that it should be done, but when it was suggested that there was a sort of a feeling of relief that even the spectators felt. Councilman Irwin suggested that when the council got to going good, they would make a habit of revamping ten or fifteen ordinances at each meeting, and this idea met with favor.

Councils and councilmen have changed so rapidly in the past that very few of the city officials have had any fair idea of what the ordinances contain. Once, away back in 1894, the council repealed thirteen ordinances at one fell swoop, but this commendable beginning was never followed up, and as late as 1907 there was printed in the compiled ordinances of the city of Alliance a couple of dozen which set forth the following specifications for sidewalks: "That the sidewalk built under this ordinance shall be at least four feet eight inches in width, built of lumber at least six inches in width and two inches in thickness, securely nailed upon at least three 2x4 stringers set upon edge on the surface of the grade." In the event repairs are needed, the city marshal notify the owner, agent or occupant of the abutting lot, and in the event that the repairs are not made within twenty-four hours, the city marshal is authorized to make the repairs and certify the cost to the council, which shall tax it up as a special assessment.

Ordinance No. 112, passed in 1906, provides that no person shall operate a motor vehicle upon the streets of Alliance at a speed greater than six miles per hour. This limit probably was not regarded as so much of a hardship at the time the ordinance was passed as it would be now if it were enforced. Even the state law permits the terrifying speed of fifteen miles per hour, provided the driver slows down to twelve miles at the crossings.

One ordinance that still stands on the books, dated 1894, when the city was more of a prairie town than it is now. Owners of cattle, horses, mules, hogs, sheep and goats are forbidden to allow them to roam at will or at large upon the public streets.

One unrecalled ordinance will bring tears to the eyes of the unregenerate. It provides for licensing and regulating the sale and giving away of intoxicating, malt, spirituous and vinous liquors, and assesses a penalty for the violation thereof. It seems that a petition must be signed by at least thirty freeholders in the ward and filed with the city council, and that the saloonkeeper must file a bond of \$5,000 and pay a license fee of \$700, which is to go into the school funds. This ordinance, which will arouse painful and saddening memories in many minds, provides a fine of \$50 for the saloonman who obstructs his windows, and from \$25 to \$100 for the man who sells

liquor on Sunday or election days, either general or special. In 1893 there was an occupation tax on saloons, but a kind-hearted council repealed this ordinance in 1904.

For the fiscal year ending May 1, 1895, the council appropriated the staggering sum of \$4,695 to pay the expenses of city government for a year, and in 1907 the amount was still less than \$20,000.

There is still on the books an ordinance making it unlawful to leave a horse or mule on the streets unless it be hitched securely by the head to some substantial and sufficiently strong post. There is a \$10 fine for violating this ordinance.

It may be of interest to business men to know that in 1895 there was passed an occupation tax, the proceeds to go into the street sprinkling fund, which provides that persons engaged in the following businesses shall pay to the city treasurer each year: Clothing, hotel, dry goods, saloon, \$1 each; groceries, druggist, millinery, hardware, bank, boots and shoes, livery, notions, furniture, meat market, lumber, 75 cents; restaurant, cigar stand, printer, harness, boarding house, barber, jeweler, tailor, implement, confectionery, second hand, 50 cents; insurance, physician, real estate, lawyer, 25 cents. In those days, it may readily be seen what rank the various businesses held in public esteem, or else how profitable the council thought of them. There is no telling from the provisions of this ordinance ceased to be observed, but it is still on the books. It must have been some time ago, for the present councilmen thought these sums were to be paid monthly, instead of by the year. However, if a business occupies more than one room it is supposed to pay this fee for each room.

In 1896 it became unlawful to ride bicycles on the sidewalks. The fees for sidewalks, medicine men, circuses and itinerant peddlers that were believed strong enough in 1895 have not been increased. There is one ordinance still standing that places the rate for telephones at \$1 for residences and \$2 for business houses. One ordinance refers to Wyoming avenue and North Railroad street.

Among other interesting laws is one which provides for a curfew for children under sixteen. Between April 1 and October 1, they may play upon the streets until 8 p. m., and the rest of the year they must be at home an hour earlier.

Ordinance No. 97 prohibits women from entering saloons and wine rooms and provides that proprietors shall not permit them to solicit drinks.

## Cho Cho, Health Clown, to Speak at Roof Garden Tuesday at 2:30 P. M.

Cho Cho, famous health clown of the child health organization of New York, will speak to the children of Alliance and vicinity at 2:30 p. m. next Tuesday, under the auspices of the Woman's club and the state agricultural extension service. Cho Cho is a real circus clown, who uses his tricks to instruct children in proper health practices instead of wholly for amusement purposes.

There will be no admission fee and the meeting will be open to everybody. Following the meeting at Alliance, Cho Cho will be taken to Hemingford by automobile by Calvin D. Walker, where he will give another talk.

Miss Murphy, of the university extension service, has been visiting Alliance schools, giving health talks and has urged everyone to take advantage of Cho Cho's entertainment.

## Campfire Girls Begin Their Coffee Drive on Saturday Morning

Eighty girls, members of the various Campfires in Alliance, will Saturday morning begin canvassing the city in the interests of the No-Vary Coffee company and H. Hirst of this city, as well as themselves. The girls are working for funds for their camping trip next summer, the rules of the Campfire providing that they earn the money for these trips themselves.

A representative of the company addressed the girls at a meeting held at the court house Thursday afternoon, and gave them a regulation sales talk. It is expected to complete the canvass within a week or ten days. Campfire girls will demonstrate the coffee at the Hirst grocery Saturday.

## Edison Kitchen Killed In Railway Accident Near Ranger, Texas

Word was received Tuesday evening from Ranger, Texas, of the death of Edison Kitchen, son-in-law of E. V. Doyle, of this city. No particulars were given except that he had been killed in a railway accident. Mrs. Kitchen, formerly Miss Emma Doyle, of this city, will accompany the body to Alliance, arriving on 41 Saturday. Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon from the Christian church. The deceased was married to Miss Doyle, in August of last year.

Mrs. Nellie Wilson and Mrs. Blanche Prettyman, spent the week-end visiting friends in Denver.

## COMMISSIONERS GIVE TWO ROADS THEIR APPROVAL

### READY TO INAUGURATE PROGRAM FOR SUMMER

#### Approval Given to Two Projects in the Northern Part of the County This Week

Road-building has occupied the attention of the Box Butte county commissioners to the exclusion of practically everything else during their April meeting. The commissioners began their session this month Tuesday morning bright and early, and there have been a series of conferences with state road engineers and ranchers from the northern part of the county, who brought in a number of petitions asking for the establishment of two roads.

The commissioners Thursday afternoon approved these two roads, and building operations will begin without delay. The county board recently purchased additional road-making equipment that will enable road construction to be carried on at a rapid rate, and it is hoped to keep at least two crews busy during the summer. The completion of the Hemingford road along the lines designated by the board by resolution a month or two ago will be one of the first projects to be started.

The two roads approved yesterday are both in the north part of the county. One of them connected the Chadron road, north of Alliance, with the road to Hay Springs, and will be built to the county line. It will start at the northwest corner of section 18-27-48, fifteen miles north of Alliance on the Chadron road, and will go from that point three miles east, two miles north, two miles east, one mile north and one mile east to the county line. The route has been arranged in this diagonal fashion in order to accommodate the greatest number of ranchers, as well as to make the work of building the road as inexpensive as possible. This route was the one favored by the petitioners, among whom were number a majority of the residents in that part of the county.

The second road designated will begin at the northeast corner of section 5-27-48, at a point located two miles north and one mile east of Hemingford. As laid out, it proceeds east two miles, north one mile, east one mile, north one mile, east three miles, north one mile and east one mile, to the schoolhouse.

An effort has been made by the commissioners to build roads leading both to Alliance and Hemingford.

#### New Caretaker Appointed

About the only other business transacted by the board, aside from the consideration of road matters, was the appointment of a new caretaker for the court house and grounds, to take the place of J. S. Corp, who handed in his resignation Wednesday afternoon. The commissioners appointed Cecil H. Jones, who has been employed by the Burlington here the past three or four years. He will begin work on May 1.

Mr. Corp has been caretaker at the court house for the past seven years, and it was over the protest of the commissioners that his resignation was accepted. He has established a record for growing a lawn in Box Butte county, and was considered a model of efficiency in other ways. Mr. Corp has accepted the position as caretaker of the Central school, and will enter upon his new duties the first of the month.

Already citizens are beginning to haunt the offices of the commissioners, pleading for a reduction in the amount of the valuations placed against the property. They are out of luck for the time being, for the commissioners have stated times when they sit as a board of equalization, the next date being June 14. Later on in the year there will be another meeting of the board of equalization. The man who talks reduction of taxes this week is talking to deaf ears.

## Presbyterian Women's Missionary Societies Will Meet in Alliance

The woman's missionary organizations of Box Butte presbytery, including some eighteen churches in western Nebraska, will hold a two-day session at the First Presbyterian church in Alliance on Thursday and Friday, April 21 and 22. A very interesting program has been arranged for Friday evening, including a missionary pageant by the woman's missionary society of the Alliance church. Dr. Claude Mason of Siam will speak at 8 o'clock Thursday evening. The presbytery will hold its first session at 10 a. m. Thursday, and the public is invited to attend the sessions.

There will be no services in the church this Sunday, the building being closed for repairs and interior decoration.

Mrs. I. E. Tash spent a day or two this week in Scottsbluff, returning Wednesday by auto with her son-in-law, R. L. Johnson.

## SALARIES ARE DISCUSSED BY CITY COUNCIL

### CITY MANAGER'S PAY UNDER CONSIDERATION

#### Decision on Many Matters Is Delayed Until the Arrival of City Manager Kemmish

The new city council held its first stated meeting at the city hall Thursday evening, every member being present and in his seat, ready to go, when the clock showed the hour of eight. There wasn't a long delay while the city clerk and others used the telephone in order to route out enough members to make up a quorum, neither was it necessary to send Chief of Police Jeffers out on the highways and by-ways to find missing members, although, from force of long habit, he was on hand ready to perform this duty should it be required of him.

The chief items of interest in the discussion were in connection with salaries to be received by the city manager and the councilmen themselves. Acting City Attorney Metz presented an ordinance defining the duties of the city manager and setting forth the salary that he will receive, leaving the amount of the salary and the bond to be furnished by him blank. The first blank was easy enough to fill in, for it has been understood, unofficially, that the new city manager will receive \$5,000 the first year and if he gives satisfaction and is continued in the position, a raise of \$500 each year for the next three years, making the salary during the fourth and last year of his incumbency \$6,500.

The council was up a stump, figuratively speaking, however, when it came to setting the amount of the bond. The former city manager, under the old form of government, was bonded in the sum of \$2,500, but the council has not had an opportunity to discuss with Mr. Kemmish his plans in regard to handling the city funds. It is up to the new manager whether he will appoint a city treasurer, and should he decide not to do so, the bond required will necessarily have to be increased. The council decided to wait until its next meeting before passing the ordinance, which will allow them an opportunity to consult with Mr. Kemmish in regard to the matter.

There was a general disposition at the meeting to let matters in connection with the organization of the city government under the new plan wait pending the arrival of the city manager. The next few meetings will probably see the passage of a number of ordinances providing for various departments and setting out the salaries of the city employees who will be selected to head them. The new council apparently believes that the man they have chosen should have a free hand in conducting his office, and are going to hold him responsible if things do not go to suit them.

The proposed ordinance set out the duties of the city manager such as they appear in the state law on the subject. The manager will have absolute control of the appointment and discharge of all city employees, and neither the council nor any of its committees or members shall dictate the appointment or removal without cause of any city employee.

The question of salaries for the councilmen themselves was brought up by Mr. Metz, who mentioned the fact that he had, away back in January, when the city manager plan was victorious at the city election, prepared an ordinance raising the salaries of councilmen to conform to the provisions in the law. Under the present ordinance the councilmen were receiving only \$50 a year, whereas, he said, under the city manager law the salaries could be double that amount. Mr. Metz was immediately asked by one of the councilmen if he hadn't stated the amount incorrectly—the impression being that the salary limit was \$300. A reference to the law brought out the fact that the larger sum was the true limit.

City Attorney Metz had prepared the ordinance and had suggested that the old council pass it, thus enabling the new council to draw more money without anyone being able to say that it had raised its own salaries. The old council, however, didn't seem to be interested in the pay its successors were to receive, and the ordinance was never even introduced. The idea had been held by some members of the old council that unless the ordinance were passed, the new councilmen would have to serve at the \$50 a year salary, but the city attorney cited a supreme court opinion or two which indicated that if the new council desires, it may set its own salary. The matter was delayed for the time being, but will undoubtedly be among the measures to be brought up when the reorganization ordinances are being considered.

There wasn't a whole lot more for the council to do at this meeting, but it didn't take so very long to get it accomplished. The members decided to accept the deed offered by Newberry's Hardware company for certain lands on First street, near their warehouse, and to vacate certain portions

## THE WEATHER

Rain tonight and Saturday, probably turning to snow west and north portion. Colder tonight. Strong northerly winds. Notify stockmen.

of that street. This had been held up at the meeting last week until some points in connection with the title had been cleared up.

The council also took steps to have the ornamental lighting system along Box Butte avenue put in proper repair, discussed the working of city prisoners on the streets and the necessity for going over the ordinances and repealing or amending a number of them, to make them fit present conditions.

Mrs. Cora Lewis has returned to her home after undergoing an operation at the St. Joseph hospital.

## Annual Homecoming of Alliance Odd Fellows On Friday Eve, April 29

Friday evening, April 29, is the date set for the annual home coming and roll call of Alliance Odd Fellows. The roll call will be omitted on this particular occasion, but in its place will be observed the 102d year of Odd Fellowship. The festivities will be held at Odd Fellows hall, 119 1-2 West Third street, and will begin at 8 p. m. F. W. Hicks, E. C. Drake and F. O. Rowe is the committee in charge of the entertainment.

The following program will be presented:

Orchestra.  
Toastmaster, L. C. Thomas.  
Reading, Miss Elsie Harris.  
Subordinate Lodge, J. R. Beach.  
Piano solo, Miss Ruth Nation.  
Vocal solo, J. H. Vance.  
Encampment, J. R. Snyder.  
Reading, Miss Edna Hiles.  
Rebekahs, Mrs. S. B. Mitchell.  
Piano solo, Mr. Stratton.  
Canto, F. O. Rowe.  
Cantate, Mrs. J. R. Snyder.  
Quartet, Beach, Moore, Lucas, and Vance.  
Refreshments.

Members of Alliance lodge No. 168, I. O. O. F., Alliance lodge No. 104, Rebekah; Box Butte encampment No. 81; Canton Regal No. 24, and Fortress Regal No. 2 will participate.

## Alliance Legion Post Entertains Veterans of Two Other Wars

Alliance post No. 7, American Legion, was a host to the veterans of the civil and Spanish-American wars at a dinner at the Alliance hotel Fern garden at 6:30 p. m. Thursday. Forty members of the Legion, G. A. R. and Spanish-American war veterans were present. There was no formal program, the soldiers singing a number of army songs during the evening. Following the dinner, Post Commander J. J. Dixon called upon E. G. Laing, Jack Riordan, John Leavitt, Ed. Reardon and a few others for remarks.

Bert Laing gave some details about service during the Spanish-American war, concluding with a toast to the flag; Jack Riordan told the story of his regiment during the war with Spain; John Leavitt told of spending seven months in Siberia guarding a string of seven hundred box cars, supposed to contain firearms and ammunition, but when they were attacked by the bolsheviks and opened the cars to get material to protect themselves, discovered that the cars were empty; and Ed. Reardon told of the worst experience he could remember during his service.

But one civil war veteran attended. Mr. Dickey, who lives a mile south of the city. There are only five civil war veterans in Alliance, and most of these were out of the city. The others are Al Wiker, who was in Cheyenne, A. D. Pool, J. B. Denton and Robert Garrett.

The Spanish-American war veterans now in Alliance or members of the Alliance post include: E. G. Laing, L. N. Clay of Lakeside, F. O. Rowe, F. W. Beckman, George W. Powell, Harry Barton, Harry A. Johnson, J. F. Hilton, W. J. Hamilton, E. C. Barker, R. T. Morgan, John Riordan, J. C. Henneberry, Ed. Henry, Joe Hansen of Mumper, T. J. Smith and W. Todd.

## Tom Gee Injured By Falling Timber When Barn Burns Near Berea

Tom Gee, salesman for the Lowry & Henry garage of this city, received a bad cut over his left eye when struck by a falling timber when the barn of James Evans, living one mile north of Berea, burned to the ground Tuesday. The sight of Tom all bandaged up, returning to Alliance in company with Sheriff Miller gave rise to rumors that he had eloped with a car belonging to Lowry & Henry and that the sheriff had to plug him with a bullet, to keep him from getting away.

The cause of the fire is not known. There was a considerable loss of wheat, hay and corn, with sufficient insurance to cover.

## SAUER ANOTHER NOTCH NEARER CHAMPIONSHIP

### ALLIANCE WRESTLER CONCEDED TO BE WHIRLWIND

#### Throws Hans Christenson of Chicago After More Than An Hour of Strenuous Grappling

Pete Sauer, who has been making his headquarters in Alliance for the past few months, cut another notch on his stick and took another big stride toward the heavyweight championship belt Thursday evening at the roof garden, when, after an hour and seventeen minutes of strenuous wrestling, he succeeded, by means of his inimitable toe hold, in compelling Hans Christenson to holler "suff". Sauer is conceded, by those who have seen him in action on the mat, to be the fastest man of his weight and age that they have ever watched perform, and the men who have tangled with him have, as a rule, been quick to admit that he was out of their class.

The Thursday evening match was one of the fastest ever seen in the city. There was a larger crowd out than usual, and a large number of ladies were among the spectators. The enthusiasm ran high at times, especially when the Alliance wrestler crowded his opponent, but the best of order was preserved by Dr. G. J. Hand, who refereed the bout.

Christenson's trip to Alliance resulted disastrously in more ways than one, although he showed himself to be the best sort of a sportsman. In addition to losing the first and only fall to Sauer, the ligaments of his right knee were torn loose by the toe hold secured by Sauer. He explained afterward that he had it in his mind to call quits as soon as he realized that Sauer had secured an unbreakable grip, but that the knee snapped before he could get the word out.

The Chicago man was the most formidable opponent that Sauer has faced in Alliance. He is considerably larger than Sauer, and in addition to the advantage in weight, possessed a remarkable agility and an undoubted amount of strength and professional ability and skill. The first ten minutes of the bout, the two men did considerable sparring about, while estimating each other's strength, but after that Sauer took the aggressive for the better part of the hour they wrestled. Time and again Christenson succeeded in breaking Sauer's toe holds, and in the meantime was able to give Pete some opportunities to show his ability in the way of escaping from various grips. Sauer has a special kind of toe hold that is about the best he has in his repertoire, and when he finally succeeded in getting it, the burly Chicago man gave up the ghost, although not soon enough to save himself a badly wrenched knee. Two physicians who were on the platform gave it as their opinion that he would not do any wrestling for at least two months.

Following the first fall, after Christenson's knee had been taken care of, he addressed the crowd briefly. He established his reputation as the best sort of a good sportsman by offering to go ahead and wrestle to the second fall if the crowd desired, but shouts in the negative were sufficient to convince him that the crowd was satisfied. He then told them that Sauer was the best man he had wrestled with in the past five years, and prophesied that if the Alliance man—Christenson spoke of him as "the boy"—kept on gaining in weight and speed, he would be wearing the world's championship belt in a mighty few years.

Christenson has hung up no mean record for himself during the sixteen years that he has been in the wrestling game. Five years ago he wrestled Strangler Lewis, present world's champion, two and a half hours to a draw, and he has since met a number of the headliners in the game. His defeats have been few and far between and he is recognized as a formidable man on the mat.

Sauer's victory last night means that the match with Earl Caddock during the race meet in June will in all likelihood be arranged.

A telegram from Anton Wrokluska, from Casper, Wyo., champion of the Atlantic fleet, challenged the winner of the evening's match to grapple for a purse of \$1,000. Anton's weight is 196 pounds. Several Alliance men have volunteered to complete the necessary coin, and the date for the match has been tentatively set for April 29, and will probably be given as a benefit entertainment for the Alliance baseball association, which is now being organized.

The preliminaries were especially interesting. The two paperweight boxers, who put on a sparring exhibition of three two-minute rounds, appeared in the ring with their heads shaved and the crowd applauded their efforts vociferously.

Mrs. Egbert Harr of Hot Springs, S. D., formerly Miss Bessie Wintermute of Alliance, is visiting friends in the city.

Mrs. Jay Duncan has accepted a position as waitress at the Alliance Hotel.