

# SOUTH DAKOTA HISTORIC INVENTORY

Historic Name Alex Johnson Hotel

Location 523 6th Street

Historic

Function Hotel, offices, retail shops

Historic Context(s)

Topic V. Depression and Rebuilding

Study Unit 1 A. Changing Urban Patterns

Study Unit 2 2. Rebuilding Commercial Centers in Larger Towns

Owner's Name Hotel Management Co.

Owner's Address 523 6th St.

RC 57701

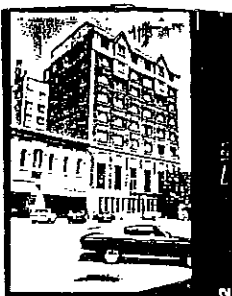
Owner's Phone # 342 1210

Dates of Construction and Founding

1927-28

Roll # 1; 4; 3 Frame # 32-35; 7; 12A

Attach Photos Here ↓



Site Number

PR		RC		37
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County

Township

City

(Urban)

Neighborhood

(Urban)

Number

U.S.G.S. Quad Map Name

Lots 30-32, Block 84, Original Townsite

Legal Description

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Q1

Q2

Sec

T

R

Surveyors Michael Kopp

Date June 1990

NR Eligible

☐

Historic Significance

☒

Local

☒

Architect. Sign

☐

State

☐

Archaeological Sign

☐

Nat'l

☐

Urban only

☐
☒
☐
☐

A

B

C

D

The Alex Johnson Hotel is an eleven-story concrete and steel building covered with brick and accented with stone. Stylistically, the uppermost floors exhibit elements of Tudor Revival, but it is difficult to characterize the entire building in this way.

## CONTEXT

Site Number/Code PN-RC-37

## Statement of Significance As It Relates to the Context Topics &amp; Study Units.

The Alex Johnson Hotel is historically significant in the context of Depression and Rebuilding, 1893-1929 because it represents the zenith of pre-Depression construction in downtown Rapid City. No other building in the business district constructed prior to the Alex<sup>Johnson</sup> was as monumental, and no earlier structures had such an important visual impact on the district.

## Sources of Information

Oral Interview  
(name & dates)

Rapid City Daily Journal 17 May 1927; 18 May 1927; 23 May 1927; 27 May 1927; 28 May 1927; 27 June 1927; 28 June 1927; 1 July 1927; 2 July 1927; 5 July 1927; 6 July 1927; 7 May 1928; 12 June 1928 pp 1, 5; 16 June 1928; 19 June 1928;

Atlas  
(date & publisher)

30 June 1928 p. 4; 5 July 1928; 7 July 1928 p. 4; 12 July 1928; 19 July 1928 pp 1, 3; 30 July 1928; 9 August 1928 special section

County History  
(name & pages)

Deed Abstract

Building permit

Tax Records

Assessment in Equalization Office

Sanborn-Ferris  
Maps (dates)

1923, 1930

Census Records

Historic Photos  
(description & date)

La Miller, Block Hills Home Camp, 1935

Manuscripts  
(name & date)

PLANNING

Site Number/Code PA-RC-37

Preservation Strengths of Site

- ☒ In use and not threatened
- ☒ In good structural condition
- ☒ Owners protecting site
- ☒ Appreciated by public
- ☒ Valuable to research

Preservation Threats

- ☐ Abandonment
- ☐ Deterioration through lack of resources
- ☐ Vandalism or looting
- ☐ Inappropriate alterations
- ☐ Inappropriate or poor maintenance
- ☐ Fragile or deteriorating construction materials
- ☐ Unsound fragile condition
- ☐ Lack of support (specify by whom)

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Environmental situation(s) effecting site (specify what; may include mining, flooding erosion, pollution, acid rain, weather, isolation, settlement, etc.)

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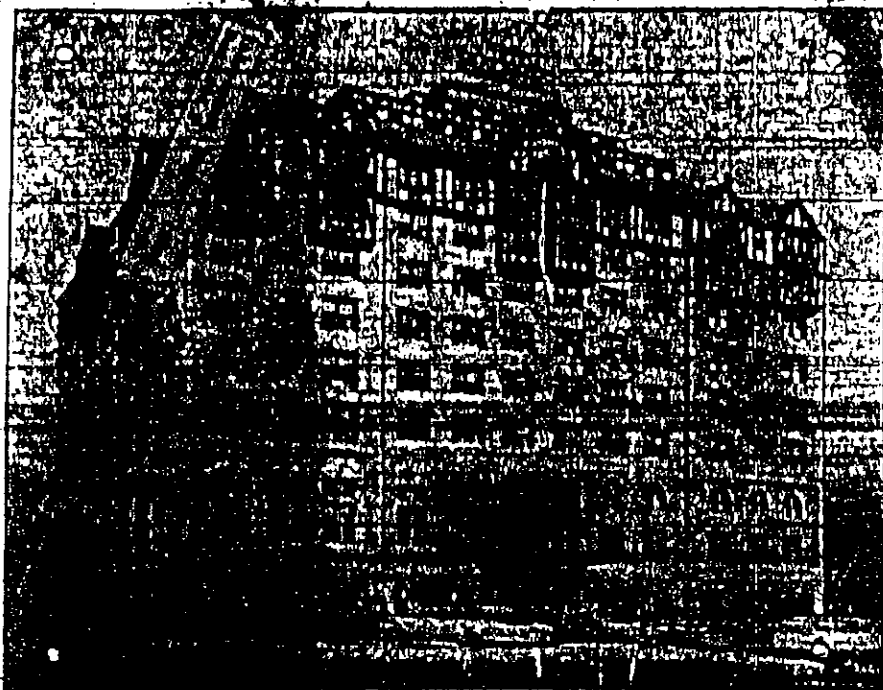
Site Number/Code	Date of Bldg.	Function/Bldg.	Photo Info.	Date of Bldg.	Function/Bldg.	Photo Info.	Date of Bldg.	Function/Bldg.	Photo Info.
N-RC-37	1927-28	Alex Johnson Hotel							
Materials		concrete							
Method of construction									
Design details									
Condition		deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____			deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____			deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____	
Materials		brick and tile; stone detailing							
Method of construction		steel & concrete frame with 12" curtain walls; brick veneer							
Design details		stone masonry; false half-timbering							
Condition		deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____			deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____			deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____	
Materials		tile and gravel							
Method of construction									
Design details									
Type		flat							
Condition		deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____			deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____			deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____	
Interior features - moldings, replaces, g. cabinets, all decoration		Massive quartzite stone fireplace in lobby. Lobby ceiling retains multi-colored paintings between exposed timbers.							
Condition		deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____			deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____			deteriorated _____ poor maint. _____ altered _____	

Site Number/Code	Date of Bldg.	Function/Bldg.	Photo Info.	Date of Bldg.	Function/Bldg.	Photo Info.	Date of Bldg.	Function/Bldg.	Photo Info.
Materials									
Method of Construction									
Design Details									
Condition	deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____		deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____		deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____	
Materials									
Method of Construction									
Design Details									
Condition	deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____		deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____		deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____	
Materials									
Method of Construction									
Design Details									
Shape									
Condition	deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____		deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____		deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____	
Interior Features - Moldings, Fireplaces, Org. cabinets, Wall decoration									
Condition	deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____		deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____		deteriorated _____ altered _____	poor maint. _____	

## ies Indian, Black Hills Theme

### ne Strength East Of River

#### BLACK HILLS HAS STATE'S BIGGEST HOTEL



Hotel Alex Johnson, 2800 rooms, 11 story, \$200,000 Rapid City hotel, the largest in the state, is in operation. Formal luncheon marking the launching of this enterprise will be held August 11.

#### LATE BULLETINS

Calcutta, India.—Newspaper advice says that 18 persons have been killed and 20 seriously wounded in religious rioting at Kharagpur.

Pierre.—The 4-year-old daughter of Mrs. Matheson, south of Ft. Pierre, was dragged to death yesterday when she became entangled in the skirt rope of a horse on her father's farm.

St. Louis.—A French Negro, American playwright, was drowned while the crowd to the beach watched last night at Jettée-Pier, on the French Riviera.

New York.—The death of a motorist from a bomb attached to the tail of his car was reported today. The motorist was killed when he tried to start his car.

Washington.—Secretary Hoover began today what is expected to be his last full week as head of the department. Under present plans, he will leave the capital about July 15 for his home in California, stepping on the way to present his resignation to President Coolidge at the Summer White House in Wisconsin.

Horta, Island of Fayal, Azores.—With the radio of his plane functioning perfectly, Captain Frank T. Courtney today was awaiting only favorable weather to continue his transatlantic flight to Halifax.

He said that in the meantime he was glad of having an opportunity to remain a few days at the Azores. He is spending the time making a survey of possible landing places and air currents for a regular air service in the future.

London, July 2.—(P.)—With two airplane rescue expeditions making criticism of General Gort's work, developments as second crew drops from sight.

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#### ALEX JOHNSON HOTEL HERE IS PART OF DREAM

Notes Biggest Hotel Open Part of Big Program Planned Opening August 11.

A dream of Black Hills development, with adequate hotel facilities behind the vision, met reality Sunday for President Fred W. Barrett of the Chicago and North Western Railway company, business men of Rapid City who cooperated with him, and the personnel of a large hotel which has worked with consistency and rapidly since the plan was formulated over a year ago.

The Alex Johnson hotel, named for Alex Johnson, vice president of the Chicago and North Western Railway company, was opened Saturday. Its cost is placed at \$200,000. It has over 2800 rooms.

The dining room, which will nearly all the time during the week be open Sunday afternoon and evening, and rooms are being taken as fast as they are ready. C. E. Fort, manager, said. The ball room will be the room of an informal opening dance Tuesday evening, and another day or two probably will see the Indian Grill room or coffee shop open for business.

A formal opening will be held August 11 when it is expected President Barrett, and many of his personal friends; Governor W. J. Bailey and other men of prominence in this state will take part in the dedicatory program.

Of Tudor design, the eleven-story structure, the finest in South Dakota, and described by competent authorities as being "as fine as will be found in any city in the United States," the Alex Johnson hotel is to serve "the modern traveler who seeks hotel accommodations as he finds them at home."

Tell of Design.—Speaking of the style of interior design, George W. Bennett of the firm of O'Donnell and Williams, Chicago architects who designed the building, said: "The interior

(Page seven, please)

#### Rapid City To Close Up For The Fourth

Attention is called to the all-day closing of business places here Wednesday, by L. B. Rossum, secretary of the Associated Retailers' organization. Most of the business places, Mr. Rossum says, will not open Wednesday. The Journal will not publish. County and city offices and the post office will not be opened July 4. Distribution of mail to the boxes will be made, Postmaster J. H. McKinnon states.

#### TREASURY SHOWS SURPLUS AT END OF FISCAL YEAR

Nearly Four Hundred Million On Hand; Million More Expected

Washington, July 2.—(P.)—The Federal government today announced that it had a surplus of \$384,000,000 at the close of the fiscal year, which came at midnight of June 30. Secretary Mellon declared late yesterday that the period "witnessed a further improvement" in the country's position.

"There was a substantial surplus of receipts over expenditures," he said. "The national debt was reduced by over \$100,000,000, accompanied by a material cut in interest charges. The war refunding operations begun in 1917 were continued and have been well along brought to a successful conclusion. Taxes were again cut by over \$225,000,000."

The total of ordinary receipts for the fiscal year was \$1,412,000,000, Mr. Mellon announced, with expenditures of \$1,028,000,000 chargeable against this amount. The 1928 budget for the previous fiscal year—fiscal year 1927, \$1,125,000,000 and \$1,124,000,000.

#### BUSINESS GOOD

Kimball, July 2.—(P.)—Receipts in the freight depot of the Milwaukee railway here show that during the year ending April 1 of this year, grain and other products were shipped from Kimball which brought the farmers approximately \$500,000.

#### OBREGON ELECTED PRESIDENT AGAIN

Mexico City, July 2.—(P.)—Press dispatches today indicated only one election disturbance with two fatalities had occurred during Sunday's voting when General Alvaro Obregon was chosen president.

Supporters of two candidates for federal congress clashed at Panuco, state of Vera Cruz. Guns, knives, sticks and stones were used in the affray and two persons were killed and ten wounded.

His election will be announced officially in September when the new congress convenes.

Reports at midnight indicated that the majority of senators and deputies elected belong to groups supporting Obregon, thus assuring him control of the new congress.

#### CHARGE LACK OF COOPERATION IN NOBILE RESCUE

Criticism of Flight and Rescue Work Develops as Second Crew Drops From Sight

London, July 2.—(P.)—With two airplane rescue expeditions making criticism of General Gort's work, developments as second crew drops from sight.

Two weeks ago Roald Amundsen and five other men started out in a French seaplane to join in the rescue work and disappeared. On Friday the Russian airman, Babushkin, hopped off from the Soviet icebreaker Kalina in the Polar sea only to be swallowed up by the Arctic.

A Moscow dispatch to the Daily Express today quoted Sergei Kamensk, inspector general of the Red Army, as charging that Nobile's base ship, the Clita di Milano, had failed to cooperate in the rescue work. He said the base ship had neglected to inform the Malaga that the position of the five sailors of the Italia and the Swedish airman, lieutenant

(Page eight, please)

Plenty Of Seats Left Yet For Belle Fourche Roundup

Pat From Wall Hurt When Car Turns Over

**FOR RENT**—A good cafe in a country and town doing a fair business. Living rooms in connection. Other good resident property for sale also. Address A. J. H. v. v. of Journal. 29-2

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**FOR RENT**—A good cafe in a country and town doing a fair business. Living rooms in connection. Other good resident property for sale also. Address A. J. H. v. v. of Journal. 29-2

## South Dakotans at Local Hotels

**FATTON HOTEL**

A. C. Trimmer, Mitchell; F. R. Watson, Brookings; M. Tuttle, Arlington; Miss Ballard, Mearns; Wm. Humphrey, Woonsocket; Charles Goodrich, Ft. Meade; Henry P. Tleson, Marla; Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Haddock, Mellette; Wayne Darne, Pierre; W. H. Everett, Pierre; Mildred Hunsley, Pierre; B. E. Happerle, Pierre; J. W. Blattery and family, Webster; Earl Payne, Philip; D. Davis, Eagle Butte; Mr. and Mrs. T. J. McGuire, Philip; Milo Smith and wife, Pierre; Mr. and Mrs. E. Saverson, Mitchell; Adolph Obr, Helix; Ruth Ramsey, Kadoka; Edlin Davis, Kadoka.

**HARNEY HOTEL**

Minnie Felsing, Howard; Anna C. Zimmer, Sioux Falls; Jeanette Furland, Woonsocket; O. Fontaine, Aberdeen; J. B. Anna, Huron; R. P. Bakke and wife, Huron; A. A. Tjaden and wife, Pierre; Dr. and Mrs. A. C. Rolberg, Mitchell; A. G. Furch, Huron; Emil Kayser, Kimball; Leon Strceto, Kimball; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Walla, Sioux Falls; P. T. Hansen and wife, Harrod; Martin Hansen, Harrod; Wm. H. Horton, Delkell; Marie Engelland, Mabel Cole, Opal Cole and Laverta Beckman, Armour; J. M. Hampton, Mellette; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Vander Muslen, Kimball; A. Byrnes, Philip; Oscar Lutze, Buffalo; Hal Patterson, Dakota.

**Plenty Seats Left For Belle Fourche Round-up**

(From page one)

ing contest last year is scheduled to appear at the contest.

The bucking horses will come from the tops of the strings of Ross Madison, Rapid City; Frank Carter, Wasta; Mackey Brothers,

## Johnson Hotel Is Part of Dream

(From page one)

decorations are unique, something that has never been used in any hotel before. We were successful in securing the services of the firm which Elmer H. Schilling represents. To Mr. Schilling who personally supervised the plans for the decorations, goes much of the credit.

And in return, Mr. Schilling who has mingled a stern style of architecture with color, beauty and an original design, said: "My plans were submitted to the architects. It rested with them to approve, disapprove and select whatever they chose. To them is due the credit for the striking interior decorations and effects."

Throughout the building, as Mr. Schilling and Mr. Oldestad explain, a type of decorations have been used which symbolize the Sioux Indian people in the large lobby which extends through two floors will be found a type of woodwork which is the decorative conception as to how the Indian would use wood in his primitive way, lacking materials with which to give it the gloss and finished effect of present-day workmanship. From the lighting fixtures, and the largest Indian Indian rug in the world, to the walls and ceilings, the effects of the primitive Sioux Indian are to be found. His colors, designs and wild nature have given the impressions which were brought out by the decorator and architect.

Further along in the building especially in the coffee shop or Indian grill/room, returns the Indian design. Schilling explains that the Indians never built anything to give us an idea, so we are presenting our conception of what he would have used had it been a characteristic of his to build.

**Frontier Touch**

Into the large banquet hall comes the preserving touch of frontier days—days of '76. High overhead the rough, unfinished appearing beams recall the elaborate designs of the early days. Even to the smallest detail in the pattern of that time duplicated. The lighting fixtures resemble the oil lamps of the period, electric bulbs hidden within small chimneys on the clustered chandelier. The Indian method of lighting is duplicated in the lobby through imitation pine knots and torches.

How harmony of such a building where no precedent of architecture has been previously reached with the scenery is explained by Theodore S. Williams, one of the architects. Being one of the first investigators of the hotel possibilities in Rapid City, Mr. Williams conceived the idea of building a structure which would blend with the rugged beauty of the

tion of the offer led by Mr. Parin, the firm intent and Williams was chosen as the design architect. After about two months of steady work the firm had the plans ready for filing. The Henry Carlson Construction company, Sioux Falls, which was recommended by Henry O'Neill, and others, was next chosen as the construction contractors.

On August 11, 1927, the Alex Johnson commenced to work on the present site of the Alex Johnson hotel. Construction work was begun September 21. Steady progress has been made with few exceptions since the commencement of work.

**YOT-KUP-MET, FRANCE**—The municipal council, on the anniversary of Commander Byrd's landing, has renewed its expressions of admiration.

**Real Estate Transfers**

**Furnished by Allen Benson, Inc., Bonded Abstractors, Washington and Pennington Counties, Rapid City, S. D.**

June 10, 1928.

United States to James J. Nichols, Patent, SW 1/4 Sec. 13, NW 1/4 Sec. 24, T. 1 S., R. 18 E.

May E. Rulow et al to State of S. Dak. State Park Board W. Deed, \$1.00, S 1/2 Sec. 8, T. 2 S., R. 6 E.

State Park Board to Loin Roush, W. Deed, \$1.00, Lot 28, Block 25, O. T.

Henry O. Coverston to Anna Coverston, W. Deed, \$1.00, NW 1/4 Sec. 1, E 1/2 NW 1/4 Sec. 11, SW 1/4 NW 1/4, E 1/2 NW 1/4, E 1/2 NW 1/4 Sec. 12, NE 1/4 NW 1/4, NW 1/4 Sec. 13, T. 4 S., R. 13 E., Lots 1, 3, 4, Sec. 7, T. 4 S., R. 14 E.

Nettie C. Lynch to Tony L. E. Swanson, W. Deed, \$6240.00, NW 1/4 Sec. 31, E 1/2 NW 1/4, NW 1/4 NW 1/4, NW 1/4 NW 1/4 Sec. 32, T. 2 N., R. 11 E.

E. Ray to State Park Board, Q.C. Deed, \$1., S 1/2 Sec. 8, T. 2 S., R. 6 E.

County Treasurer to E. Ray, Treas. Deed, \$46.61, S 1/2 NW 1/4 Sec. 1, T. 2 S., R. 6 E.

June 12, 1928

Geo. K. Miller to Alice K. Myera, Q. C. Deed, \$1.00, Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, Block 5, West Boulevard Addn.

June 20, 1928

Mitchell Dickard to Joe E. McFarland, W. Deed, \$3440.00, Lots 3, 4, S 1/2 NW 1/4 Sec. 1, Lots 1, 2, NW 1/4 Sec. 2, T. 3 S., R. 17 E., NW 1/4 Sec. 31, T. 2 S., R. 17 E.

Sheriff of Penn. Co. to Sioux Falls Office & Spice Co., Sheriff Deed, \$184.75, S 1/2 NW 1/4 Sec. 1, T. 1 S., R. 17 E.

Sheriff of Penn. Co. to The

George P. Bennett to Chas. Thompson, Q. C. Deed, \$41.00, T. 1 N., R. 10 E., Block 12, in Block 12, Wagon Addn.

**Tuning In by Radio**  
By The Associated Press

(By The Associated Press)

Programs in Central Standard Time. Add one hour for Central Daylight Time. All time is in minutes unless otherwise indicated. Wave lengths on left of call letters, k cycles on right.

**TUESDAY, JULY 3**

520—KVV Chicago—570

5:55 Uncle Bob

4:30 Organ

5:00 Rittenberg-Carlson Sextet

5:50 Goldman Band

7:15 Feature

7:30 Organ

8:00 Munday Mule

800.4—WHSM Chicago—770

5:00 After Dinner Music

6:00 Home Hour

7:00 Easy Chair Variety

8:00 After Theater Club

800.5—WMBW-WJLB Chicago—8

4:00 Voters' Service

4:30 Radio Program

5:00 Musical Miniatures

5:30 Rotherling Singers

6:00 Children of Mooseheart

7:00 Radio

8:15 Music; Radio Features

47.4—WGN-WJLB Chicago—7

4:10 Uncle Quint; Dinner Mu

5:00 Old Fashioned Almanac

5:30 Tenor and Orchestra

6:00 Eveready Hour

7:00 Vocal

8:00 Features and Popular

543.6—WIA Chicago—870

4:10 Little Glenn and Feature

5:35 Rotherling Music

447.5—WQW-WQ Chicago—8

5:15 Today Tunes; Orchestra

5:30 Orphan Program

6:00 Ruckus

7:00 Bedouins; Organ

8:00 Features and Dinner Mu

874.8—WOC Davenport—800

8:00 Dinner Music; Singers

6:00 Juvenile Program; Eskimos

7:30 Dance; Musical

8:20 Male Quartet

9:00 Dance Music (2 hrs.)

883.4—WHIO Des Moines—7

5:00 Voters' Service

5:30 Rotherling Singers

6:00 Eveready Hour

7:00 Eskimos; Dance

8:20 Dance Music

874.8—WTAP Kansas City—8

5:30 School of the Air

5:00 Ensemble; Singers

6:00 Eveready Hour

7:00 Chequol Eskimos

7:30 Bunny Jim; Patented

7:40 Night Hawks

605.2—WYCO Minn.-St. Paul—7

5:00 Voters' Service

5:30 Rittenberg-Carlson Sextet

5:50 Rotherling Singers

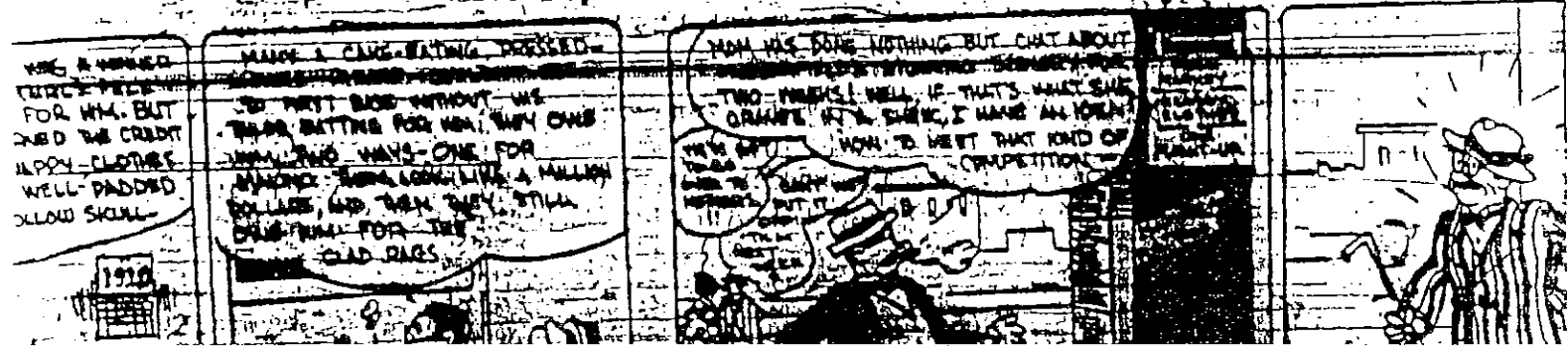
6:00 Eveready Hour

7:00 Musical Programs

8:30 Orchestra

508.2—WOW Omaha—700

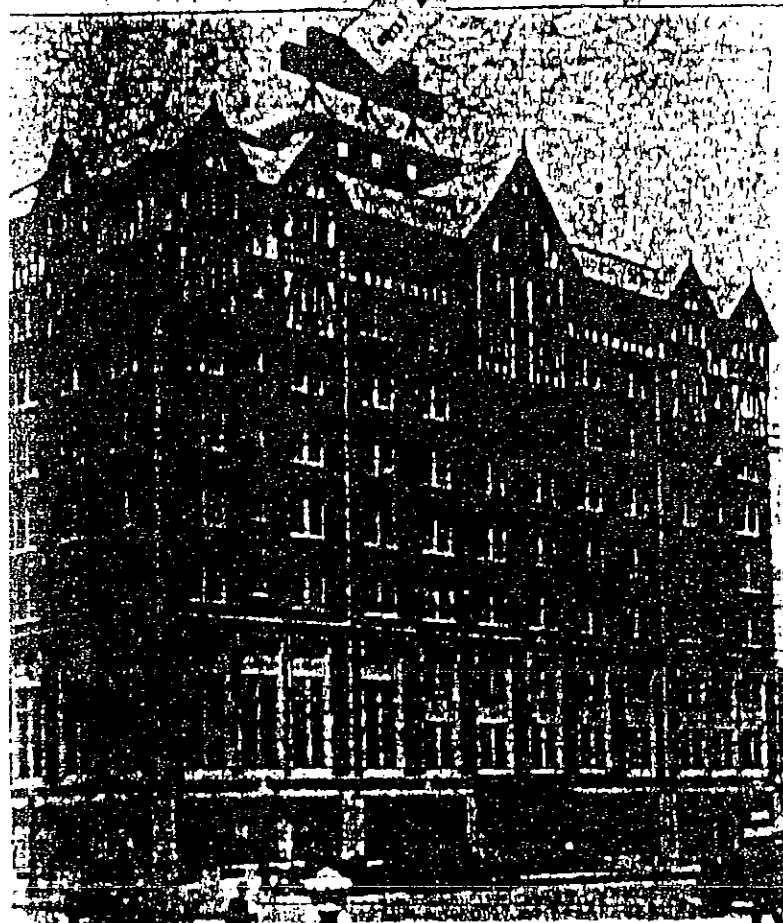




# Dedication of Hotel Here

## Open Again August 22

### ALEX JOHNSON HOTEL DEDICATED TODAY



Sioux Falls, Sioux City and Omaha, representatives of cities all over the northwest, and other officials gathered here today to join with people of the Black Hills in the formal dedication of the new Alex Johnson hotel here, described by experienced traveler as the finest between Chicago and Seattle.

## LATE BULLETINS

(By The Associated Press)

**League**—The Kellogg treaty outlawing war is likely to be discussed by the league of nations assembly in September. The pact was officially brought to the attention of the league by Great Britain as a "matter which is evidently one of general interest to all league members."

**Pierre**—Creditors of the closed Bank of Dallas, Dallas, are receiving a 10 percent dividend, the state banking department announced today.

**Pierre**—Articles of incorporation were filed with the secretary of state today for the Blount Publishing company, which the articles indicated will publish the Blount Courier and the Blount Review. The incorporators were E. N. Fern R. and Belle Hawks, and the capital stock was given as \$15,000.

**Omaha**—The yield of fall wheat was estimated at 21,444,000 bushels as against 20,000,000 last year in a report issued today by the bureau of statistics.

## GAS PIPE LAYERS OFFICE HERE NOW

New evidence of the approach of natural gas to Rapid City, was presented today when the general office of the Hope Engineering company, which is laying the pipe, was moved to Rapid City. It has been at Belle Fourche, during the early stages of construction. Edward F. Moore, general superintendent of construction, is at the head of the company's force here, while R. E. Newlin, accountant, is in charge of the office. The office force of 14 people is located in the Wood building on St. Joe street.

The company expects to have gas in Dallas, South Dakota, and Alaska. The latter part of the work is moving along the supply should be available in Rapid City in October, Mr. Moore said. The original promise was gas here by December 1.

There will be an entirely new distribution system in Rapid City the construction head said. None of the old pipes will be used.

Construction is not only being pushed at this end of the line, but in the gas fields in Montana. Lines are now being put into the Cabin creek field. The company is connecting the various "domes" from which the supply is available, that it may be taken from any of them as it is needed.

## SARGENT SAYS IS ONLY BEGINNING OF DEVELOPMENT

Delegation and Representatives  
Here From Many Other  
Wide Territory.

Rapid City was thronged today with delegations of Chicago, Omaha, Sioux City and Sioux Falls business men who will be on hand tonight at the formal dedication of the new Alex Johnson hotel which Fred W. Sargent, president of the Chicago and North Western railway, explained to them, while standing in the lobby of the new hotel, "marks only the beginning of Black Hills development."

Sargent's statement was added to by members of the delegations. R. W. Thackberry, general secretary of the Sioux City chamber of commerce, in a statement made after inspecting the hotel, said that "Sioux City is vitally interested in the development of Western South Dakota, especially the Black Hills. Through its geographical location, Sioux City is as much attached to South Dakota as it is to Iowa," he said.

"We receive many inquiries concerning accommodations in Rapid City," said Thackberry. "Now after inspecting Rapid City's finest hotel, I can assure our people and tourists that Rapid City has adequate and exceptionally modern facilities."

Omaha's interest in the Black Hills of South Dakota dates back to the days when stage coaches were operated, connecting Deadwood, Lead and later Rapid City with the then struggling frontier city of Omaha. W. A. Ellis of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce explained.

"The Omaha delegation came to Rapid City and the Black Hills because Omaha still maintains a deep interest in the development of the region," Ellis continued. "Thousands of tourists pass through Omaha each season enroute to the Black Hills, together with many of our own people who consider the region as an ideal play ground. This alone keeps the tourist trade coming and our visit here today."

Like Novel Decoration  
Both Ellis and Thackberry described the Alex Johnson hotel "as one of Rapid City's greatest assets." "The Indian design which

(Page right, please)

## HOLD \$100,000 SALE OF CATTLE

A \$100,000 cattle sale, believed to have been the largest ever conducted in Rapid City, took place here Friday. One thousand head of cattle were sold to stock buy-

## Y OF RED PAIGN IN SEEMS TRUE

A survey of the  
leading toward  
reconstruction.

IN PRICE:  
The Hunt Winter  
Aug. 11—(AP)—  
and prophesy of a  
very-making, poli-  
in 1928 now  
going toward com-

very democratic ad-  
ed republican quid-  
ed the Hoover  
cemies at which  
campaign is to be  
for late today.  
all of the high-

## FLORIDANS STILL FEAR HIGH WATER

Tallah, Fla., Aug. 11—(AP)—  
Flood gates of the huge hydro-  
electric dam of the Florida Pan-  
or corporation, were here  
opened today to relieve the strain  
of swollen waters from the With-  
lacoochee river and a swirling  
torrent was sweeping down the  
valley to the Gulf of Mexico, 20  
miles away, at the rate of 1,000,  
000 gallons a minute. Approxima-  
tely two hundred families, living  
in the path of the flood waters  
were warned to move to higher  
ground and no loss of life was  
expected, officials of the corpora-  
tion said.

Spaulding, R. C., Aug. 11—  
(AP)—Several scores of families  
were removed from homes in the  
suburban mill village of Beau-  
mont by police squads and fire-

## ELK POINT WINS APOLLO CONTEST AT PRESS MEET

Anderson Has Wall-Filling Bath-  
ing Suit, Midget Legs, And  
Can Turn Homersault.

Madison, Aug. 11—(AP)—O. F.  
Anderson, Elk Point, scored 96  
points out of a possible 100 to win  
the "male" bathing beauty con-  
test, the first of its kind in the  
state, held last night in connection  
with the summer meeting of  
the South Dakota Press associa-  
tion. The meeting closed here at  
noon today.

G. S. Oddy, Woonsocket, with a  
total of 90 points, was awarded  
second place by the three women

(Page five, please)

was named, remained here accompanied by several representatives of each party who choose to spend the day in Rapid City, he visited the state cement plant and other places of interest.

The Rapid City American Legion drum and bugle corps marched to the depot this morning, meeting the delegations which arrived at 1 o'clock. The Omaha and Pierre strains brought in 13 coaches loaded with visitors. Shortly afterwards the Sioux Falls contingent arrived from Deadwood where it spent yesterday attending the Day's of '78 celebration. The Chicago and North Western band also arrived this morning, and marched through the business section. The Sioux Falls delegation fell in back of the drum and bugle corps, marching to the Alex Johnson hotel.

#### Given Reception

A large reception committee was on hand at the depot and at the Alex Johnson hotel, making the new arrivals acquainted with one another and also with Rapid City business men.

Members of Mr. Sargent's party included: Alex C. Johnson, vice president of the Chicago and North Western railway company; Chicago; W. H. Dutton, assistant to President Sargent, Chicago; Ira Nelson, member of the Chicago and North Western legal department, Chicago; A. E. Gardner, railway attorney, Haron; D. M. Davis, assistant general freight and passenger agent, Chicago; George M. Davidson, president of the Superior Coal company, Chicago; J. M. Fenton, general freight agent of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railway company, St. Paul; E. L. Pardee, general passenger agent, Chicago; St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railway, St. Paul; H. E. Dickerson, general passenger agent, Chicago and North Western railway, Omaha; Roy A. Miller, tax commissioner of the Chicago and North Western, Chicago; and manager of the railway band; H. J. Wagon, Wisconsin, division superintendent, Chadron; W. E. Benjamin, general agent, Rapid City, and R. W. Carlton, Chicago, secretary to President Sargent.

At the Omaha party were: Guy Kiddoo, vice president of the Omaha National bank; E. K. Kim-

berly, secretary of the Union Omaha company; Harry Smith, McCord street company; M. G. Moenher, vice president of the Sioux Falls company; David Mariendale, Byrne-Hammar company; G. R. Carpenter, Carpenter paper company; G. W. Snyder, Otis Elevator company; B. Orinwald, B. Orinwald Plumbing company; Ray Bernard, Union Stockyards company; J. H. Barnes, general manager of the U. B. Rubber company's Omaha office; Perry Hendricks, U. S. National bank; C. H. Hooley, Nebraska Hotel managers association, and W. A. Ellis, Omaha chamber of commerce.

Sioux City visitors were: O. C. Scherer, general agent of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railway company; J. C. Mullaney, Mullaney grain company; W. H. Bona, Sioux City Stockyards; William Johnson, of Hartford Products company; E. K. Long, Hansen Glass and Paint company; N. Fell, Rosobann Commission company; J. L. Mitchell, president of the First National bank; George Silknitter, president of the Sioux City Stockyards company; L. G. Everist, Building Material company; L. F. Lionberger, John Clay Commission company, and R. W. Thackberry, general secretary of the Sioux City chamber of commerce.

### Too Much Sunlight Harmful to Health (From page one)

Dr. W. F. Barker of the National Foundation, Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, stated that science, while it can follow life's movements after they are started, understands nothing about its start.

"After the human machine gets started, we watch it and see how its parts work. We understand digestion—and we even repeat the chemical processes in the laboratory, but we cannot understand how the process starts—and why the stomach doesn't digest itself. We have pecked the mystery of life back a bit, but we still have a long way to go in getting to understand what starts it all."

Dr. M. X. Sullivan of the Uni-

versity of Chicago health service showed how many foods go wrong.

"Normally," he said, "our foods serve two main purposes—they give energy and they rebuild the worn out parts of the body. In the first group come the sugars and starches and fats, and in the second come the proteins—meat, milk and eggs."

He explained that the molecules in the protein group are broken down by the digestive process into groups of atoms called amino acid. They are used by the body to build up tissues and to form

the materials needed by various tissues to carry on the work of the body.

Part of this protein, he said, goes into poisonous waste materials, which must be eliminated. Toxin wastes have been found in the blood of patients suffering from asthma, arthritis and epilepsy, yet we still know little about these poisonous materials to help the body combat them, Dr. Sullivan said.

He stated that these poisonous wastes have a very close relationship to various forms of insanity.

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Site Plan (indicate all door and low openings on buildings, roof shapes, and landscape features such as fences, shrubs, etc.)



Indicate North

## HISTORY

Date of founding of institution or of settlement \_\_\_\_\_

Previous owners of the site \_\_\_\_\_

First owners \_\_\_\_\_  
and dates  
of ownership \_\_\_\_\_

Place of origin of owners \_\_\_\_\_

Date owners came to SD (& USA) \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation of owners \_\_\_\_\_

Historic owners: religious affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Historic owners: social (fraternal) affiliations \_\_\_\_\_

Historic uses of the site (& buildings) Hotel, offices, retail shops

Builder's name Henry Carlson Co. (Sioux Falls)

Architect's name Ida Pfeiffer and Williams, Chicago (Edward A. Pfeiffer); Elmer H. Schilling; interior design (Theodore S. Williams)

Date of commission \_\_\_\_\_ Date of construction 1927-28

History (attach research materials to file)

In addition to hotel rooms, the building had office space and retail shops on the first floor. It was  
completed in July 1928 at a cost of \$2,000,000. It originally contained 200 rooms and  
was the largest hotel in the state. The entire building  
carried a design theme based on the "Sioux Indian." Thus, walls and ceilings were painted with various  
scenes, including battles and also portrayed Native American legends.