

# The Alliance Herald

Official Paper of Box Butte County

TWICE A WEEK—TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

Official Paper of the City of Alliance

VOLUME XXIX

(Eight Pages)

ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1922.

No. 32

## FARMERS ARE INTERESTED IN CERTIFIED SEED

### INCREASED ACREAGE IS PROMISED FOR COMING SEASON.

H. O. Werner and Hardy W. Campbell Speak to Large Audience at Court House Wednesday.

A largely increased acreage of certified seed potatoes will be grown in Box Butte county during the year 1922, according to the statements of the farmers of the county who crowded the district court room Wednesday afternoon to hear Professors Hardy W. Campbell of California and H. O. Werner of Lincoln discuss the potato growing situation in western Nebraska.

C. A. Newberry, the Alliance merchant and manufacturer, who arranged for the speakers and the meeting, was present and acted as chairman, introducing the speakers.

Mr. Werner was the first speaker and talked to the intensely interested audience for an hour. Mr. Werner is secretary of the Nebraska Potato Improvement association which will hold its annual convention in Alliance in December. He has spoken to potato growers here before. His talk touched on the raising of the best potatoes only, saying that when the grower raised potatoes which he could stand back of, the marketing problems would fade away. "The man who has good potatoes always sells them," he said.

The speaker also spoke at length of the potato disease situation, advocating five-year rotation as a remedy for purifying ground which has become contaminated with potato disease. He told of experiments in the North Platte valley. Referring to scab, our most troublesome disease, he stated that there is usually more scab in wet seasons and that early plantings are more susceptible.

### Avoiding the Scab.

For avoiding the scab Mr. Werner emphasized the following rules: 1—Rotation of crops; 2—Treating seed potatoes; 3—Soil culture as preached by Prof. Campbell; 4—Late planting—about May 25. He advised the treating of seed with the corrosive sublimate solution—4 ounces of corrosive sublimate to 30 gallons of water, leaving the seed in the solution for from 1 to 1 1/2 hours, with 15 minutes additional for each subsequent batch, using only 4 times.

Mr. Werner also emphasized the necessity of watching the growing crop as some potato diseases, so he said, can only be found in the plant during growing time. "Pretty potatoes are not necessarily good seed," he said. He explained that the most insidious disease in the triumphs, the seed potatoes which are shipped to the south, is the mosaic disease, which cannot be detected in the potato itself and can only be detected in the growing plant. He told of the recent visits of Prof. Howard of Lincoln to Texas and other southern states, where he found many fields which were planted to Box Butte county seed which were particularly free from the disease.

At the close of Mr. Werner's talk a large number of application blanks were passed out to growers who wish to apply for certification of their fields this year.

Mr. Campbell was greeted with a round of applause when he introduced Mr. Newberry. The speaker passed out what appeared to be silk cord for inspection and explained that it was made from spruce timber, but that most of the "silk" shirts, waists, etc., produced in this country are made from the produce of spruce wood. He explained that it took three attempts and the expenditure of over \$3,000,000 before a success was ever made of the attempt, but that in the end all difficulties were overcome and now huge profits were being made from this idea. "Perseverance pays," said he, "and it pays in the farming business just as in any other business."

### Mr. Campbell's Talk

Mr. Campbell's talk referred particularly to soil preparation and soil bacteria. He emphasized the fact that in this western country the big problem is to hold the moisture in the ground and to properly prepare the seed bed. "The potato growers of Box Butte county should raise 200 bushels per acre," he said. He advocates thin seeding, both with small grain and potatoes. "Many a Nebraska farmer has lost his crop of wheat because of too much seed," the speaker said. "Disk and double-disk but not too deep."

In answer to questions Mr. Campbell advised the plowing of soil four inches deep, rolling it flat; then disking it two inches deep. On old ground he advised disking first to loosen the top; then plowing, following the plow closely with the tandem disk. He showed how that the all-important soil bacteria multiply much faster with proper soil conditions than when no intelligent preparation has been made.

These three points were emphasized: 1—A perfect seed bed; 2—Do not plant too thick; 3—Do not plant too early. Mr. Campbell said that the first move as soon as the soil is thawed out should be light disking. This operation, he said, would halt evaporation and hasten the warming of the soil so that

the development of bacteria in the earth might begin. He also said that it would open up the surface so when the first rains fell most of the moisture would go into the earth. He advocated harrowing after rains as a means of preventing evaporation of the moisture.

This will probably be the last visit this spring of Mr. Campbell to western Nebraska. He has just completed a series of lectures in Montana and goes to his home in California from Alliance.

## Dairy Cow Sale at R. L. Harris' a Big Success

The sale of dairy cows by R. L. Harris, farmer, living one-half mile east and one mile north of town was an unusual success, the cattle all going at a good price, and a good crowd attending. The cattle sold at an average of \$76.40 each, and three especially desirable cows went at over \$100. Colonel Coursey who had the sale in charge said that this was the best herd of milk cows he had ever sold, and he has had considerable experience in this line. There were 23 cows in this sale, Mr. Harris' entire herd. He does not intend to give up farming but has decided that he has been in the dairy business long enough.

## GIVES UP TASK OF LIBERATING REISENWEAVER

### MRS. KERR CHANGES HER MIND AND HER TUNE.

After Reading Over Testimony in the Case, Decides Time Is Not Opportune.

Mrs. Laura Kerr of Sheridan, Wyo., described by the state papers as a pretty, blonde newspaper woman, has abandoned her efforts in behalf of Walter Reisenweaver, youth who at the tender age of sixteen killed Charles Johnson, in one of the most brutal murders in the history of Alliance. Mrs. Kerr came to Alliance armed with a number of letters from friends of Reisenweaver's parents, as well as a letter of introduction from the governor of Wyoming, and scouted around a bit in Alliance with a view to stirring up sentiment in favor of the murderer. She had little success, and transferred her efforts to Lincoln, where last Saturday she interviewed the twenty-year-old boy who is now serving a life sentence. She gained some newspaper space and announced firmly that she intended to go ahead and interview the pardon board, but apparently the more she went into the case the less it appealed to her.

According to the State Journal, Mrs. Kerr has decided that the present is not the opportune time to act. This decision was arrived at after she had read a transcript of the testimony in the case. The Journal says: "After Mrs. Laura Kerr, newspaper woman from Sheridan, read the testimony in the case in which Walter Reisenweaver drew a life sentence for murder, she changed her mind about asking for a pardon for the youth. She also talked with members of the office staff of the secretary of the bureau of pardons and paroles.

"Mrs. Kerr said she would not ask for a pardon now because it did not appear to her to be an opportune time. The suspicion is that whereas she came to Lincoln convinced he was innocent, she now has a strong conviction that he was rightfully convicted. She told newspaper men that she had known the boy's family well and the boy himself, when he was fifteen, and she just could not believe that he was guilty.

"The lad is now twenty. He left home after a little trouble with his father, and in Alliance he was convicted of murdering Charles Johnson, a stockman, in the yards there for his money. He told Mrs. Kerr that he was innocent, but was frightened into a confession by officials who painted a picture of the electric chair for him if he stood trial and was found guilty.

"Mrs. Kerr said she had promised the boys' mother to look into the case when she came to Nebraska."

## Commissioners Postpone Their Monthly Session

Bright and early Monday morning, Commissioners Hashman and George Carrell assembled for the regular monthly meeting, but the session was short-lived. Mr. Hashman succumbed to the prevailing epidemic and retired to his home to fight the gripper. Mr. Carrell returned to Hemingford, declining not to attempt the meeting without assistance. Commissioner Duncan is just recovering from the gripper in another state and all three commissioners hope to assemble next Monday and begin where they left off.

The precinct assessors of the county will meet with County Assessor John Pilkington on Saturday afternoon, March 25, at the court house. The meeting is called for one o'clock.

## FARMER PLACED IN SANITARIUM FOR THE INSANE

### L. G. TIMMONS TAKEN TO LINCOLN WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

Was Obsessed With the Idea That Alliance Was to Be Destroyed—Believed End of World Near.

L. G. Timmons, a farmer living a mile south of town was brought before the insanity board Wednesday and was adjudged insane. He was taken to the Bailey institute, a private sanitarium, Wednesday night by Sheriff Miller. Mr. Timmons, who was reported by his brother, first showed signs of insanity Sunday, being obsessed with the idea that Alliance was going to blow up, often getting out of bed at night to look out of the window, to see if the catastrophe had as yet happened. When in jail prior to the hearing, he informed the other prisoners that they were lucky to be with him, as the world would soon come to an end and he was the only person who could save them.

At the hearing, Mr. Timmons answered that he "didn't know" when asked as to his age, place of birth and other questions. The insanity board, after questioning the man's wife and other witnesses, found him insane and instructed the sheriff to have him placed in some sanitarium. As his wife wished to have him placed in a private hospital, this was done at her expense. The man showed no evidence of violence at any time, except a little violent language to the sheriff and his deputy when they first took him in charge. It is not thought that the affliction will be permanent but that it is simply the result of a nervous breakdown.

Timmons was placed in a straight-jacket for the trip to Lincoln, the decision being that it would be better to allow him no opportunity to do himself or others any damage should he become suddenly violent.

## Kite Tournament to Be Held at High School, March 25

C. W. Phelps, manual training instructor in the high school, has introduced a novelty this year in the form of a kite tournament for boys. The tournament is to be held Saturday, March 25, north of the high school. A number of interesting events have been arranged, and which should attract special attention are the last two; the smallest kite that will fly and the largest that will fly. There is already considerable interest in this event and various kites are being planned or constructed. All entries must be in by March 20. The list of events is: 1—1/8 mile race. (Wind in string by hand.) 2—Highest flyer. (Single kite.) 3—Strong puller. (Box kite under three feet.) 4—Yacht race. 5—Highest flyer. (Tandem kite.) 6—Strong puller. (Box kite over three feet.) 7—One-fourth mile race. (Wind in string with reel.) 8—Highest flyer in five minutes. (Open to all kinds.) 9—Best combined kite. (Open to all kinds.) 10—Smallest kite that will fly. 11—Largest kite that will fly.

## First Services in New M. E. Church Sunday Morning

The north side of the new Methodist church which contains the combined gymnasium and social room, parlor and Sunday school rooms is nearing completion and will be used the first time Sunday morning when all the regular services will be held there. This will not be a dedication service, as the main auditorium of the church on the south side is not yet completed, and the formal dedication will take place on entering that part of the building.

Rev. O. S. Baker, district superintendent and former pastor, will be the Sunday morning preacher, and in the evening a musical program will be given by the choir. While many Alliance people have already gone through the new building which is said to be the finest of the kind in western Nebraska, many others have not yet seen the interior, and will be glad to see the plans of the rooms next Sunday morning. It is expected that a large congregation will be present at all the services.

## DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Frank J. Duhon, 14-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Duhon of Marsland died at St. Joseph's hospital Thursday, of chronic appendicitis. The body was shipped to Marsland for burial Saturday.

Jen J. Sallows is among those who are ill with the gripper. He has been confined to his home since Tuesday.

## ALL SET FOR BOXING BOUT SATURDAY EVE

### PRINCIPAL SCRAPPERS ARE NOW TRAINING IN ALLIANCE.

Exhibitions at Elks Club Convince Fans That Coming Mill Will Be a Fast Affair.

Boxing fans are exhibiting all kinds of interests in the prospects for the Alliance Legion's bout on Saturday evening at the roof garden, and with the advent of the principals the Elks gymnasium, where the scrappers are working out daily, has been a mighty popular place. Young Billy Papke, who is to go in the semi-windup with Mel Wyland of Alliance, and Bud Hamilton of Tulsa, Okla., who is scheduled for the main bout, arrived in the city Wednesday and the two of them put on an exhibition and workout at the Elks gym Thursday afternoon.

After looking at the two fighters mix it for over an hour, the fans are more enthusiastic than ever. Papke, who is in the light heavyweight class, shows considerable form and speed, and the Alliance boxer will have to go some to get a decision.

Hamilton, the bantam who is to furnish half the scrapping for the main event, is in the pink of condition, and his work was a revelation to the fans, who expressed themselves as very much impressed with the class he exhibited.

Chuck Roach was due to arrive this morning, and another workout is scheduled for the Elks gym this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The barbers of Alliance have agreed to co-operate with the Legion post to get a good crowd out for the exhibition, the first of a series planned for the rest of the winter and the coming spring. Every barber shop in the city will close at 9 o'clock Saturday night, and this will give not only the barbers but their customers an opportunity to get in for the main bout and probably the semi-windup. The preliminary is a fast exhibition by Florine and O'Connor, both local boys.

F. J. Bushell of Antioch has issued a challenge to the winner of the semi-windup Saturday night. Bushell came into prominence some months ago for his work at the Missouri athletic club, and has an idea that he will be able to put up an interesting scrap.

## High School Declamatory Contest Tuesday

The declamatory contest, which is held each year for the purpose of deciding who will represent the Alliance high school in the district declamatory contest, will be held next week. The preliminary contest will be held at the high school building Tuesday, March 21, at 7:30 p. m. Only those in the dramatic and humorous classes will appear in the preliminary contest. Inasmuch as there are only two contestants in the oratorical class, they will not appear in the preliminary contest but will appear in the final contest.

The program for the preliminary contest is as follows:

**Dramatic.**  
Pro Patria—Dorothy Dearing.  
Ol' Mistus—Miriam Harris.  
He Knew Lincoln—Barton Kline.  
The Death Disk—Mildred Pate.  
The Man on the Curb—William Zieg.

**Humorous.**

The Mission Boat That Scandalized the Village—Eva Beal.  
An Aspiring Dishwasher—Vivian Covert.  
A Case of Fits—Frances Fletcher.  
Hey, Diddle, Diddle—Sermon—Elsye Harris.

Keeping a Seat at the Benefit—Ruth Hutchinson.  
Frivolous at Forty—Waneta Robinson.  
Billy Brad and the Big Lie—Margaret Schell.

A Pleasant Half Hour on the Beach—Margaret Vanderlas.  
Jane—Josephine Wright.

The best three from the dramatic class, in addition to the two in the oratorical class, will appear in the final contest, to be held at the Imperial theatre Wednesday night, March 22.

The preliminary contest will be held at the high school. The final contest will be held at the Imperial theatre. One ticket will admit to both contests without further charge.

The fire department responded Wednesday afternoon about 2:30 to an alarm turned in from the John Snyder home, 312 Missouri. The fire is believed to have started from a chicken brooder in the basement, although it was believed to have been turned off some time before the blaze was discovered. It is presumed that a spark from the brooder lit a pile of straw which was also in the basement. There were about 130 small chicks in the brooder, and about 30 or 40 were killed. No great damage was done and the fire department had little trouble with the blaze.

## THE WEATHER

Forecast for Alliance and vicinity: Unsettled weather tonight and Saturday. Probably rain Saturday. Colder Saturday.

## Rev. S. J. Epler Receives a Call From Scottsbluff

Rev. Stephen J. Epler, pastor of the First Christian church of this city, received a telegram Wednesday, inviting him and Mrs. Epler to attend a dinner held by the members of the Christian church of Scottsbluff that evening. The invitation was accepted.

Thursday morning, a telephone call brought the news that Mr. Epler had been extended a unanimous call from the membership of the Scottsbluff church to the pastorate. The inducements of an increase in salary and yearly increases to follow, of a commodious parsonage and moving expenses were a part of the proffer.

Mr. Epler now has the matter under consideration, and has reserved his decision for a few days. Members of his church are unanimously against an acceptance of the call, but the Scottsbluff church is fairly insistent, and there is a possibility that he will decide to leave.

## GUTHRIE TALKS TO LIONS ABOUT FIRE INSURANCE

### EXPLAINS HOW RATES ARE DETERMINED AND FIXED.

### Policyholders Should Read Policies and Make Sure They Are Properly Protected.

J. W. Guthrie was the speaker at the Thursday dinner of the Alliance Lions club, taking for his subject some of the interesting facts about this portion of his business.

Mr. Guthrie said, in part: "At the request of several members of the Lions, I will endeavor to tell you how fire insurance rates are arrived at and fixed. The United States supreme court has ruled that insurance is not subject to interstate commerce laws, but comes under what are termed police laws—laws that are made by each state. Consequently, the first consideration for basing rates depends upon the laws of the particular state.

"Nebraska has a valued policy law which stands that if a building is completely destroyed by fire, no matter what the value of the building may be, an insurance company cannot claim that the insurance carried was more than the actual value of the building, but must pay the amount of the insurance carried unless it can be clearly proven that the insurance was obtained by fraud or misrepresentation. To illustrate: suppose the actual cash value of a building is \$10,000 and the owner procures insurance thereon, through different agencies, to the amount of \$25,000. It is not permissible or allowed by the law for the companies to refuse payment on account of the over-insurance, but they must pay the full face of the policies regardless of the value of the building before the fire.

"This law makes the residents of this state pay a higher rate than it states not having a law of this kind on their books, and is offering the dishonest man a premium to over-insure his building.

The next matter to be taken into consideration is the water supply. Then follows the fire fighting equipment, fire department, police department, size of mains, number of hydrants, fire alarm system, ordinances construction of the buildings in the congested part of the city or town and the condition of the streets, whether paved and how taken care of at all times.

"When all these matters have been determined, the town is finally classified and a base rate arrived for a standard building—isolated—without interior or exterior exposure or occupancy. For each defect in the construction of the building a charge is made, which when remedied is taken off and credit given. The area of the building is first taken into consideration and an additional charge made for each 2,500 foot of floor space on any one floor over and above the first 2,500 feet. Stairways, elevators and openings of any kind from one floor to another, which operate as draughts, are an additional hazard, and, unless enclosed or trapped, are charged for; and openings to an adjoining building add to the rate on both buildings, unless protected by an automatic standard fire door or window.

"The real fire-proof building has yet to be constructed, as those of you who read the papers and saw the account of the burning of the Burlington building in Chicago this week, will realize. This building was called and considered fire-proof, yet it was almost completely wrecked by a fire which started in an adjoining building.

"Finally, the occupancy of the building is taken into consideration and the inflammability of the contents, as proven by actual experience, noted. Some stocks are damaged by water as much or more than by fire and some are injured by smoke and soot."

## IMPERIAL FIRE THURSDAY EVE NOT SERIOUS

### FLAMES CONFINED TO THE PROJECTION ROOM.

### Nine Reels of Film Destroyed, With Damages Estimated at \$2,500 to \$3,000—Regular Show Tonight.

Fire which started in the projection room of the Imperial theater at 7:30 Thursday evening destroyed nine reels of film, including that for the feature photoplay, "Mother o' Mine," scheduled to be shown last night and tonight. The fire started just as the operator was preparing to begin showing the first film of the evening. Within a very few minutes the building was emptied and the flames, which were confined to the projection room, died down. There was no panic among the spectators, and no mad rush for the exits, although the alarm of fire was given by one of the employes and others who were in the balcony.

The indirect cause of the blaze was the action of employes at the city lighting plant, who cut off the lights for the west half of the city. The lights were turned off just at the time when Verne Butler, motion picture operator, was getting ready to begin showing the pictures. There were several people in the projection room, among them a Crawford man, who was looking over the theater for ideas to put into practice at a motion picture theater he was planning to build.

When the lights went out, one of the men in the projection room, thinking that perhaps a fuse had blown out, struck a match and turned to look at the fuse plug. The match in some way got in touch with a box containing films, and in a few seconds every film in the operating room was ablaze. The men in the booth attempted to smother the flames, but in the meantime the film in the machine caught fire. Within a very short time the occupants of the booth were driven out by the intense heat.

### Booth Was Fireproof.

The projection room, which is built in accordance with the most strict demands of the underwriters, is lined with steel covered with asbestos, and these are fitted with fireproof doors which automatically shut whenever a fire occurs. The apparatus was in fine condition Thursday night, the doors shut almost instantly, and the flames never got beyond the operating booth. A ventilator in the roof furnished an outlet for the smoke and flames. Out in the residence district, the flames were seen shooting out of the ventilator to a height of several feet. The films are highly inflammable, and within a very short time were consumed.

The construction of the booth was such that there was absolutely no danger for the occupants of the theater from a fire originating within it, but the audience, in the brief instant before the steel shutters to the openings closed, got a glimpse of the reflection of the flames. There was no panic. The house was in total darkness, but the audience moved toward the exits in fine order. In the balcony the great was a trifle more precipitous, the departure of the spectators being hurried by one or two who lost their heads and yelled. The building was emptied in a few minutes.

### Trouble at the Light Plant.

The light plant has been running a series of tests on coal, to determine which brand now on the market furnishes the most heat and does it most economically. The men last night were using a carload of stuff which gave rather poor results, and although two of the three boilers were running, it was impossible to keep up sufficient pressure. Instead of sending for the city manager or firing up the third boiler, the employes decided to turn off a part of the lights. Most of the street lights had been off for some time.

The fire department made a record run, but found their services were not needed on arrival. Manager DuBuque was very liberal in his praise for the way the department turned out and the speed with which they got to the scene of the fire, as well as their assistance in handling the situation when they arrived.

### Will Show Tonight.

The Imperial this morning was busy repairing the damages to the projection room, caused by the blaze, and cleaning up the two picture machines, which were covered with smoke and stains. New films were ordered by telephone, and arrived at 11 o'clock. New asbestos covering for the sheet iron walls has been put in place, and electricians have installed new wiring, switches and fuses, to take the place of material scorched or burned by the flames. By tonight it is expected that all traces of the fire will have disappeared.

The loss, according to Manager DuBuque, will amount to \$2,500 or \$3,000. The chief item is the film, which on account of its inflammable nature, is not insurable.

One woman, who was present with her husband from Antioch, fainted.

(Continued on Page 5)