

EMMETT JOHNSON NO HORSETHIEF

But Judge Tash Declares He May Have Traded Horses a Trifle Carelessly

Emmett Johnson, aged rancher living near Alliance, was acquitted of the criminal charge of appropriating and selling two bay horses, the property of Harry Sedore, by Judge Tash in county court Monday, although he was directed to pay for one of the same horses in a civil case, the outcome of which hinged on the criminal prosecution. The decision followed a hearing which took up the greater part of the morning and afternoon, in which a score of witnesses were examined.

By agreement of attorneys, the civil and criminal cases were tried at the same time, the same questions and testimony being required in the two instances. The criminal case charged theft of the two horses, and the civil case was a suit to recover the value of the animals in question, which Johnson admitted having sold and collected for. County Attorney Lee Baay represented the state in the criminal action; Attorney W. R. Metz represented Harry E. Sedore in the civil suit, and Attorney Eugene Burton represented the defendant in both actions.

The testimony developed that Johnson had pastured a number of horses for Calvin J. Wildy back in 1917. When Wildy later sent a man over to get these animals, the same number were taken away, but inasmuch as only a part of the animals were branded, an error or two was made, and Wildy got some of Johnson's horses. At least two of these were returned and others sent to him. Wildy later sold his animals to Olof Sholander, Johnson's son-in-law, and Sholander in turn sold them to Sedore, the latter losing the bill of sale. Sholander and Johnson, it seems, used at least one pasture in common, and when the horses sold to Sedore were still in this common pasture, Johnson sold them to a horse trader named Spath, who took them out of the country.

One of the horses in the bay team in question was a blocky bay, the other a more rangy animal. It was conceded by all parties that the blocky bay was branded on the left shoulder with the letters E-J, the Johnson brand. The defendant claimed to have raised this horse from a colt, and the court held the brand was sufficient evidence that this was the case.

As to the rangy horse, Johnson's claim to title was that Wildy had undoubtedly received one of his horses in exchange for it, as a result of the first mixup. Judge Tash expressed it as "a horse trade where only one of the traders was present." The judge held that the title, shadowy as it was, was sufficient to absolve Johnson of the intent to steal. The evidence, however, according to the judge, showed that Sholander, who sold to Sedore, had as good or better title to the horse than the defendant, and that although the title was sufficiently good to relieve Johnson of the felony charge, it was not sufficient to prove ownership. Sedore was thereupon given judgment for \$144.50, the value of the animal, and the costs were taxed to the defendant.

All three attorneys made strong pleas. Following the decision, Mr. Burton suggested that inasmuch as his client had been declared innocent, it seemed unfair to tax all the costs to him, as the state had brought the action. The judge left the matter open, subject to an agreement by the attorneys.

HELD IN CONNECTION WITH ARDMORE ROBBERY

Sheriff Miller is holding two colored men in connection with two South Dakota robberies, which occurred several weeks ago. The two men were engaged in attempting to sell articles which were later identified as stolen property by two people who came to Alliance from Ardmore. They were arrested Monday evening. It is not believed that the men now in custody are the principals, but it is believed by the sheriff and the city police that they are in a position to pass out more information than they seem likely to give.

"Grandma" Sage, living just south of town, passed away at her home on Saturday night. The funeral was held from the Methodist church on Monday afternoon. She had no near relatives and depended a great deal on neighbors and friends.

—Girls wanted at Alliance Steam Laundry.

THE WEATHER

For Alliance and vicinity: Generally fair tonight; colder north portion Wednesday.

ANOTHER ENDORSEMENT FOR PACKING COMPANY

The Alliance Packing company received its official permit of the state of Wyoming authorizing sale of the company's stock in that state and the permit has been received by the general offices of the company in Alliance. This action on the part of Wyoming was, of course, made after a very searching investigation, following similar action on the part of the Alliance chamber of commerce which first endorsed the project, and also of the state securities commission of Nebraska, which conducted a rigid investigation of its own.

TO ASK PUBLIC FOR ASSISTANCE

Committee Will Solicit Funds to Make Needed Improvements at the Fair Grounds.

Alliance people will be asked to furnish contributions to pay for improvements to the Box Butte county fair grounds to the amount of \$2,000. This money will be used to pay for additional stalls for racing horses, draining the track and repairing the grandstand. This step was decided upon at a joint meeting of the directors of the Box Butte county fair association and the Alliance chamber of commerce Monday evening. President Highland was directed to appoint a committee to solicit funds and further announcements will be made later.

JUDGE TASH FAVORS THE SINGLE STANDARD

And So He Assesses a Fine Against Mrs. Violet Walbridge for Assault and Battery

The county court room was filled Saturday morning with interested spectators and witnesses in the case of the state versus Mrs. Violet Walbridge, charged with attacking and inflicting injuries upon Mrs. Mamie Flanders on Wednesday morning of last week. Complaint was brought by the husband of the injured woman, who appeared in court with a damaged eye.

The case, as developed by the testimony, concerned two families, Frank Walbridge and wife, Violet, who have two children and have lived in Alliance for the past six years, and Bernard Flanders and wife, Mamie. The evidence showed clearly that there had been ill-representations between Mrs. Flanders and Frank Walbridge. This was proved by letters written by the woman and intercepted by Walbridge's wife.

Mrs. Walbridge handed over to the authorities one letter which she had found. It was unsigned, but she was satisfied from whom it came having had her suspicions previously. In that letter appeared the statement, "I am going to Antioch," and the suggestion that she would write to Walbridge under the name of "Lloyd Wells" and that he could reply to "Roxie Ward." Mrs. Walbridge thereupon watched the mail and intercepted other letters and a postcard, unsigned but written in the same handwriting as the first.

Mamie Flanders shortly thereafter returned to Alliance and resumed employment in the Manhattan cafe. Mrs. Walbridge thereupon requested that the two husbands and wives get together for a conference, and the date set for the meeting was last Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Flanders and her husband failed to appear. On Monday, Mrs. Walbridge called Mrs. Flanders over the phone and wanted to know why. When Mrs. Flanders replied that she "had concluded not to," then Mrs. Walbridge is said to have declared:

"Then you'd better leave town—if you don't I'll kill you. You'll find it's cheaper to pay railroad fare than hospital bills."

Mrs. Walbridge denied that she had made any threats, but admitted she had advised the other woman to leave town.

On Wednesday morning the attack took place. Mrs. Walbridge knew at what time the Flanders woman came off duty, and managed (Continued on Page 6.)

Mrs. Loomis, Whittaker, Kennedy and Rawley of Berea motored to Alliance on Friday night to attend Rebekah lodge.

CANDELARIA IS WOODED AND WON

Police Authorities Give the New Bridegroom an Interesting Half-Hour

Candelaria Sanchez, belle of the bunk cars, is establishing the romantic record of Alliance. Less than five weeks after the murder of Jose, her husband, on February 17 in the local Burlington yards, Candelaria appeared at the county judge's office late Monday afternoon, bringing with her the required quota of witnesses, one of whom was a fair interpreter, and a bridegroom, a silent man, but willing. He was game, even after the reception he met.

The court room was still crowded when Candelaria and her latest acquisition arrived, the judge being busy with the Emmett Johnson case, and the couple calmly waited, hand in hand, until the coast was clear. Had there been no trial that afternoon, it is probable that the proceedings would have gone through, if not without a hitch, at least without delay.

But Sheriff Miller recognized Candelaria. At the time of her husband's murder, Candelaria was held for a few days in the county jail, suspected with more knowledge of the affair than she would admit. Failure to locate the murdered made her release necessary. The sheriff, however, had in his possession a cap left at the scene of the crime by the murderer, who didn't wait to pick it up. And so, while Judge Tash was filling out the blanks, Sheriff Miller got hold of the cap and Chief Taylor, and just as the happy couple were about to be united, the proceedings were halted for a time, to ascertain whether the cap fitted the bridegroom.

It turned out to be a pretty fair fit. Possibly it might have been a trifle tight. And then followed a little examination that worried the groom, but didn't seem to bother the bride a trifle. The groom managed to pass a tolerable examination, but he tripped himself occasionally when it came to a question of his residence in the city. It developed that he had left Alliance about the time of the murder, and that it was due to Candelaria's letters that he had returned to marry her.

That was all the evidence that the officers developed, if evidence it was. The murderer had been positively identified by one of the Mexicans at the time of the Martinez Diaz, and the groom appeared unquestionably to be one Jose Navarro. Judge Tash finally suggested that if the chief desired to arrest or hold the groom, it would be well to do it. If he didn't care to do so, let the wedding proceed. The judge was interested in the proceeding, but he thought it unwise to listen to testimony which might come before him in the capacity of trial judge. The chief sustained the objection, as it were, and the ceremony proceeded in due form.

This is really Candelaria's third romance. A day or so before her husband was killed, she eloped with another Mexican, \$105 in money, a watch and a revolver. Her husband notified the police, the couple were apprehended at Angola. Candelaria and her husband staged an affecting reconciliation scene, but she didn't go back to him. Instead she returned to her mother—and a day or two later the unhappy husband lost his life.

Candelaria informed Judge Tash that the present bridegroom wasn't the one with whom she had fled to Angola, but that she loved him. Her attention was called to the fact that it was quite a short time since her first husband died, and she agreed. She was asked if she loved her first husband, and was emphatic in the affirmative. She also declared that she loved the bridegroom, but wasn't certain which one she loved most, the Jose she was marrying, or the Jose she had been married to. Jose the second, however, didn't seem to worry over the prospect of a divided affection. He fairly beamed after the officers left.

EIGHT RELEASED ON CRAP SHOOTING CHARGE

Police Officers Taylor and Reed, together with Special Agent Todd, arrested nine men, some of them colored, at the service building in the local yards Monday evening.

In police court Tuesday morning one colored brother pleaded guilty and was assessed \$10 and costs. The remaining eight were released due to lack of evidence to directly connect them with the game.

FIRST PERIOD ENDS SATURDAY

Contestants in Herald Campaign Can Cinch Prizes Worth Thousands of Dollars This Week

Saturday night is the finish of the BIG votes in The Herald's \$3,000 campaign.

Just four more days to WIN OR LOSE prizes worth thousands of dollars. This is practically what it means.

Of course, the race does not come to a close until April 24, but the winners are sure to be among those contestants who make the best records this week.

It is not what has been done, or what will be done three weeks from now. It is what is BEING DONE NOW THAT COUNTS. The wise candidate is he or she who sees the opportunity this week to put into effect a plan of campaign that will COMPEL victory to perch on her standard.

Records to Be Broken This Week

From every quarter come reports of records to be broken Saturday. Candidates have deep laid plots for increasing their vote totals by hundreds and hundreds of thousands. Five-year subscriptions will roll in as never before. Watch the vote totals climb skyward.

Race Is Warm One

The struggle for supremacy these days is a warm one. Six energetic contestants are so closely bunched that without hairline figuring it is quite impossible to determine the real leader. Miss Margaret Barry has first position today with Miss Sarabel Newman just a step behind her. Mr. E. Kly, who friends say, is not showing his full voting strength, is only 9,000 votes from the leadership. The rapid advance made by Ralph Cox during the past week will be especially gratifying to his army of friends in town and country. Mr. Cox has just returned from Council Bluffs and from now on his count will grow by leaps and bounds. Mrs. Cox did some splendid work while Mr. Cox was away.

Miss Lydia Gasseling of Hemingford is now over the million mark and gaining rapidly. She is certainly to be considered a real contender and the close of the first period may find her well in the lead.

The next vote count will be made Thursday night, the result to appear in Friday's Herald. As that is the last published report before the big votes are discontinued contestants will doubtless poll hundreds of thousands of ballots and a real battle for the leadership will ensue.

Campaign Soon Over

The campaign will soon be over, and this Saturday night will, to a considerable extent, tell the story. We can help you only by telling you how. Your fate is in your own hands. You can sweeten or embitter it yourself. Remember that.

NATION'S CHILDREN TO MAKE GIFT TO FRANCE

Miss Opal Russell, county superintendent, is in charge of the activities in Box Butte county in connection with contributions to America's Gift to France. A national campaign is now under way to erect on the first battlefield of the Marne, near the little town of Meaux, a colossal statue, the work of the artist MacMonnies, to celebrate the victory of the French and their allies in stemming the advance of the Germans in September, 1914, and in saving civilization to the world.

The plan of the state committee is to collect the funds through the schools. The state's quota is \$3,500, and Box Butte county has to raise but \$25. County Superintendent Russell received word so late that no attempt will be made to organize the rural districts, but pupils in Alliance and Hemingford will have an opportunity to contribute.

The campaign will extend from April 5 to 9, inclusive. There are nearly 325,000 school children in the state, and this means that an average of a trifle over a cent is all that is needed. The contributions are expected to run from 2 to 5 cents. No child will be nuded, or put under any pressure by a school canvass.

The overhead expense of the campaign has been underwritten by public spirited Americans, so that all the money that is contributed in the drive will go to the erection of the statue. If there is an excess of funds, he excess will be used in some worthy French charity.

TO START ROAD WORK THE FIRST OF APRIL

G. B. Current, project engineer from the state highway department at Lincoln, is in the city and office in the court house. He is accompanied by P. D. Stambaugh and J. J. Marsh, and a third assistant engineer will arrive within a few days. These four men will be in active charge of federal aid road work from now on until they are given some other assignment.

The first six miles of the Antioch road will first receive attention, according to Mr. Current. Due to a wreck, the contractor's equipment will arrive a few days late, but prospects are the work will begin by April 5. After the part of that road lying within this county is cared for, the Chadron road will be graded and put in shape.

LEASE HOLDINGS TO LARGE COMPANY

Alliance Oil Co. Closed eDal Last Week With Sinclair Co. to Drill Holdings for Oil

Developments in the eastern Wyoming oil fields, particularly at Osage, have been quick and exciting in more ways than one during the past week. It is reported on good authority that the Carroll Oil company, which bought in the Osage gusher on March 14, and which is leased by the Alliance men, has leased its Osage holdings, including the oil well, to the Sinclair interests on a basis of \$200,000 in cash and a royalty of 20 per cent on the oil taken from the holdings.

The Sinclair interests, which are capitalized at \$165,000,000, and which are heavily interested all over the oil producing territory of the United States, will proceed rapidly to development of the holdings which they have acquired from the Alliance people. It is estimated by an oil expert that their income alone from the gusher brought in two weeks ago will be at least \$800 per day on a production of 1,000 barrels, the market value of which would be \$4,000.

The drilling rig has been moved from the gusher and is now working rapidly on another part of the company holdings. With a number of rigs drilling and with good weather during the spring and summer it is very probable that there will be from 25 to 50 producing wells on the holdings acquired by the Sinclair interests.

STORM DOES DAMAGES TO TELEPHONE WIRES

The extremely high wind of Sunday resulted in considerable damage to telephone company equipment between Sidney and Julesburg, Col. No less than 247 telephone poles were uprooted by the storm, with consequent wire troubles and interruption of toll service.

Alliance linemen, with one exception of one man left on duty here, were rushed to the scene of the trouble early Monday morning. They took with them a big supply of extra material. The linemen from several other stations in the district were also sent. It is the company's policy to take care of emergencies like this as promptly as possible, and the expense is never figured up until the equipment is in working order.

Paul Palmer of Lakeside was an Alliance visitor the last of the week.

BEST RACE MEET EVER HELD HERE

Indications Are That Fully a Hundred Horses Will Show Up in Alliance in June

The race committee having in charge the Alliance race meet, which will be held the latter part of June, met at the rooms of the chamber of commerce Monday afternoon to enter into a contract with the carnival company, as well as to hear a report from Ed Bishop, who had been in attendance at a meeting of the Nebraska speed association.

Mr. Bishop brought back the good news that the speed association will open its circuit with Alliance, which assures this city of having all the good horses that will later race at other points in the state. Strong competition developed, Aurora being favored, but good work by Ed Bishop and George Molling brought the bacon home. Seventy horses are now training in Omaha, and by the time the races start this number will be increased to 125 or 150. Alliance can expect at least seventy-five of these, according to Mr. Bishop, and in addition the following men have signified their intention of coming:

W. M. Stewart, Powell, Wyo.; W. H. McClure, Riverton, Wyo.; Sid Cox, Kilgore, Neb.; W. M. Combs, West Point, Neb.; S. O. Wedge, Salina, Kas.; George Clark, Kearney, Neb.; Ed Gould, Kearney, Neb. All of these will enter harness horses except Sid Cox, who is the owner of Walter Dent, winner of second place in last year's \$1,000 derby.

W. H. Fulmer writes that there will be twenty-five head of running horses here from Cuba. Mick Ronja of Fremont, old time Nebraska state circuit starter, will also be on hand. Sandy Griswold, veteran sporting editor of Omaha, will make an effort to join the gang. It will be as good a race meet as will be held anywhere in Nebraska this year. At least twenty-five new stalls will be required to care for the entries.

The committee entered into a contract with Anderson's carnival, a recognized top notch organization of its kind. They claim a new model of the best swing manufactured, a good ferris wheel, six paid attractions. Twenty concessions have already been granted.

BEGIN WORK SOON ON METHODIST CHURCH

Plans for the new Methodist church are now in the hands of the architects, and the finished sketches are expected back at any time. Construction work is expected to be in progress by May 1, according to one of the members of the church building committee.

At a meeting of the committee held a short time ago, lots were purchased at Sixth and Platte streets. Upon these will be moved the houses that are on the lots at Seventh and Box Butte where the church will be erected. Excavation will begin at once.

MELICK & STEPHENSON TAKE OVER BUSINESS

Melick & Stephenson, who already operate stores in Hemingford and Crawford, this week take possession of the stock of O'Bannon Bros., which they purchased a few days ago. They will handle the same line as the old proprietors. O. M. Stephenson will be manager and will reside in Alliance.

Help Your Favorite Win!

Standing of Contestants in The Herald Campaign at 8 o'clock last night:

MISS MARGARET BARRY	324 First	1,516,800
MR. B. M. KELLY	Angora	1,508,500
MISS SARABEL NEWMAN	222 Toluca	1,513,800
MR. RALPH COX	523 Cheyenne	1,482,550
MISS LYDA GASSELLING	Hemingford	1,009,500
MRS. J. WONG	315 Cheyenne	804,150
MISS GRACE JOHNSTON	1011 Box Butte	700,000
MR. RAY SMITH	408 Niobrara	500,000
MISS GRACE MOORE	Ashby	5,100

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW COUNTS MOST