

**RAILROAD NOTES**

J. T. Caldwell, train dispatcher, has been permanently transferred to Sterling, Col. H. B. Miller of Broken Bow has taken his place here.

F. W. Foy, car helper, has resigned from the service. Mr. Foy has accepted a position with an Omaha wholesale house. Mr. Foy was a traveling salesman before entering the employ of the Burlington.

R. D. Walker, timekeeper, left for Chicago Friday.

Miss Ruth Sturgeon, stenographer in the chief dispatcher's office, is in Boulder and Steamboat Springs, Col., visiting friends.

Herman Wentzel, apprentice, left the service Saturday to go to his home in St. Joseph, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. Emerson returned Saturday from a two weeks' visit in Texas and Louisiana.

That the railroads are rapidly getting back to normal was evident Saturday, when the big engine No. 67-70 was taken out of "lead" and sent to the Sheridan division. This engine has been laid off all winter, and its return to work is regarded as a good sign by the men. There are now only two train engines and two switch engines "laid up."

Tom Bass, caller, in company with Mrs. Bass, left Saturday for a week's visit in Denver.

E. Spier, storekeeper, went to Omaha Friday night on business.

Bob Gavin, son of Chief Dispatcher Gavin went to Lincoln Saturday to spend a week with his brother, Harold, who is attending the university.

A meeting of the train dispatchers' association will be held in Alliance on March 7. Representatives from all points west of the Missouri river are expected to be present.

Miss Marie Buechstein, clerk in the store house, accompanied by her mother, left Friday night for Des Moines, Ia., owing to the death of Mrs. Buechstein's sister.

At a meeting Friday night, the Modern Brotherhood of America appointed a committee composed of Mrs. Troy Sanders and Mrs. E. L. Routh, to keep the local papers posted on the activities of the Brotherhood. The next meeting will be held March 2. This will be a musical event, with refreshments after the entertainment. This brotherhood is growing very rapidly. Hardly a meeting is held without several new members being taken in.

Business for the end of the week closed strong. An extra stock train or two with oil specials and returning tanks caused the additional business and many crews doubled the road both on this end and east end. Sheridan mines having a little more business, empty coal cars are now being moved west instead of to Beardstown division although Casper oil tanks are not being moved by the Sterling division.

Conductor W. E. Zollinger laid off sick Friday and F. K. Roberts being the oldest conductor with rest up at this terminal he made the trip to Ravenna and return on 44 and 43.

Nearly eighty cars of cinders were unloaded by a work train between Ellsworth and Lakeside last week. These cinders are obtained from packing plants and other places at Sioux City and Omaha and make excellent ballast.

H. H. Giles, night chief dispatcher, attended to company interests at Broken Bow last week gathering information and seeking authority whereby the cashier and one freight man's position at Broken Bow will be discontinued, according to present plans, March 1.

On account of the resignation of B. F. Williams, first operator at Broken Bow, effective March 1, this position is now open for bids to Alliance division agents and operators and the bulletin is quite a "novelty" as due to depressed railroad business conditions no operators positions have been bulletined for nearly a year, the only notice being received in most cases was that "effective today your position will be discontinued."

A symbol of old time business was noticed last week when an extra west train was ordered set out at Antioch on account of the Alliance yards being blocked. For some time a most unobstructed view of the Alliance yards could be obtained and the yard full of cars gave several extra train and engine men a few days' work.

On account of the storing of small tank cars at Antioch, Agent H. E. Wolf of that city, reports a yard check almost equal to old "potash" times there being over a hundred cars stored there the last of the week.

Dispatcher A. Gregory left the last of the week for Omaha, where he will undergo a minor surgical operation. Mr. Gregory was relieved by extra dispatcher, H. B. Miller, of Broken Bow.

Operator Tom Deering, of Alliance, who was called away on account of a relative's sickness recently is expected to report for work Tuesday or Wednesday.

No. 109's train of Monday was delayed several hours near Ansley by a defective hot box on the engine trailer of Engine 5081. After repacking and caring for the hot box the train was pulled on into Ansley and it was then found that the brass journal had almost entirely crumbled away. Engineer Lew Mark and Conductor Jim Callender had the train and another engine was brought out from Ravenna by Engineer Carter to complete the trip.

West End Roadmaster J. Emerson returned recently from a three weeks' trip to New Orleans, San Antonio and other points. His railroad work was handled partly by Alliance men and J. T. Gilmore of the Deadwood line.

The Lakeside cinder train was pulled off Saturday evening and Monday's local unloaded several cars of cinders and ties near Lakeside completing the work.

"Judge" Beach recently made a trip on 43 and 44 holding a turn left vacant by W. E. Zollinger.

S. G. Tillet and Charles Myers, passenger enginemen, laid off a few days last week. Freight enginemen, G. A. Miller and W. A. Bennett, filled the passenger runs in their place.

From a recent ruling and agreement of the labor boards the railroad executives whereby some classes of employees may be worked eight hours on split shifts over a twelve hour period only two callers, for train and engine crews will now be used in Alliance. Brakeman Nelson who had been working in that capacity during depressed freight movement lost his position through that ruling. He is at present relieving the first trick caller for two weeks after which Mr. Nelson will probably leave for his home in Chicago.

**THE PUBLIC FORUM**

(Editorials by Our Readers.)

**COMING—A CIVIC FORUM.**

ALLIANCE, Neb., Feb. 20.—To the Editor of The Herald: When editors make mistakes the public is quick to condemn, when they do a good piece of work they should be commended. In one of your recent issues you wrote an editorial under the heading of, "A Day in Politics," which has been the subject of much comment among the people of the county. In fact, it has aroused more comment, than anything that has appeared in the papers for some time. In the news item of the same paper occurs the phrase, "it does not yet appear what influence is back of this new interest in the question of government."

The only influence back of this new interest in politics is a desire upon a large number of people to make their citizenship more than a name and to do their own political thinking. Too long have the farmers and laboring men allowed the professional politician to do the thinking; too long have they voted according to orders; too long have they failed to catch the importance of the primary election. This is an effort of men with real interest in their community to get every vote out at the polls at both the primary and general election. The calling of the meeting and the splendid response was but the spontaneous expression and a sincere desire upon the part of the men to be as intelligent in their politics as they seek to be in their business.

No man can be a true citizen of this country who fails to inquire into, and get a correct understanding of the great questions that confront the American people. As the one who began to agitate for some way to get the various elements that make up the citizenry of this part of the state, I know we will be open to criticism, because of our profession, but we feel that any move that will educate people along the question of good government is commendable, and we are willing to be criticized.

We hope to see the day when a civic forum will be organized in Box Butte county where question of a public nature will be discussed in a friendly fashion, and to this end we shall bend our effort tomorrow. There is no reason why our church buildings cannot be open to the public for a forum every Sunday afternoon, conducted along parliamentary lines, as the Boston Forum has been carried on for years. The Baptist church building is hereby offered to the public for such use.

It is a matter of pride to us that we called the meeting of last week, a week before the national leaders of the farmers and the labor unions called theirs. In last Saturday's papers we read that such a meeting was called, at which they shall seek a coalition of farmers and union men in order to solve their individual and mutual problems. Alliance is not so slow after all. We read, "There will be no new political parties, or radical plans come out of these conferences. The new organization will be formed along lines already attempted by conservative leaders of the farmers and laboring men. They base their hopes upon their ability to get the sympathy of the public at a large and to get every vote out to the polls on election day for men who stand for progress and the square deal.

The day of letting the ward-healer and precinct leader do the political thinking has passed and this movement seeks to take the political control out of their hands, and give every man and woman a chance to know what the franchise involves, and the carrying out of its responsibilities in a way that will reflect credit to citizenship. By remaining in our respective parts we hope to exert our influence upon the parties to put 100 per cent men and women in office.

Why should not the farmer and the town man be as well posted politically as the professional politician? To inspire people in any direction you must inform them, and to inform them you must give them a chance to discuss the questions of interest. These meetings are held as clearing house for information, and we hope to see men of all parties coming out to these meetings and give their sides of the questions. Such a civic forum will provide that opportunity. We would like to hear what the folks of Alliance and the county think about such a plan. Come out to the meeting Wednesday afternoon, and help us decide this matter.

An informed citizenry means an inspired citizenry, and inspired citizenry means an active citizenry, an active citizenry means a patriotic citizenry. Political education means political improvement. Political improvement

means a better day for all. All classes of people who are interested in better government are invited to these get-together meetings. Shall we have a civic forum?  
B. J. MINORT.

**SPORTS**

Coach Prince's leather tossers added another victory to their list Friday evening, defeating Bayard 25-18. Cross led the locals in scoring with 9 points, Dailey coming second with 8. "Heavy" Hartman copped first honors among the Beetpickers with 8 points. The game while not particularly fast was close enough to be interesting. The Beetpickers were evidently coached with the idea of breaking up a five man defense, as they in almost every case used a long shot with an attempt at the basket on the follow in. O'Neill a Bayard guard sank three spectacular long shots and led his team on field goals. Bicknell, Alliance second string forward outdistanced some of the first team men when put in in the second half. He has been displaying a good brand of ball lately and will make a strong bid for a first team berth. The summary.

Alliance—	g	ft	f	p
Cross, f	2	5	3	9
Dailey, f	4	0	0	8
Brown, c	2	0	2	4
Jodey, g	0	0	2	0
Fowler, (C), g	0	0	2	0
Totals	10	5	10	25
Bayard—	g	ft	f	p
Hartman, (C), f	2	4	3	8
Shepherd, f	0	0	1	0
Leach, c	2	0	2	4
Burns, g	0	0	1	0
O'Neill, g	3	0	2	6
Totals	7	4	9	18

The Blue and White basketeers will meet Coach Crawford's northwestern Nebraska champions at the high school gym this evening in what should be a fast and close game. The Chadron pastimers have lost but one game this season, this being to Alliance 27-17 and they are thirsting for revenge. To date they have a record of one defeat and nine consecutive victories. They have made a clean sweep of western Nebraska and have undoubtedly improved since the first Alliance game. Coach Crawford has coached his team all season with the idea of beating Alliance and he claims to have a team that can deliver the goods. This game should be a humdinger, by heck, and no one should miss it. As a preliminary the A. H. S. second team will play the Hemingford team in another game which should be well worth seeing. The second team has been displaying real basket ball and while little is known of the Hemingford team they should put on a good scrap.

Ray Edwards, a former A. H. S. star is making a name for himself in

athletics at Hastings college, although he is only a freshman. While in the local high school he played three years of basket ball and two years of football. At Hastings he has played quarterback on the football team and forward on the basketball team and should he remain at Hastings during his entire college career he will undoubtedly be a four stripe man in both of these sports. A report of the Hastings-York game in the Lincoln Star follows, which makes special mention of him:

HASTINGS, Neb., Feb. 17.—Hastings college swamped York college here last night, 57 to 13. Edwards and Hull played the best games for the Bronchoes. The score at the end of the first half was 32 to 11 in favor of Hastings.

The Emerson grade school boys repeated their performance of a few weeks ago and trounced the Central boys 16-6 in a preliminary to the Bayard-Alliance game Friday evening. These games will do much to develop material that will uphold the honor of Alliance in athletics when they enter high school. Anderson, Lunn and Young all played a good game for Emerson, while Bruce Epler and Ellis Wright were the star performers for the losers.

In 1914 a game between Alliance and Sidney which will remain in the

memory of fans for some time took place at the old Opera House. The high school gym being too small to accommodate the crowd the opera house was secured and goals put up for the game. The crowd was probably the largest ever attending a basket ball game in Alliance the hall being packed until no more could get in. This game decided the championship which was won that year by Sidney. The team that year consisted of Clarence Schafer and Martin Nolan as forwards, Willy Darnell center and Wilton Keegan, Charles Spacht and Don Graham changing off as guards. The game was, from all accounts, fast and furious and also rough, players on both sides being called for slugging. The battle ended with Sidney on the long end of a 31 to 29 score and winners of the western Nebraska championship.

The standing of the teams in western Nebraska has changed some lately due to the unexpected spurt of Gering, they having taken third place away from Sidney and automatically shoved the locals into second place but one game behind Chappell. The Chappell team have played nine conference games to Alliance's eight although both have lost one. The standing at present is Chappell, Alliance, Gering, Sidney, Scottsbluff, Bayard, Oshkosh and Bridgeport. It seems likely that both Alliance and Chappell will go

through the season undefeated. If this is the case the Chappell-Alliance game here will decide the championship.

The Alliance record so far of twenty games shows only four defeats, or a season average of .500. The only games lost with the exception of Sidney were to teams that have since stepped at a fast pace, Ravenna and Wahoo being as yet undefeated and Lincoln being proclaimed by all the eastern Nebraska sport writers as the probable winners of the state championship. The record.

Alliance 17—Chadron Normal 15.  
Alliance 27—Chadron High 17.  
Alliance 46—Hyannis 19.  
Alliance 17—Ravenna 27.  
Alliance 20—Ansley 13.  
Alliance 46—Aurora 19.  
Alliance 32—College View 14.  
Alliance 25—Greenwood 21.  
Alliance 31—Havelock 19.  
Alliance 18—Wahoo 25.  
Alliance 12—Lincoln 23.  
Alliance 33—Waverly 15.  
Alliance 29—Gering 11.  
Alliance 32—Bayard 14.  
Alliance 27—Scottsbluff 17.  
Alliance 13—Sidney 18.  
Alliance 28—Chappell 17.  
Alliance 34—Oshkosh 16.  
Alliance 37—Bridgeport 4.  
Alliance 26—Bayard 18.

There are only four games remaining, with Chadron here, Sidney there, Chappell here and Scottsbluff here.

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