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No. 16

BOYS CAPTURED ON A QUEST FOR EXAM QUESTIONS

FIVE STUDENTS IN BAD WITH SCHOOL AUTHORITIES.

Principal F. C. Prince Intercepts One Youth After Breaking Into Locked Room.

Late Wednesday night, the Alliance high school building was entered by two students, who were on a search for copies of the questions for the mid-semester examinations, which are usually kept in a small closet adjoining the office of Principal F. C. Prince. Three other students kept watch outside. The scheme to get semester credits without worry was not as successful as other similar attempts have been, for, due to previous thefts, Principal Prince was in the building, on watch. He succeeded in capturing one of the two who had entered the building, the other making his escape. Entrance was gained by means of the fire escape and a window that was left open a few inches.

Five students, all of whom have been prominent either in basketball or football circles, have confessed to Superintendent W. R. Pate and Principal Frank C. Prince that they planned the theft of the questions, and these five have declared that no other student in the school is implicated.

The five who have confessed are, according to high school authorities, Frank Daily, James Fowler, Robert Bicknell, Seth Joder and Ralph Garvin. All five of the boys were members of the successful 1921 football squad, and four of them are members of the present basketball team.

Key Made a Month Ago.

According to the stories told by the boys, preparations for the theft of the examination questions were started a month ago, when the boys gained possession of Mr. Prince's key. One of these fitted the Yale lock to the small room in which the questions were kept. A duplicate of this key was made, and the keys were returned to Mr. Prince within a short time, so that he did not suspect what had occurred.

However, so common have been the rumors of stolen examination questions during the present school year, as well as last year, that the school authorities have been on their guard. Only a few unimportant sets of questions were left in the customary place Wednesday night. Mr. Prince stayed in the building extinguished the lights. The boys, who kept a good outside guard and proceeded with extraordinary caution, neglected to check up on the men who might be interested in watching them.

The boys gained entrance to the building without difficulty, opened the door with their own key and secured the questions. One of them was recognized when he turned on the light. The other escaped. The one who was recognized was given the opportunity to talk it over with his chums, and all five of them decided to come forward and take their medicine.

Punishment Not Decided.

The boys will not be turned over to the county authorities, although they could be prosecuted for breaking and entering. The law qualifies this offense by saying that it must be done with the intent to take something of value, and most of the students, as well as the school authorities, are decidedly of the opinion that the information sought by the boys had sufficient value. Whatever punishment is meted out to them will be done by the school authorities, who this noon were undecided what was the best course to take.

Superintendent Pate is leaning toward the opinion that the boys have already been sufficiently punished, and that the publicity they will receive, as well as the sort of punishment that will be given them anyway at the hands of other students, will be as much as they deserve. The boys did not profit by their theft, and were intercepted before they had gained any direct benefit. While the intent in reality constitutes the crime, Mr. Pate says, he fails to see just what could be gained by following the usual course and expelling the students from school. The effect of the capture will have a wholesome influence in the school, and it is possible that no further punishment will be meted out, but definite decision on this point remains to be made.

The boys insist that the key they had made has not been used before, and that this is the first time they have been mixed up in the theft of examination questions. It is known that there were similar thefts six and twelve weeks ago, and rumors to that effect last year. The last time a capture of the guilty parties was made occurred about eight years ago, when one of the marauding parties was a girl.

Judgment for \$105 and interest was rendered in county court Monday against Fred Schwaderer and Fred Beckenbach, farmers living near Alliance, in favor of Fred L. Westlake. The sum represented two notes signed by the two men. They explained that they did not have the money and that they had promised to pay after the sale of their spuds.

THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska: Generally tonight and Saturday. Rising Sunday. Fair and clear south portion tonight.

Court

Each a New Record in 1921

W. C. Mounts, clerk of the district court, has figured up the year's business in 1921, and has discovered that the fees of his office were not only sufficient to pay his salary of \$2,000, but there will be an excess of over \$200 turned over to the county. In past years, the fees from the office have seldom gone above \$1,600. In 1921 there were 140 cases filed in the district court—24 state cases, 23 divorce suits and 93 other civil suits. Of these 10 state cases, 11 divorce cases and 30 civil suits have been disposed of, leaving on the docket at the present time 89 cases unfinished. District court will meet early in February, the December, 1921, term having been passed.

LAST OF THE HEMINGFORD BOOZE CASES

THREE MEN TURNED LOOSE WITH SUSPENDED SENTENCE

County Authorities Get Generous After Half the Sentences Are Served.

County Judge Tash has devised a new method of punishment for the last trio of the eight men who were arrested in Hemingford New Year's night when they were preparing to celebrate with the assistance of a keg of moonshine. The judge selected the coldest day of the year, and turned the three loose upon a cruel world to work for a living. One of the men had informed the sheriff's force that he rather liked the idea of getting board and warm quarters free for a month or so, business being dull and jobs more or less scarce. Besides, in these days, when a man is hired on a job, he is expected to do a little work.

Jim Potts, Fred Lehman and Lloyd Chapman, all three of whom were serving out fines of \$100 and costs in the county jail, were brought before his honor by County Attorney Bayse Thursday afternoon, with a recommendation that the remainder of their sentence be suspended and that they be discharged from custody. At the rate of \$3 a day, and figuring in the costs, which were fairly high, the prisoners with their eighteen days of custody had served about half of their sentences.

An agreement was made with the prisoners that they would pay the costs in their cases as soon as they earned the money. An inventory of their pockets showed they didn't have sufficient funds, but the judge looked upon them more kindly than he did two or three weeks ago, and was willing to take their word for it. The Hemingford tailor shop will probably be in operation again before long, but it is believed that the stock will be confined to dry goods, exclusively.

Dr. Minor Morris Heads District Medical Society

At a meeting of the Scotts Bluffs County Medical Society held at the Lincoln hotel in Scottsbluff and attended by several Alliance physicians a Medical Society for the Twentieth medical district was organized, and the following officers elected: Dr. Minor Morris, president; Dr. Young, Gering, vice-president; Dr. Hand, Alliance, secretary-treasurer.

Dr. Schoch of Alliance gave a very interesting paper on, "Hemorrhage," followed by a general discussion of the subject. After the organization of the district society, President Morris appointed a committee consisting of Drs. Schoch, Alliance, Plehn and Stupes, Scottsbluff, for the purpose of drawing up a constitution and by-laws. After a splendid dinner in the banquet room, Dr. Morris, Alliance, gave an interesting paper on "Evolutionary Anatomy," followed by a general discussion.

The meeting was pronounced one of the most interesting that has been held. The following Alliance men attended: Drs. Morris, Blak, Baskin, Schoch, Weyrans and Hand. Dr. Morris was accompanied by Mrs. Morris.

Application for Mother's Pension Is Withdrawn

The application of Mrs. William Ackerman, for mother's pension, filed in county court recently, has been withdrawn. It is understood that Mrs. Ackerman will accompany her father to Fort Morgan, Col. He has several times extended an invitation to her.

TO REORGANIZE LOCAL COUNCIL FOR BOY SCOUTS

ROTARY CLUB DECIDES TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE.

Survey of City Being Made, and Sufficient Troops Will Be Organized.

At the Wednesday dinner of the Alliance Rotary club, held at the Palm Room of the Alliance hotel, Fred G. Gurley of the club's committee on boys' work reported that the committee had considered various suggestions made by the members, and had decided that it was better to concentrate their efforts on one project at a time. The committee recommended that the club get behind the Boy Scout movement, which has been slowly going backward since the big drive for funds last spring.

Rotary club members, in the discussion, made it plain that they do not consider the Boy Scout movement theirs by right of discovery, although the club has in the past been a strong booster for the Scout organization. The sentiment of the members was that the time has arrived to inject a little energy into the organization, and help get it on its feet again. The boys' work committee was instructed to call a meeting of the Boy Scouts council, composed of twelve or more men from various organizations in the city, and see if it cannot again be made to function.

Some months ago, there was selected a local council of business men, who appointed a scout commissioner. A drive for funds was arranged and several thousand dollars raised within twenty-four hours. This money has since been largely expended for the benefit of the boys, the bath house and pier at Broncho lake and the summer camp at Belmont being erected. The boys took their summer outing at Belmont and have utilized the Broncho lake camp for swimming, skating and week-end parties, but the council (Continued on Page 4)

Expression Class Students Pleased Imperial Audience

The high school and grade expression classes, under the direction of Mrs. Inice McCorkie Dunning played to a full house at the Imperial Theatre last night. The program was exceptionally good all the way through, and the little tots in "The Toy Shop," were especially well trained.

The opening scene of the program showed a beautiful display of dolls of all nationalities and Mother Goose characters, with little Miss Ada Turner as shopkeeper. After all the dolls were sold the shopkeeper gave a party for the customers and demonstrated the ability of the dolls in dancing and singing.

Part two of the program was a three act comedietta, "A Little Excitement." The setting of the playlet was a girls' school headed by an old fashioned spinster, Miss Snatchem, played by Miss Dorothy Hampton. Josephine Wright, as Tony, the naughtiest girl in school, got into all kinds of mix-ups, and Elsie Harris, as Nora, an Irish servant girl, was especially good.

Following is the program and cast of characters:

- PART I. "THE TOY SHOP"
- Shopkeeper, Ada Turner.
 - Baby Bunting, Bettie Sims.
 - Goldilocks, Lucille Rider.
 - Mistress Mary, Gretchen Neiman.
 - Boy Blue, Virginia Lester.
 - Red Riding Hood, Freddie Tully.
 - Little Bo Peep, Lois Harper.
 - Clown, Willetta Cox.
 - Wax Doll, Mary Brennan.
 - Spanish Doll, Bettie Harper.
 - French Doll, Mary Elizabeth Griffith.
 - Jap Doll, Leona Orr.
 - Hawaiian Doll, Philena Finch.
 - Scottish Doll, Leona Smith.
 - Indian Doll, Beryl Fulmer.
 - Holland Doll, Fern Clark.
 - Eskimo Doll, Frances McKenzie.
 - American Beauty, Lucille Reed.
 - Customers: Mother Goose, Geraldine Reed; Hawaiian, Dorothy Stanton; Jap, Orletha Weaver; Peasant, Opal Campbell; Scotch Lass, Margaret Thiele; Holland, Helen Eberly; Indian, Elizabeth Barker; American Girls, Dorothy Armour, Dorothy Coyner and Margaret Dorr.

PART II. "A Little Excitement"

Characters—Miss Snatchem, head of the school, Dorothy Hampton; Miss Archer, not so prim as she looks, Miriam Harris; Nora, an Irish servant girl, Elsie Harris; Mike, a young policeman, Mildred Ryckman; Tony, the naughtiest girl in school, Josephine Wright; Evie Blake, a lovesick girl, Frances Fletcher; other school girls, Vivian Corbett, Estella Yarbrough, Ethel Fuller, Mildred Pate, Margaret Vandelaar, Dorothy Mote, Dora Johnson, Verna Dow, Eugenia Laing and Phyllis Thompson.

Specialties between the acts—Solo dance, Margaret Dorr; folk song, eight girls; vocal solo, Verna Dow.

STATE ENGINEER ANSWERS CRITICS FROM OVER STATE

MAKES EXPLANATIONS AND COUNTER CHARGES.

Wants Statewide Investigation of Highway Bureau, and County Expenditures As Well.

George E. Johnson, secretary of the state department of public works, which has charge of expending state and federal aid for roads, has been under fire from all parts of the state during the past month or so. In a letter addressed to the newspaper editors of the state, he answers his critics, largely by replying to each charge with a countercharge. He declares that he desires a statewide investigation of the way the state highway department has expended the funds in its care, and at the same time asks an investigation of county funds expended for the same purpose. He charges that on the average, county officers are unable to account for 50 per cent of the money spent for roads.

Mr. Johnson's statement follows: As there have been several articles appearing recently in the different newspapers of the state, criticizing roads constructed by this department and the greater part of the answers to these articles have not been published, I am sending this statement to each newspaper of the state, so that you will have a chance to inform your readers of the true facts in regard to the relative cost of roads constructed by the various counties and this department.

Several articles have been published, criticizing the work done and the cost, on project No. 52-A, in Phelps county, comparing this with the road constructed by the county.

The facts regarding those two roads are: The state project was constructed in the spring of 1920. The county commissioners had the opportunity at that time to take this work and construct it with their own county forces, (Continued on Page 8.)

Superintendent Pate Urges Control of Social Activities

Supt. W. R. Pate of the Alliance city schools, in the following statement to parents, points out the danger of too much social activity on the part of students, and asks for the co-operation of parents in getting the best possible results from the schools:

"The first semester of school closes today. Report cards showing the quality of work done by all students will be issued Wednesday of next week. Cards of this nature are issued each six weeks and should be examined carefully by parents.

"At this time, the beginning of a new semester, is a good time to take stock of the kind of school work being done by your child, and if the work is not satisfactory, make the necessary arrangements for more time to be used for study. It is necessary for the average student above the fifth or sixth grade to study at home in order to do satisfactory school work. When they do not do so, they fail to make a passing grade and must take again the work in which they fail. Thus it takes some students more than a year to make a grade in the elementary school, and five and even six years to do the four years work in the high school.

"Where the social life of the student is such that a certain amount of time cannot be used at home each school day for school work, low grades will result. Also, too much social life with the accompanying late hours and loss of sleep during the week leaves the student in such physical condition that efficient school work cannot be done during the hours when school is in session.

"If the social events of the young people could be planned to occur at the week ends, and the other evenings left at least partially free for study, it would permit many who are now doing ordinary work to do excellent work, and many who are now failing utterly, to make their credits.

"May we not have the co-operation of all parents to bring about the best possible results in the school? Also, will you not feel free to consult teacher, principal or superintendent about the progress of your children?"

"W. R. PATE, Superintendent."

Alliance Band to Give a Series of Winter Concerts

John P. Mann, director of the newly organized Alliance band, announces a series of seven winter concerts at the Imperial theatre, beginning Monday, February 6, with an orchestra concert, with alternating band and orchestra concerts once every two weeks. The proceeds will go for the benefit of the band, and it is hoped that the citizens will give their liberal support.

District Meeting of American Legion Here February 6

The American Legion has announced a series of meetings in the six congressional districts, of post commanders and post adjutants from the 320 local organizations in the state. State commander William Ritche, department adjutant Frank B. O'Connell and national committeeman Earl Cline will attend the various meetings and discuss Legion problems and outline the year's program. The first district meeting will be held at Falls City or Lincoln on January 26. The second district officials will meet in Omaha on February 4, the third district will be on January 30 at a point not yet announced. Seward is making arrangements to entertain the fourth district session there on January 13. The fifth district draws two meetings; one at Clay Center on February 14 and one at McCook on February 15. The big sixth district will have three gatherings; at Valentine February 6; Alliance February 8, and North Platte February 10.

CATTLE LOAN COMPANY NOW INCORPORATED

FIRST STATE BANK OF ALLIANCE TAKES THE LEAD.

Already \$16,500 in Loans Approved and Applications Made Total Nearly \$100,000.

Articles of incorporation for the Northwestern Cattle Loan and Investment company have been filed. The articles are signed by H. A. Copsey, president; Charles Brittan, secretary; Jay O. Walker, vice president; Fred W. Hayes and Beatrice O'Bryan, directors. All of these are connected with the First State Bank of this city, although it is understood that other banks are considering taking stock in the enterprise.

The cattle loan company is capitalized at \$50,000 and was organized to take advantage of the funds in charge of the federal war finance corporation. Some weeks ago meetings were held in this city at which representatives from several banks made plans to organize a company, but no definite arrangements were made. Some bankers have joined the Nebraska association.

Already the company is taking advantage of the federal funds available for loaning to farmers and stockraisers. It deals directly with the war finance corporation, just the same as the huge Nebraska corporation, with headquarters at Omaha and member banks all over the state, and inasmuch as the banks have to make out all the papers demanded by the application, can secure as speedy action.

To date, the new concern has submitted applications for nearly \$100,000 of war finance funds. Of this amount, \$16,500 has been approved, although the money has not yet been received; and there are other applications totaling \$94,000 already submitted. In addition to this, there are indications that applications for at least \$100,000 additional will be made in the near future.

League Basketball Season Opens Tonight With Gering Team

The Alliance high school basketball team plays the opening game in the western Nebraska basketball association schedule, and also the first game for the season on the home floor, when it will meet Gering. The home boys expect a fairly easy victory, judging from performances of both teams in the preliminary games. Gering lost last Friday to Scottsbluff after a close game.

The Alliance team returned after the holidays from a tour over the state in which it played twelve games, winning nine. Prospects were never better for a championship team, according to Coach F. C. Prince.

The main engagement will take place at 8 p. m. in the high school gymnasium. Preceding this will be a game between the Alliance high school girls and the Alumni girls, which is expected to be a spirited contest.

Season tickets for the games will be on sale at the high school tonight. The tickets will be on sale at the high school tonight. The tickets cover ten games, and the cost to grade students is \$1, to high school students \$2 and for adults and outsiders, \$3. At these prices the saving will be at least half over single admissions. Coach Prince announces that there will be more than ten games played in Alliance, and that purchasers of season tickets will be able to get their money's worth.

NOTICE TO TEACHERS.

Teachers' examinations will be held at the court house, Saturday, January 21. OPAL RUSSELL, County Supt.

STOCK GROWERS IN CONVENTION AT COL. SPRINGS

ROBERT GRAHAM REPRESENTED THE NEBRASKA STOCK GROWERS ASSOCIATION.

Trend Toward Co-operation of Packers and Growers—Plan to Eliminate Leads in Profits.

Robert Graham of Alliance attended the convention of the national livestock association, which met at Colorado Springs from January 11 to 14. Mr. Graham is president of the Nebraska stock growers' association. Other members of that association present at the convention were A. R. Modisett of Rushville, Sam Delatour of Lewellen and John Orr of Oshkosh. The national association comprises representatives of all livestock associations west of the Mississippi. There was a large attendance, but it was noticeable that the delegations from a distance were smaller, Mr. Graham said.

An important address was that by President Kettner of the Ohio farm bureau, who spoke along co-operative lines. He showed that great sums of money could be saved the stockgrowers, as well as the consumers of meats, if the feeders could come direct to the western cattle ranges and purchase their own cattle. At present, the feeding stock is shipped to central points, and perhaps goes to several of them before a sale is completed. In addition there are various commissions that must be paid each time the feeding stock changes hands. Mr. Kettner estimated that it required, on the average, fifty days to get cattle back to the weight they had on the day they were shipped from the range. In addition to shrinkage, cattle shipped about are subject more or less to contagious diseases while in transit. In his opinion, within a short time all feeder cattle in Ohio will be purchased through the farm bureau direct from the owners on the ranges. He told of one purchase of a lot of 2,000 feeders in this way and the additional profits by this method of handling.

War Finance Loans.

The director of the war finance corporation for Colorado spoke on government assistance for stockraisers. He made a clear statement as to just what would be done for the stockgrowers. It will not be possible for borrowers to obtain money to finance speculative deals, but the bona fide stockgrowers, who can show good collateral, will receive adequate aid.

Thomas Wilson, president of Wilson Bros, packers, and also president of the American institute of meat packers, deplored the internecine fight which has for years been carried on by the packers and the stockgrowers. He assured the convention that if it was within his power to keep such things out of the industry in the future, he would do so. He has always opposed this fighting, he said, which brought no benefit to either side.

Robert Brown, president of the American livestock exchange, spoke in a vein antagonistic to the Kendall-Kenyon law enacted by the last congress. This law regulated packers, stockyards and livestock exchanges. In the course of his address, Mr. Brown stated that a suit has been started attacking the constitutionality of this measure. His remarks put him in bad with the convention.

Railroad Executive Antagonizes. Director Dillon of the association of American railway executives, also made a most unfavorable impression. He deplored the fact that the convention was about to pass a resolution asking for a reduction of freight rates. Not only were his remarks received with disapproval, but he seemed to take glory in the fact that he was antagonizing the meeting. He placed the farmers and stockraisers in the same class with the socialistic Soviets of Russia.

Two Colored Boys Are Permitted to Leave Alliance

Tom Young, known better by his soubriquet of "The Good Kid," and James Johnson, both colored were arrested Monday night and a charge of vagrancy written against their names on the police blotter. It was later written on a formal complaint. Both of these men have been hanging around Alliance for several weeks, according to the police officers, and they have no visible means of support. In police court Wednesday morning, Judge Berry handed both of them, the limit fine of \$50 and costs, which was suspended on their promise to leave the city by 6 p. m. Thursday. They kept to their agreement, apparently, but if they are discovered, they can immediately start to work in the city jail, where a job will be kept open for them.

Dr. E. C. McClelland, proprietor of the Antioch drug store, was a business visitor in Alliance Tuesday.