

# The Alliance Herald

Official Paper of Box Butte County

TWICE A WEEK—TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

Official Paper of the City of Alliance

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ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1922.

No. 36

## ARE WORKING HARD FOR ALLIANCE

### HOPE TO PREVENT REMOVAL OF LAND OFFICE.

Law Under Which Action Planned Was Passed in 1840 and Does Not Fit Present Conditions.

Following announcement from the department of the secretary of the interior a week ago, to the effect that beginning July 1, 1922, the Alliance land office would be discontinued and the records consolidated with those at Lincoln, protests have been pouring in to the department, most of them coming before Alliance was able to organize the land district to secure a change in the order.

The Alliance chamber of commerce, at its Monday meeting, decided to take every step possible to retain the land office in this city. This action was not taken simply because the office is located in this city, but because it serves a large territory, there are hundreds of unfinished cases on file, and much land still to be homesteaded, and it would work a hardship on homesteaders in this district to be compelled to go to Lincoln and transact their business through that office. A telegram was sent to Congressman Kinkaid, to Senator Hitchcock and to others in protest. It was planned to organize a protest from various towns in the district, which includes the counties in western Nebraska from the east line of Keya Paha west to the Wyoming border and the east line of Garden county to the west line of the state.

#### Hitchcock on the Job.

Senator Hitchcock was apprised of the proposed removal as soon as the word reached Alliance, and a telegram and letter from him bring the news that he is personally using his influence with the department of the interior to prevent the removal.

Congressman Kinkaid has entered into the fight to retain the land office in Alliance, and is receiving assistance from other congressmen. The order, it is understood, also affects land offices in other states, and there is a big fight in prospect.

Two telegrams have been received from Congressman Kinkaid by received H. H. Hewitt this week. The first advised him that Mr. Kinkaid was doing everything in his power to get the department of the interior officials to accept a reasonable construction of the law under which the order of discontinuance was issued. Mr. Kinkaid referred to sections 2248 and 2250 of the federal revised statutes. The first section says that where in any land district there are less than 100,000 acres of unsold land remaining, the secretary of the interior may order the discontinuance of the land office in the district. The other section provides that the president may continue the land office at the state capital, even when there is an acreage less than 100,000.

The order arose through a provision of the appropriation bill providing funds for 1923, which recited that no money should be spent in conflict with the provisions of the law.

#### Law of 1840 Involved.

It is pointed out by Congressman Kinkaid that the first section referred to was passed in 1840, long before there were any pre-emption laws in existence, and before any range or agricultural lands were thrown open to homestead. At the time this law was passed, lands were sold outright to purchasers. The law does not fit conditions now, when hundreds of prospective homesteaders are getting information regard land laws, or are transacting business through the land office.

A second telegram arrived from Congressman Kinkaid yesterday, which asked Judge Hewitt to furnish him the total acreage in this land district of unpatented irrigated homesteads and unpatented dry land. Mr. Hewitt checked up the records and discovered that there are still available 44,040 acres of irrigated homestead land in the district, or land that will some day be open to settlement, and 98,920 acres of unpatented dry land.

Experience has shown that the average piece of land may be filed on several times. There are lands which have had as many as a dozen entries made before they went to patent.

With Senator Hitchcock, Mr. Kinkaid, other congressmen from nearby states and others joining in the protest, it is possible that the department officials may be induced to change their interpretation of the law and allow the land office to remain here. The total acreage of lands subject to entry is well over the 100,000 acre mark, and it is believed now that the prospects are good for convincing the federal officials.

Bunah commandery No. 26, Knights Templar, held its annual election of officers Tuesday evening. The following officers were elected: A. S. Mote, eminent commandery J. H. H. Hewitt, generalissimo; Fred J. Vogel, captain general; F. W. Irish, recorder; R. E. Knight, treasurer.

Harold Gavin is at home for a week, during spring vacation at the state university.

## THE WEATHER

Forecast for Alliance: Fair to night and probably warmer Saturday and west.

## Basye Considering Entering the Race for Representative

County Attorney Lee Basye is flirting with the idea of entering the race for representative from the 100th legislative district, comprising Box Butte and Sioux counties. He has decided that he will not be a candidate for re-election as county attorney, although a good many of his friends have urged him to remain in the office. As yet there have been no filings for the office of representative and only one candidate has been suggested, the man put up by the farmer-labor ticket at Hemingford some days ago.

Mr. Basye feels that he has had all of the criminal practice that he needs for a while, at least, having held the office of county attorney for eight years. If he does not enter the race for representative, he will probably engage in the practice of law in this city. The duties of the county attorney's office are unusually heavy, and he has found that they take up more time than he can afford to give to them.

Emory Afton of Denver, Col., wholesale automobile dealer, was the speaker at the last ladies' night of the Alliance Rotary club. Dinner was served in the Palm Room of the Alliance hotel Wednesday at 6:30. Mr. Afton gave a most inspiring address on the principles of Rotary and their application to the business life of the members, pointing out that they were gradually influencing business ethics in general.

## ALLIANCE-OMAHA OIL SYNDICATE IS PROSPERING

### WILL SPUD IN ANOTHER WELL IN NEXT FEW DAYS.

### Now Pumping From Four Wells and After a Year All Are Still Holding Up.

The last issue of the Osage Driller, published at Osage, Wyo., gives some interesting details concerning the activities of the Omaha-Alliance syndicate, in which a number of local people are interested, and of which Chase Feagins is superintendent. The Driller says:

"In our rounds this week the writer visited at the camp of the Omaha-Alliance and found them busy pumping and caring for the four wells that they now have on the pump. One of these wells has been on the pump eighteen months and two others about one year and the other less than a year, making better than an average of a year each for the four and they are all holding up in good shape, says Chase Feagins, field superintendent, which proves that this will no doubt be a long lived field.

"This company are located in the best part of the field so far proven, being on 25-46-64. There is a lot of good productive territory surrounding twenty-five that is to be drilled out yet and the wells that have so far been drilled average around 1,500 feet in depth and are all holding up under the pump.

"The Omaha-Alliance have a good power plant that will pump twelve wells if necessary. Their camp is supplied with plenty of gas to run the pump and furnish fuel and lights in the camp buildings. This makes the entire works and camp modern and up-to-date and when they get the radio-telephone in that they expect to install the camp will be ahead of the times.

"In addition to their large storage tanks, steam and gas, power and light and fuel system, Mr. Feagins has put in a water system that is as convenient as they have in any town in this part of the state.

"The company will spud in a well within the next few days and expect to drill out their lease as fast as possible this coming summer.

"Being there about noon we partook of an excellent dinner that Mrs. Feagins had prepared for the men and having had an early breakfast we certainly enjoyed the properly cooked spare ribs and vegetables that she had prepared and no doubt Mrs. Feagins has decided that she would rather feed two hungry laboring men than one pencil pusher.

"The following are the directors and officers of the Omaha-Alliance Oil Syndicate: E. M. Brass, president, Grand Island; John Bachelor, vice president, Valentine; E. P. Meyers, vice president; Gould Dietz, treasurer; C. H. VanAlstine, secretary, all of Omaha; E. H. Boyd, general manager, Alliance, and Chase Feagins, superintendent, Osage."

A. J. LeSage, who has been visiting in Chicago for the past few months, returned Wednesday of this week. He expects to commence work in the insurance of J. W. Guthrie in the near future.

## WANT HELP FOR PLANTING TREES AT THE CITY PIER

### PLAN TO PLANT TWO HUNDRED TREES SATURDAY.

Gifts From Government Reserve at Anselmy—Boy Scouts and Other Tree Planters Wanted.

City Manager Kemmish has received a shipment of two hundred trees from the forest reserve at Anselmy, Neb., with the compliments of the United States government, and it is planned to plant them Saturday at the municipal pier at Broncho Lake. Planting two hundred trees is by no means child's play, and Mr. Kemmish is frankly bidding for volunteer assistance in getting them into the ground. It is understood that the Alliance Boy Scouts will lend their assistance, but there is room in the ranks for a good many more workers. In fact, Mr. Kemmish says, almost anyone who desires to contribute a little time and labor will be made as welcome as the flowers in May. Volunteers are asked to assemble at the city hall at 1 p. m., and transportation will be furnished the workers.

The municipal pier is now under Mr. Kemmish's protecting wing. The job of custodian was wished upon him by the various organizations and the individuals who contributed the money to build the pier. The pier is not within the city limits, and even the broad city manager law could hardly be construed as giving the city manager such a duty, but vandals had done considerable damage to the property and it was believed that if Mr. Kemmish would take charge of it, there might be enough left of it to be utilized in hot weather this summer. Mr. Kemmish was elected by acclamation, and has found time amidst his other duties to keep one eye on the pier. The securing of a gift of two hundred trees was one of his pet ideas which has worked out. However, he doesn't fancy the labor of doing the planting himself, although he is willing to handle a shovel with the rest of them.

#### Not Much Planting Space.

The trees are jack pine and spruce, and will be set about the pier in a harmonious design. There isn't so very much land available on which to plant them, but if, in the future, more land is acquired, the trees, which are now two-year-olds and stand about a yard high, can be transplanted. The land included in the pier and occupied by the dressing rooms is a fairly small area. Mr. Kemmish has been considering the purchase of additional land, but the owners of the land adjacent quoted a price of about \$500 for an acre and a half, and there weren't sufficient funds. The county is now considering establishing a road along the east side of the lake, and if this is done, the land will be condemned and appraised and will probably cost a considerably smaller amount. When the county lays out its road, it is probable that it will be some little distance away from the lake, and this will give the municipal pier all the land that is needed.

The supply of trees will be sufficiently large to provide both the Boy Scout pier and municipal pier with them. They afternoon, and volunteers requested to show up for work at the city hall at 1 p. m., or at the pier at any time, the earlier the better.

The municipal pier and bath house were built by small contributions from several hundred citizens, all of whom were immensely interested in the project. Mr. Kemmish expects that a number of the contributors will be willing to assist in beautifying the grounds. He realizes that this is not exactly swimming weather, and that there may be some lack of enthusiasm, but urges those who are interested in the pier to think of the pleasures of a few months hence and take a chance.

## Legion Making Plans to Observe Memorial Day

Alliance post of the American Legion, at the semi-monthly dinner and business meeting Tuesday evening at the Alliance Hotel Palm Room, made plans for the observance of Memorial day. There is a general disposition on the part of the civil war veterans to leave this work formerly in their hands, inasmuch as there are only half a dozen civil war veterans left in the county. The Legion and the Spanish-American war veterans were in charge of the last Memorial day program, and that will be the plan followed this year.

A committee consisting of Ed Reardon, Joe Conannon and Basye from the Legion, and E. G. Laing and H. A. Johnson from the Spanish-American war veterans, are in charge of the program for the day. It is planned to have an afternoon meeting probably at the Imperial, to be followed by the usual exercises at the cemetery. Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff, former state president of the Legion, has been suggested as speaker for the occasion, and an invitation will be extended to him to come here.

## GIRL CLERK SAYS COLORED YOUTH THREATENED HER

### JIMMY WASHINGTON IN BAD WITH AUTHORITIES.

Lela Nabh Declares She Has Reason to Believe That He Intends to Seriously Injure Her.

On complaint of Miss Lela Nabh, a girl clerk employed at the Lawrence Candy store, Chief of Police C. W. Jeffers late Thursday afternoon arrested Jimmy Washington, colored, and escorted him to the county jail. The complaint recites that Miss Nabh has reason to believe, and does believe, that Washington will make an assault upon her with intent to do great bodily injury.

Washington has lately returned to Alliance from Denver and other points west. He has relatives here. He is not a stranger to the officers, having in times past been arrested a number of times for misdemeanors of one sort or another. According to one of the officers, Washington was in trouble back in 1918 for non-support of his wife, and there are other counts against him. He served two years in the penitentiary for grand larceny, being sentenced from Box Butte county five years ago.

Washington is said to have come into the candy store Wednesday and after making a purchase, attempting to engage the girl in conversation. He was unsuccessful in this, but later in the evening called her from one of the pool halls and suggested meeting her. When she hung up the phone without listening to him, he came over to the vicinity of the store and engaged in threatening language. Witnesses told the police that they had heard him say that he would "get her."

Washington was brought into court this afternoon, and was released on his promise to leave the city for good on the next train. He is headed for Denver. Costs of \$10 were charged against him. It is understood that the police arrested him just in time to save him a session with some of the railroad boys, who had an idea of instilling a few lessons into him by the direct route.

## School Boy's Arm Is Broken During Session With Prince

Robert Abar, thirteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Abar of this city, and a freshman in the Alliance high school has been carrying his arm in a sling, one of the bones in the left forearm having been fractured, during a session with Principal F. C. Prince of the high school on the morning of March 13.

According to the boy's story, he had been somewhat mischievous and had been sent out of various class rooms on that account. He was sent to interview Mr. Prince, who instead of using the usual rubber tube to administer corporal punishment, used a stick, the tube having been stolen by pupils. The boy declares the stick was an inch in diameter, and that when he saw it descending, he dodged, the stick striking him on the arm. The whipping did not proceed, although it was not thought that the arm was seriously injured.

It was not until a week later, on March 21, that it was discovered that the arm was broken. A younger brother struck him on the arm in play. The pain was so severe that the lad's parents took him to a physician. Dr. Minor Morris made an x-ray of the arm, discovered the fracture and set the limb in a plaster cast. Dr. Morris states that although the arm was swollen, there was no bruise or dislocation discernible.

Parents of the youth consulted an attorney, it is understood, with the idea of taking legal action. No suit for damages has been filed as yet, but Mitchell and Gantz, attorneys, say that this will be done as soon as the extent of the injuries is determined. The attorneys say also that they are investigating the liability of the school district.

Principal Prince maintains that the broken arm was purely an accident, and that there was no desire on his part to do more than correct the boy. "It was purely an accident," he said. "The boy dodged or his arm would not have been injured. The school authorities have no desire to cripple any of their pupils, despite reports to the contrary."

According to several members of the school board, Mr. Prince has been able to bring discipline into a high school that was, until he came here, one of the worst in the state. They declare that parents of boys who are supposed to have been treated brutally have never made an investigation, and that the school officials have not received any complaints. They are satisfied that the injury to the Abar boy was accidental. That current reports are greatly exaggerated, is the opinion. To have been treated brutally never happened, is the opinion. Discipline must be maintained, they say.

Royal Irwin is home from the university during spring vacation.

## Police Are Busy Thursday Evening With Hooch Raid

The minions of the law put in a busy evening Thursday raiding the colored rooming houses of the town. The first place at which the officers called was the negro boarding house between Box Butte and Laramie and Second and Third streets. Nothing of particularly suspicious nature was found beyond a few dusky gentlemen playing cards. Several bottles were found from which a strong odor of spirits emanated but no liquor was found.

The next stop was the small shack on the corner of Fourth and Niobrara, directly back of the Reuler store. Here several more negroes were found, sitting around a table on which reposed a bottle of white mule. An iron bound trunk was found which the tenant of the place, C. Winston, claimed had been left there in October by a negro who had subsequently departed for the valley towns. The officers' suspicions were aroused, however, and they asked in vain for a key. They then proceeded to break it open, finding more hooch.

After arresting the proprietor they proceeded to the abode of Jimmy Shores, on the third floor of the old Opera house block. Here they found Jimmy somewhat hilarious and possessed of three gallons of firewater. Proceeding to a large store room on the same floor they found some mash, raisins, and the other ingredients usually associated with the fracturing of the Volstead act. Another dusky gentleman, W. C. Harris, was in company with Jimmy and he also was taken into custody. The three arrested will have a preliminary hearing before Judge Berry April 10, at 10 o'clock, and will be tried in the federal court at Chadron.

## ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLE CONTEST COMING IN FAST

### TEN DAYS LEFT IN WHICH TO WIN THE PRIZES.

### Master List Will Be Opened By the Judges Who Will Make the Final Decision.

The flock of answers in The Herald's hidden word contest which has been received at the office the past few days indicates that interest is keen in this very interesting affair. The contest is of especial merit because there is no chance for favoritism, no hard soliciting demanded, no long hours of labor required. Really the finding of the missing words proves a very pleasant mental exercise. Then when a goodly list is discovered the finder of the large list has the chance of winning a very substantial cash prize with no strings attached.

The picture puzzle is very much in vogue now in contests of the sort The Herald has inaugurated, affording a very pleasant means of extending interest in the newspaper without the disastrous results which so frequently follow a voting contest.

No one in The Herald office knows how many articles whose names begin with the letter "p" the artist drew into the picture. The master list, which he drew the picture from, will be received at this office within a few days and the seals will be broken by the judges when the lists are examined to determine the winners. Thus there can be no favoritism and no chance of someone feeling that injustice has been done.

Take another look at the picture and see if you do not think there is a chance there for some keen work of the wits. We know of some people who are taking a new look at the picture every day, preparatory to winning the capital prize, and are finding new words every time they look. The artist who drew the picture must have had a large working vocabulary beginning with the letter "p" or he must have done his work with a dictionary at his hand.

Extra copies of the picture puzzle can be furnished in any quantities at The Herald office. Schools, classes, camp fires and other bodies who wish to work at the puzzle in a group can secure extra copies for their convenience.

The contest closes April 10th. Ten days yet remain for people to try their wits in this very interesting mental diversion. Why not match yours with others? It will afford some fun, and you may be awarded a very acceptable cash prize.

Hooker County Tribune: N. A. Drake, for a number of years in charge of the B. & M. section at this place, will "quit the flat" on April 3, but by no means will the long experience he has gained be withdrawn from the upkeep department of the great Hill system. Nels simply quits this job to take a better one. On above date he will be assigned to an extra gang with the entire work train and crew under his order. When that job is finished he will go to the Alliance yards. The man to take his place has not yet been named. Here's hoping they find as good a scout for the poizish as N. A. Drake has proved himself to be.

## ELECTION FOR SCHOOL BOARD NEXT TUESDAY

### BUT NO CANDIDATES ARE OUT FOR THE JOB.

Interested Citizens Suggest Writing Names of A. T. Lunn and Mrs. S. W. Thompson on Ballot

Aside from the notices that are to be found in the vicinity of the four polling places, there is no way of proving that there is to be an election in Alliance next Tuesday, but it's a fact, nevertheless. There is no city office to be filled, the beneficent provisions of the act under which the city manager plan was installed saving the city the expense of this one election. But there are two important offices to be filled, nevertheless, that of members of the school board.

Under the rules made and provided for school elections, it is necessary for those who would participate in the race to get out with a petition and secure a certain number of signatures. This is rather hard work, and somewhat undignified, and as a rule it isn't done. Once in a great while there is a sort of a school board war develops, and on occasions of that kind, there is a plenitude of candidates, but in ordinary years, the voters have to draft the men and women they want and elect them by writing their names on the ballots.

This year, friends of the school board, who are interested in seeing to it that the extensive building program is carried out as planned, with as little expense as possible, urged the election of the retiring members, A. T. Lunn and Mrs. J. A. Mallery. Last year the two members whose terms expired were again drafted into service, and it was felt that this was a wise precedent to follow, inasmuch as they were well acquainted with the plans of the board, its work and the building program which will start in the spring. It develops, however, that Mrs. Mallery is not eligible for re-election, due to the fact that she is now in California following a visit to Hawaii, and is not expected back for several months. The law requires that if a member miss three consecutive monthly meetings of the board, her office be declared vacant. If Mrs. Mallery were elected, she would be out of office before her return.

#### Two Candidates Suggested.

At an informal meeting attended by members of the school board and other friends of the school, the situation was discussed, and it was decided to urge that the voters on next Tuesday write in the ballots the names of A. T. Lunn, at present a member of the board, and Mrs. S. W. Thompson. Mrs. Thompson is prominent in the work of the Alliance Woman's club, as well as the state federation, and is believed to be ideal material for the board. Mr. Lunn has the benefit of long experience, acquaintance with the board's plans and is regarded as especially valuable because of his knowledge of building materials and prices. With a big building program to be started in the spring, it is believed that Mr. Lunn should not be retired from the board.

Voters are urged to take pains to vote, and to endorse the two suggested candidates. It is not known whether there are any aspirants for the board, but if there are those who ambitions along this line, they have kept it mighty quiet. The suggestion was made that the voters concentrate on two good candidates and take pains to cast a vote, for the reason that last year, under similar circumstances, some Second ward jokers started a boom for a candidate in fun, and had they started it a trifle earlier in the day, it might have been successful. The school board has charge of one of the most important industries of the city, and there should be some thought given to the selection of the men and women who shall serve the district in this capacity.

The election will be held on Tuesday, April 4. The polls will be opened at 9 a. m., and will close at 7 p. m., and the following polling places for each ward are announced:

- First ward—Basement of Central school building, 715 Box Butte avenue.
- Second ward—Council chamber in the city hall, 115 East Third street.
- Third ward—Basement of the city library.
- Fourth ward—Garage of F. W. Harris, Eighth and Laramie.

## Watkins to Lincoln to Begin Serving Three-Year Hitch

Sheriff J. W. Miller left last night for Lincoln, taking with him Harold Watkins, who will enter upon his three-year term in the state penitentiary. Watkins was sentenced for the theft of the J. F. Spetman motor car at the last term of district court. Watkins will be missed at the county jail, where he had appointed himself free legal adviser for all new prisoners. This occupation will probably be denied him at the state penitentiary, but doubtless he will be given something to occupy his mind.