

The Alliance Herald

Official Paper of Box Butte

TWICE A WEEK—TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

Official Paper of the City of Alliance

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ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1921

No. 97

SCHOOL BOARD DISCUSS THEIR BUILDING PLANS

MEET WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS

Business Men Ask Questions Showing They Are Interested in the Financial Side

There was a big attendance of business men at the Monday noon luncheon of the chamber of commerce, when the members of the Alliance school board were present, and there was considerable discussion of the board's plan to proceed with the sale of bonds and begin construction work on new school buildings some time in the spring.

E. M. Martin, president of the board, said that the board was glad to meet with the business men and learn their views. There had been considerable comment on high taxes, he said, and the board desired to learn whether it was the sentiment of the community that they go ahead with the plans.

Superintendent Pate gave a few school statistics and then offered to answer any questions concerning school work. The enrollment this year, he said, was not as large as had been expected, the total being 1,141 in the high school and grades. There are forty-one teachers, an average of 38 pupils per room in the grades and 27 pupils per teacher in the high school. The enrollment was 1,131 last year, an almost equal gain of 145 over the preceding year.

F. W. Harris gave some figures showing the levy for the county for this year and last, in which it was shown that if there is any increase in taxes, it is not due to the schools, for the mill levy is the same this year as last. The property valuation in the school district, he said, is \$4,875,095. If the \$200,000 of bond sale sold, this will mean during the next ten years an interest burden of \$12,000 a year. After ten years, it will be necessary to establish a sinking fund to pay off the bonds. The mill levy will have to be increased 12 mills, which will increase the school assessment 13 percent, but will equal a 6 per cent increase on the total. That is, when the bonds are sold, taxpayers who paid \$100 will pay \$106. State taxes increased 16 per cent, county taxes 10 per cent and city taxes 20 per cent for 1921 over 1920, he said, but the school levy was not changed.

There was some discussion as to the effect of lowered freight rates on prices of building material, and whether the maintenance cost would be materially increased with more school buildings. A new heating plant will have to be purchased, but the same janitor will be used. The same teachers will be used, save with a possible addition in the high school.

City Manager Kernish explained that if the school needed an auditorium, it might be possible to rebuild the armory and give them a downtown location.

Need for Gymnasium

Superintendent Pate explained the need for additional gymnasium facilities, and that the school has no auditorium large enough to take care of its needs. He said that if the gymnasium or auditorium were not to be built, he would prefer to delay building until they could be included.

The meeting was spent almost entirely in the discussion of various questions concerning the new building, the effect on taxes and other matters of interest. There were plenty of questions asked which showed the business men were interested in the matter from the standpoint of the financial burden on the district, but there were no adverse comments. There was no attempt made to secure an expression of opinion, although, when the meeting was thrown open for discussion, there were no arguments made on either side. Members of the board stated that they expected if they built at all, to save from \$30,000 to \$40,000 of the \$200,000.

Mr. Pate said that the average cost of an education the state over is \$86.05 per pupil enrolled and \$105.51 per pupil based on daily attendance. In Alliance this cost is \$56.50 and \$74.20, respectively.

Test Case for State Spud Grading Law in the County Court

The case of the State of Nebraska vs. Harry O. Wildy of Hemingford was called this morning at 10 o'clock, with William Mitchell for defense and County Attorney Bayse for the state. The first complaint, charging Wildy with fault and neglect to have one carload of spuds that were shipped from Hemingford on or about the 13th day of September, 1921, inspected as provided by the new law, was dismissed when County Attorney Bayse filed a new complaint this morning with two counts, the first reading about the same as the first complaint and the second count charging Wildy with neglect to have the potatoes in question sorted and graded.

The first witness, C. W. Graham,

THE WEATHER

Forecast for Alliance: Fair tonight and Wednesday. Warmer tonight.

was called and sworn, when Attorney Mitchell made a motion asking no testimony be taken, claiming that the law had not been violated by Wildy's neglect. The judge took a recess until 1 o'clock this afternoon before ruling on Mr. Mitchell's motion, as this new law has never been before this court before and the judge wanted a little time to compare the charges with the law and thoroughly familiarize himself with every detail before ruling on Mr. Mitchell's motion.

Considerable interest was manifested in this test case, especially by the growers and shippers of potatoes, and a large crowd was present at the court room this morning.

In the afternoon the trial again proceeded and a number of witnesses were examined. C. O. Sawyer said that he had inspected the carload of spuds, and had refused to issue a certificate of inspection because culls were in the same carload with No. 1. Mr. Wildy at that time stated that he might ship the potatoes anyway, just to test out the law. Attorney Mitchell sought to show that the inspector had not really graded the potatoes, inasmuch as he had not run them through a grader, and judged only by their appearance.

Judge Tash, when the testimony was all in, imposed a fine of \$25 and costs.

POLICE ASKED TO WATCH OUT FOR MURDERER

ALLIANCE OFFICERS GET CALL FROM CHADRON TRAILERS

Trail of Man Who Killed Father Belknap Said to Lead Toward Western Nebraska

Alliance police officers have been warned to be on the watch for the slayer of Father Belknap, Catholic priest, at Lead, S. D., a few days ago. A telephone call from Chadron was received by Officer Stillwill about 3 a. m. Sunday morning from the deputy sheriff of Deadwood, who was then in Chadron following the trail.

The description of the suspected slayer of the priest is described as an Italian, 5 feet 10 inches in height, wearing new overalls, brown sweater or coat and a tan or brown cap.

Charles Coker to Be Tried at Bridgeport Cattle Theft Charge

Charles C. Coker, well known rancher of Morrill county and at the present time a resident of Alliance, was arrested Monday morning by Chief of Police Charles W. Jeffers on instructions from the sheriff of Morrill county. The Morrill county officer had in his possession a warrant sworn out by County Attorney McDonald, with cattle stealing. It is understood the chief complaining witness at the chief complaining witnesses at the trial will be employees of Hall & Graham of Alliance, whose ranch is in the same vicinity as the Coker place.

Alliance District Pastors Meet at Methodist Church

The Methodist pastors of the Alliance district met this morning at the district court room in this city in the interest of the Nebraska Wesleyan endowment campaign, which will soon be launched in the district. The plans call for raising \$1,133,500 in Nebraska. The meeting began yesterday afternoon, the first session being held in the Methodist church.

A resolution was adopted by the conference in support of the project in essence as follows: The Alliance district will enter into the campaign on the condition that the first \$100,000 raised in this district go to the proposed Scottsbluff hospital; all over that amount to go to the Nebraska Wesleyan endowment fund.

About twenty-five ministers from the district were in attendance at the meeting. Rev. E. C. Fintel of Scottsbluff has been appointed as the representative from the Alliance district to attend the meeting of the Long Pine district ministers, which convenes at Ainsworth Wednesday morning.

The campaign in the Alliance district will be managed by Dr. G. W. Isham, general campaign manager, of Lincoln; C. C. Wilkins of Baldwin, Kas., manager for Alliance district; and Dr. Cable of Des Moines, Ia., assistant manager.

E. E. Nichols, W. Clark and E. Ver-trees, who have been hunting for the past week at the ranch of Frank Palmer, returned Monday to their homes in Denver. They came over from Denver last Tuesday by auto, and report a very heavy snowfall at Harrisburg.

GREAT SERIES OF ARTICLES IN THE HERALD

OPINIONS OF AMERICAN LEADERS ON VITAL ISSUES.

One of the Greatest Feats in American Journalism is About Ready for Launching.

In announcing that The Herald is to present to its subscribers and readers a series of articles gathered and edited by the Community news service, this paper feels that it is offering what will be known as the greatest individual feat in American Journalism.

For many weeks and months the Community news service has been quietly combing the nation for expressions from the men advanced in American industry, arts, finance, religion, drama and transportation relative to the possibility of securing a series of articles from those who are unquestionably recognized as the greatest leaders of the particular industry or profession to which they have given their lives such as members of the president's cabinet, generals in the army, United States senators, financiers, railroad presidents, college heads, executives and owners of the world's greatest industrial plants, governors, government department heads, labor leaders, political giants, insurance executives, transportation experts, industrial leaders and many others.

It needs but a glance at the names of the men who are the authors of the series to indicate to any one familiar with America and her leaders today that never before has such a galaxy of powerful and dominant men combined to give expression to the beliefs and hopes that have been and are today the guiding force in the nation's civic, industry, education and aesthetics. No individual paper, regardless of its wealth or power, could hope to secure written expression from a tiny fraction of the scores who under their signatures are about to give to the readers of The Herald their personal viewpoints.

It makes little difference what your race, business, politics and religion may be. It makes no difference where your business interests may lie. If some of the men whose "stories" are to be published differ from you in any particular, if you disapprove of their methods or personality, the fact remains that each and every one of them is so high in his particular sphere that you cannot afford to ignore him, and what he has to say is important to you. Every walk of American life is represented by a leader whose ability is unquestioned, and who knows

(Continued on Page 8.)

Alliance Burglar Is Held for Robbery of Quincy Mail Car

Night Officer Eugene Stillwill has received word concerning Ernest Conrad, enterprising burglar whom he discovered in the act of breaking into the Horace Bogue store with a crowbar on the night of May 17, and who was later turned over to postoffice inspectors for a session before a grand jury at Pueblo in connection with the robbery of a postoffice at Brush, Col. He was believed to have been implicated in several robberies and attempted robberies, and within a very short time the officers were convinced that he was rather a tough character. He was sentenced to fifteen days on a vagrancy charge in order to give time for investigation, and later held to the federal grand jury by United States Court Commissioner L. A. Berry.

According to information received by Officer Stillwill, the Pueblo grand jury failed to hold Conrad on the charge of robbing the Brush postoffice, but later a grand jury at Grand Junction brought in an indictment which charged him with the robbery of a mail car near Quincy early in May. There is said to be a strong case against him in connection with this robbery, where the railway mail clerk was held up at the point of a rifle. Conrad was identified by two men in the railroad yards and by the mail clerk.

If there is a conviction, Officer Stillwill will receive a big slice of a reward of \$5,000.

When Conrad was arrested he had with him a number of postage stamps, to the value of about \$30, encased in a Union Pacific envelope. The stamps were about in the denominations of those reported missing at the Colorado postoffice. There was also a note on a Louisiana, Mo., bank signed by the prisoner and a brother, which was the only means of identifying him. There were evidences that he had also tried to break into the W. R. Harper and Golden Rule stores on the same May night that he was arrested. The evidence was sufficient to hold him here, but when the federal authorities expressed a desire to try him on one or two counts, the county law enforcement officials surrendered him gracefully.

ALABAMA MAN STARTS FEUD WITH PORTER

STAGES PRIVATE WAR ON SUNDAY EVENING

Borrows Knife to Slay Colored Man and Police Surgeon Takes Four Stitches in His Scalp

Fred Grizzell, Burlington brakeman, who comes from Alabama, put in a busy hour or two Saturday evening. He began with an overabundance of white mule and before the evening had ended had managed to start a race war all of his own, had attempted to slay a colored man who had offended his sense of the proprieties, had been knocked down a couple of times, getting a badly bruised head and a scalp wound that required four stitches to close, and had inflicted a wound in the neck with a pocket-knife upon Frank Weaver, colored porter in the W. G. Ezell barber shop. Shortly afterward he was knocked out and when he came to was in the city bastille, where he had an opportunity to get his wounds sewed up and dressed, and where he was given an opportunity to sober up.

The trouble started Sunday evening shortly after 6:30 o'clock. According to Grizzell's story, he had been walking past an alley to the rear of the Rodgers grocery, and had come upon a group of colored men. Weaver was arguing with another colored man, he said, and he had made some mild inquiries concerning the argument. His interest was rewarded by a question as to how the dispute concerned him. "I was the only white man there," he said sadly, but that didn't deter him from telling the colored man what would happen to a negro if he acted that way in Alabama. Weaver then called him a vile name, he said, and he walked away.

Shortly afterward his hot southern blood got the better of him, and he realized that the colored man was in a way the victor. He followed the porter over to the Shelton restaurant, "called him out" and began angling for an apology. He didn't get it and then he started hostilities by hitting Weaver. The answer came quickly. Weaver returned the blow. And once more hostilities ceased.

The White Man's Revenge

Grizzell then started out for revenge. Nothing would satisfy his Alabama tradition and avenge the blow he had received, or the insult, but the blood of the man who had wronged him. He started out to borrow a knife or a gun. Ten or fifteen people he approached, asking for some instrument with which to do damage to the colored man who had offended his idea of race proprieties. At the Army and Navy store he tried to buy a knife, and finding none on sale, inquired as to the chance of getting an army rifle. At the Alliance Billiard Parlor he bought a bottle of near beer and told the proprietor that he wanted to borrow a knife to kill a colored man who had insulted him. He spoke to several men on the street, to each one giving details of the punishment he intended to inflict. "Don't think I won't kill him," he told one man whom he asked for the loan of a knife.

Finally a brakeman let him have a pocket knife. He selected the sharp blade, again called out his enemy and attacked him with it, inflicting a wound in the neck. That was the finish of his aggressive tactics, for the knife was knocked out of the hand and he hit the pavement. Friends of the colored man urged him not to do any carving on his own account, and the Alabama crusader walked up the street. Weaver's anger then got the better of him, and he followed his assailant and in front of the Keep-U-Neat, lying in a small pool of blood. The blow was struck which put an end to this private race war. Officer Stillwill, Burlington Agents Short and Martin approached, and they found him in front of the Keep-U-Neat, lying in a small pool of blood. He was taken to the station and surgical assistance was called. Weaver gave himself up to the police within an hour.

Fined on Drunk Charge

Grizzell, in police court Monday morning, pleaded guilty to a complaint charging him with drunkenness and fighting, and was assessed a fine of \$25 and costs. Weaver, arraigned at the same time, pleaded not guilty and Monday afternoon appeared in police court with a bunch of witnesses to testify in his defense. At the morning session, he had declared that he struck in self-defense.

Grizzell gave the story of his wrongs, omitting some of the details concerning acts of aggression on his part and the search for a knife or gun. He admitted he never saw the colored man with a knife and that he didn't know whether he was hit in the eye or fell on it. He had come to Box Butte county only a short time ago, had worked at the Clay ranch a short time and since October 18 had been laboring on the rip track.

Special Agent Short told of finding Grizzell on the sidewalk and of recovering the knife with which the

colored man was carved. The brakeman who had lent it, he said, had picked it up from the street, wiped the blood off the blade and stuck it back in his pocket. He said he could not say that the colored man had been drinking, but that he saw nothing that would indicate it. Officer Stillwill and George W. Powell also testified.

Weaver had charge of his own defense, but the fact that he brought his witnesses into court and had then tell their story in a way worked against him. He was not fully acquainted with his right to go on the stand, but thought the court and prosecuting attorney would question him. Ray Tompkins, Bud Charlton, Frank L. Thomas of the Army and Navy store and John Velous gave testimony showing that Grizzell had tried to borrow a knife, but the charge on which Weaver was being tried was that of disturbing the peace by fighting. He was fined \$25 and costs.

"They didn't ask me any questions," said Weaver, when it was all over. "I could have told them how it happened and that he said things to me that gave me the right to hit him. He hunted me up and made an insulting remark concerning a colored woman. I told him I ought to hit him in the face. He said that in Alabama, where he came from, colored men got off the street when white men came along. I said I didn't know what they did in Alabama, but they didn't do it here. He said some other things and I got mad. He deserved to be hit."

WILL FORM AN ORGANIZATION FOR MUNY PIER

MEETING CALLED FOR 7:30 P. M. WEDNESDAY

Sheriff Miller Asks Friends of the Project to Assemble at the County Court Room

Sheriff J. W. Miller, who with Chief Jeffers was instrumental in securing the subscriptions that erected the municipal pier at Broncho lake this summer, has called a meeting of all men interested in the undertaking for the county court room at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday. The purpose is to form an organization that will get behind the pier and see not only that outstanding bills are paid, but that it will be kept up in the future.

A sufficient number of subscriptions were secured to build the pier this summer, but some of these have not been paid in. The Lions club, which donated \$100, decided, at a meeting a short time ago, that they would not pay over the money until there was a definite organization to pay it to. Some others have taken the same stand. The pier was a tremendous success this summer, but since swimming days have passed, the bath house has been visited by vandals who have stolen lights, ripped out partitions and played hob generally.

Members of the Lions club, Rotary club, firemen's and other organizations in the city, as well as other citizens who are interested in the project, are requested to be present at the meeting.

Legion Men Enroute to National Meeting Go Through Alliance

The big national American Legion convention is now on in Kansas City, and other cities have sent their quota of ex-soldiers and their wives and families, just as did Alliance. Special trains of Nebraska delegates were sent from Omaha and Lincoln, and the crowds are among the liveliest that the railroads have handled in years. It makes some people wonder just what would have happened had the ex-soldiers got all dressed up and found themselves with no place to go due to a railroad strike. That's one of the possibilities that's there's no use wondering about, now that the strike has been called off.

Two or three special bunches of delegations to the Kaysee meeting passed through Alliance Friday and Saturday. A special carload of the ex-soldiers from Lead and Deadwood were here Friday night. Night Officer Eugene Stillwill came to Alliance from Lead, and he had previously lived at Deadwood, and almost every man in the car knew him. A delegation was sent to find Mr. Stillwill and bring him over to the car to meet his friends. He had a pleasant visit with the bunch from his former stamping grounds and says that he wouldn't mind taking in the Kansas City convention himself.

"If they're all as lively as the boys from my old home towns," Mr. Stillwill said, "Kansas City will be some wide-awake city this week."

C. L. Reynolds left for Tacoma, Wash., on Saturday in response to a message announcing the death of his mother, Mrs. Mary Reynolds of Tacoma. Mr. Reynolds was looking for a visit from his mother this week, and the news came as a great shock.

Mrs. C. L. Finch and Mrs. Harry Patrick left Sunday night for a few days' shopping trip to Denver.

SAVES A CHILD FROM FLAMES IN BURNING SHED

QUICK ACTION BY O. E. FESSENDEN DENIES SAVES A LIFE

Dale Threlkeld Has a Narrow Escape From Burning to Death in Blaze This Morning

Little Dale Threlkeld narrowly escaped burning to death noon when a fire was in some way started in the tin shed on the rear end of the storehouse back of the Threlkeld furniture store. O. E. Fessenden came out of the back door of the Sanitary Market just in time to see a boy, who had evidently been playing with the Threlkeld boy, standing by the shed screaming. When he went over to investigate, he discovered the door of the shed was in flames, and the boy on the outside said his brother was in the shed.

Mr. Fessenden rushed through the flames which filled the doorway and found there was another fire inside, between him and the Threlkeld boy, but he managed to bring the boy out, apparently uninjured except being almost frightened to death.

The boy would probably have been smothered had not Mr. Fessenden arrived on the scene when he did. It is thought the boys were playing in the shed and had set something on fire, and in trying to drag it outside, had started the blaze in the doorway, leaving the one boy penned up behind the flames.

Miss Rathburn the Winner in Popularity Contest at the Bazar

In last Friday's issue of Alliance papers, the winner in the popular girl contest at the St. Agnes academy bazaar, held at the roof garden three days last week, was erroneously announced as Miss Elythe Williams. Miss Williams stood second in the list, the first prize going to Miss Marie Rathburn, who received 5,125 votes to 3,300 for Miss Williams.

Government Issues a Call for Bids From Star Route Carriers

Four fairly good jobs will be open the first of next July. Bids for carrying the mail on the three star routes out of Alliance have been called for by the government and will be received up to January 10 next. The appointment holds for four years. The call for bids reads as follows:

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the fourth assistant postmaster general until 4:30 p. m. January 10, 1922, for the carrying of the mails for the term from July 1, 1922, to June 30, 1926, on the following described routes:

57174—From Alliance to Longlake, equal to 31.75 miles and back, twice a week.

57175—From Alliance to Fowling, equal to 29.50 miles and back, twice a week.

57202—From Alliance to Hickory, equal to 37.50 miles and back, three times a week.

57173—From Alliance to Marple, equal to 27.20 miles and back, twice a week.

Persons desiring to bid on the above routes may have further information by consulting the bulletin boards in the lobby of the postoffice or calling on the postmaster.

Officers to Testify in Vallas Case Before Omaha Federal Jury

If the fellow who calls witnesses for the federal grand jury at Omaha hadn't relented, there might have been a regular carnival of crime in Alliance and Box Butte county one of these days, for Chief Jeffers, Night Officer Eugene L. Stillwill, Burlington Special Agent W. S. Short, Deputy Sheriff Tom Miskimen and maybe one or two other limbs of the law were requested to proceed to the city metropolis, bringing with them Lester Smith, youth employed in the Alliance Billiard Parlor at the time, early in August, when the proprietor, Christ Vallas, as convicted in county court of receiving stolen property to the value of \$17.10, stolen from a Burlington freight shipment.

All of the officers worked together on the capture, and if the federal prosecutor hadn't relented there might have been a day or two when the city and county would have been totally without police protection and at the mercy of any band of crooks who might have discovered the fact.

However, late advices are to the effect that Smith and possibly one officer from the Burlington force and one from the city or county staff will be sufficient.