

# The Alliance Herald

Twice a Week—Tuesday and Friday

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No. 67

## TWO HURT WHEN TANK EXPLODES

Windows On South Side of Rumer Block Shattered By Force of Concussion

Henry Weber, welder in the employ of the Newberry Hardware company, was cut about the face by flying glass, and Francis McCoy, helper, was seriously burned and cut when a large gasoline tank which they were repairing for the Rumer Motor company exploded about 8 o'clock Monday morning. The tank was in the street just south of the building and the force of the explosion shattered over thirty windows on the north side of the street and two in the King's corner building.

Francis McCoy who was standing to one side of the tank while the welder was at work received almost the full shock of the explosion. His clothes were torn from the upper part of his body, and the flesh was burned and blackened. Both arms were badly cut by flying glass. He was able to walk to the office of Dr. Slagle, where his injuries were dressed. He was taken to St. Joseph's hospital. Mr. Weber's injuries were confined to slight cuts.

This is the third gasoline tank explosion within the past few weeks, no one having been injured in the others. The welders in this instance had taken considerable precaution to avoid an explosion, having filled the tank with water before beginning operations. It seems, however, that the tank was not completely full, and the water only compressed what gas remained in the tank.

Had the welders started their work half an hour or so later, it is probable that the list of injured would have included a number of bystanders.

## COURTS AND OFFICERS DESERVING OF SUPPORT

A police officer doesn't have the softest snap on earth. He spends all of his time working for the protection of the public from lawless characters, and after having caught some violator, has to fight in court to set him convicted and then has another scrap on his hands convincing the public that he hasn't been harsh or vindictive.

The public owes their police officers support, if nothing else. Probably they owe them a whole lot more but they are certainly deserving of support. Without it, they are handicapped, and with it they can do effective work.

An instance in point is the case of Clifford Meeks, who was sentenced in district court to a penitentiary sentence. The charge was carrying concealed weapons. An Alliance newspaper, with only a superficial knowledge of the circumstances, went off half-cocked and printed a sob-story picture of an eighteen-year-old youth hounded to the penitentiary by the officers of the law, when two older offenders, charged with the same offense, got off with fines and jail sentences.

All of which reminds us that courts are instituted to pass on such matters. Clifford Meeks is a Canadian lad who has been living on his own and on the world for a number of years. In spite of his tender years he is in a fair way to become a regular criminal. Among the offenses with which he has been charged are, first, the breaking into an Alliance home and the theft therefrom of a suitcase, a quantity of clothing and a .32 revolver. Again, Meeks broke into a derailed Pullman car at Girard and helped himself to a number of brushes and towels. The charge against him was filed by Burlington Special Agent T. J. Smith, and the court, in passing sentence, recommended to the penitentiary authorities that he be paroled to some substantial farmer who will take care of him. When the facts are known the court deserves commendation for its attitude in the Meeks case.

County Judge Tash is enjoying a visit with his son Charles Tash, who is now with the Haynes Motor company of Omaha. Charley is on a trip for his company to the western part of the state and will visit in Alliance three or four days before moving on. Just two days ago next Friday, Charley Tash entered the Chateau Thierry engagement, where he got considerable first hand experience with modern warfare.

Mrs. Burke of Edgemont, spent the week with friends here.

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Additional volunteers are sadly needed at Chamber of Commerce headquarters to aid in the work of rechecking Alliance's census returns. There are still about ten city blocks which are lacking attention, and the work is being unnecessarily delayed by the fact that an insufficient number of patriotic citizens have come forward and offered their services. Rufus Jones, who as acting secretary has thrown himself energetically into the task of assuring a recount which will show the city's real population, expressed to a Herald reporter Monday afternoon his surprise that Alliance citizens wait to be begged to help solve this big problem. "We can't secure an adequate recount by sitting around and growling at the estimate of 4,591. That won't get us three inches away from the home plate. We all know that we have many more than that, but the only way way to go out and find them is to go out and find them."

If you are really interested in seeing to it that Alliance gets justice in the revised census returns you ought to be willing to help. Phone your name to Chamber of Commerce headquarters as a volunteer. Do it now!

## RECOUNT SHOWS A FAIR INCREASE

Definite Figures Will Not Be Available Until Detail Work Caught Up With

The Herald is told by Rufus Jones, acting secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, that the census recount will seemingly show quite a substantial increase. Mr. Jones preferred not to go on record with a prediction as to what percentage of increase would be shown. He and Mrs. McKenzie, assistant secretary, both have their hands full with the detail work of the recount, and they have not stopped their work in this respect long enough to attempt a recapitulation. They consider it evident, however, that the increase is one worth working for; and unless the incoming figures from now on should take a sudden notion to show a falling off there is going to be no disappointment in the hearts of Alliance citizens.

Interest in the census recount is intense. Every time a representative of The Herald drops into the Chamber of Commerce headquarters someone is present inquiring as to the progress being made.

## "PAID IN ADVANCE" AT IMPERIAL TONIGHT

The attraction at the Imperial theater for tonight is, without a doubt, the best offered to its patrons in several weeks. It is a James Oliver Curwood story of the great northwest, taken from his novel, "The Girl Who Dared." "Paid in Advance," starring Dorothy Phillips, is proclaimed by all critics to be one of the best pictures ever screened.

The amusing efforts of a couple of Social Climbers (Mr. and Mrs. Brabazon Tudway) to break into the society of English noble folk is featured in Goldwyn's "Lord and Lady Algy," which comes to the Imperial Wednesday. How their fight into the upper spheres progresses and how it is cut short is an amusing chapter in the tale of the marital and race track difficulties of "Lord and Lady Algy."

"Dangerous Hours" is the attraction for Thursday. It's a dramatic picture with its underlying theme the Radical unrest that is sweeping the country, it is not without its humorous phases. For instance, a collection of Bolshevik vampires are portrayed in some of the scenes showing meetings of the "reds" agitators. They are "new women" of the most pronounced type—wearing men's attire, smoking cigars and pipes, and moving about with a real masculine swagger.

## DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Funeral services for Mrs. Charlotte Malley, who died Sunday, July 18, at 9:30 p. m., were held today from the First Baptist church in Alliance, Rev. M. C. Smith being in charge. Interment was made at Carpenter, fourteen miles southwest of Alliance. Mrs. Malley was born in Woodburn county, Ohio, August 14, 1844, and at the time of death was seventy-five years of age. A son, Perry S. Nailey, lives at Ant. h.

## FOUR FINED FOR PLAYING POKER

Two More Produce Plausible Alibis, But Finley's Tale Fails to Get By

Jim Johnson drew a fine of \$25 and costs, and Joe Collier, Henry Washington and Albert Finley \$11 and costs each in police court Monday morning when tried before Judge Roberts on a gambling charge Monday morning. Charles Smith and Dave Brown were discharged, due to lack of sufficient evidence to convict. All of the defendants are colored, and all of them told substantially the same story.

The arrest was made by Chief of Police Reed, Burlington Special Agent T. J. Smith and Night Watch Al Roland at Johnson's home on Sweetwater about 11 o'clock Saturday evening. The officers testified that before they entered the room they heard sounds which could be used only in a poker game, and on their entrance they discovered five of the men seated at a table with five cards dealt out to each one. There was some \$28 on the table. This number of cards, so we are informed is the regulation poker hand. One man, Smith, was lying on a bed in an adjoining room apparently sleeping soundly. It required some labor to awaken him to place him under arrest. The men were escorted to the station and some of them gave cash bail for appearance Monday morning. The others were guests of the city until the trial.

Albert Finley, colored, has a vivid imagination. Moreover, he has a poker face. With impassive countenance and every evidence of sincerity he told the court a wild tale of the way in which the money happened to be on the table when the officers entered. This is the tale:

It seems that for three years, Albert has carried a "lucky piece," a \$20 gold coin. Of late he has been doubtful whether this was really lucky. He had begun to think it might be a "jinx." Only last week he was arrested at his place of employment, the Harvey cafe, on a charge of manufacturing intoxicants and he finally admitted to City Attorney Metz that the court had found him guilty of the charge and that he paid a fine. It was this unfortunate experience that led him to believe that his lucky coin was a jinx, and so he decided to part with it.

On Saturday evening, Finley said, he had got through work about quarter after ten, and there being no place of recreation or amusement in Alliance where a colored man was welcome, he had wandered up to his friend's home. There he found a number of other colored men, all in the same fix. These men sitting about the table, visiting, Dave Brown was awaiting a phone call from Casper, Wyo. Charley Smith was taking a nap. The others were passing the time away in conversation. Suddenly Finley thought of his jinx. He told the others and one of them offered to buy it. Thereupon Finley, in order to make it worth while and to avoid trading money, which everybody knows is unlucky, offered the \$20 coin and a ring for \$25. His offer was accepted. The purchaser was counting out the cash when the police came. Finley denied there were any cards on the table, or in the house, so far as he knew. His testimony was substantiated by the others.

The police officers didn't bring the cards into court, but their testimony convinced the judge that there had been gambling, and the fines were imposed. The session was enlivened by the pleas of Attorney H. E. Gantz who pointed out the sad plight of the colored man in Alliance, and City Attorney Metz.

Another interesting feature was the refunding of the money taken at the time of the raid. Every colored witness insisted that the money in sight belonged to Finley, but when they commenced paying it back every one crowded around and looked interested. One of them claimed a portion of it, but when reminded of his testimony that the money was Finley's, explained that "the cops didn't get any of his money, but if any of it did belong to him, he wanted it." Finley got it all, and paid his fine with it. After all, it was his story and he should have stuck to it.

Clay Harry was in Antioch Monday attending the annual meeting of the stock holders of the Antioch Telephone company. The following officers were elected: President F. H. Smith succeeded himself; Secretary T. L. Briggs, succeeded himself and Treasurer M. E. Johnston succeeded Fred Campbell.

## RAILROAD SENDS OUT COLORED MEN

City Authorities Should Call Their Attention to Effect of Their Policy

For the past several weeks, Alliance has been flooded with negroes. Every freight train brings in a new gang, and it keeps the city police officers busy filling out their walking papers and urging them to be on their way. No sooner has one batch been disposed of than another one comes in. They fill the passenger station and accumulate in cool, shady spots outside.

And the railroad is to blame for it, according to information which reaches this office. These men are all sent out here from points east to work on various railroad projects in Wyoming, Montana and Nebraska. But a large portion of them do not go to work or remain at work. If their ticket reads Alliance, they are quite apt to get off at Seneca. If their ticket reads to some point further west, they are quite likely to decide that Alliance is as far as they care to go. If they do go on to their destination, they seldom work longer than it takes them to get one or two pay checks, and then they rest.

It wouldn't be so bad if they'd go back to Chicago or some of the places where they are recruited. When winter comes along, it is quite probable that they will do that very thing. But it is several months before winter, and in the meantime Alliance and every other place where a number of trains come and go will be flooded with them.

By this time, the railroad ought to realize that the floaters they have been hiring won't stick on the job. But the trainloads that come to and through Alliance don't show any let-up. There is an inexhaustible supply in the cities, and so long as the colored men are willing to accept a free ride without any intention to go to work, it is probable that the railroads will dig up transportation, unless some of the cities that have the real grief call attention to the imposition in no uncertain terms.

Now, there are hundreds of colored people in Alliance who work hard and who stay on the job. This sort of employe is indispensable no matter what his color. But there are a lot of others who hang around, living as best they can and working as little as they can. When the court records are consulted, and it is discovered that of those sent to the penitentiary, less than one out of ten comes from this county. It's time that someone let out a howl. It costs money to arrest and convict these floaters. Some of them will come here anyway—but the railroads shouldn't shoot them out here in carload lots.

Here's a fair sample. Dee Winters colored, arrested by Special Agent Smith, arrived in Alliance on freight train No. 46 Sunday morning. He admitted to the court that he had beat his way. On search, it was discovered that he had \$100 in Burlington pay checks in his pocket. He had worked just a month—and grown tired of labor. Instead of using his money to get back to Chicago, he decided to beat his way. He took the first train out, and landed in Alliance. Ten minutes later he landed in jail. Monday morning in justice court he was fined \$5 and costs, a total of \$10, paid the fine, and probably beat his way to the next town.

And another story: Mitchell Field, likewise colored, was sent out to Mitchell, Neb., on a railway labor gang. He probably came for the ride for on his arrival at Mitchell he told the court, things didn't suit him. He couldn't get a place to sleep. Trouble with him was that he didn't want to work. The Burlington furnishes its workmen a place to bunk. So Mitchell Field walked (at least he says so, and far be it from us to disbelieve him, no matter how often the freight trains run or how good his shoes look) to Bridgeport. Here, it seems, he was unable to find work, and he drifted to Alliance. He was just on his way to ask for a job at the roundhouse when the police nabbed him as a vagrant. Judge Roberts fined him \$5 and costs, and suspended the fine for twenty-four hours, during which time Mitchell was given to understand that he was to get his job or get out of town.

These are just a couple of the cases. If you want to get an idea of the number of idle men in the city, take a walk to the passenger station or the railroad yards and use your eyes. Then ask yourself why the railroad companies can't, in the interest of the cities they serve, use

## THE WEATHER

For Alliance and vicinity: Generally fair tonight and Wednesday; not much change in temperature.

A little more care in sorting out laborers. You'll probably have to answer your own riddle, but it will do no harm to ask it.

## RAILROADS TO GET INCREASE IN WAGES

The long-awaited decision of the wages board, in session at Chicago, received by wire this morning, shows that the following increases have been granted: Clerks in service more than a year, 13 cents per hour; clerks less than a year in service, 6 1/2 cents; switchmen, 18 cents; telegraph operators, 10 cents; common laborers, 10 cents; maintenance of way, 15 cents, and enginemen, 19 cents. Word as to the pay of machinists has not yet been received.

Willie Sneed, colored, who was arrested by Chief of Police Reed at the colored church last Wednesday evening and who was charged with breaking and entering, as well as larceny, pleaded guilty in county court Saturday afternoon, and was bound over to district court for trial. Bond was placed at \$500, which was not furnished.

## KITTLEMAN TRIBE AGAIN IN COURT

Juvenile Court Petition Alleges Children are Dependent and Neglected

The Oswald Kittleman family is once more in the limelight. Several times since the head of the family was sentenced to the penitentiary on a charge of having illicit relations with one of his daughters, there have been stories afloat to the effect that affairs at the Kittleman ranch needed investigation.

Saturday, County Attorney Lee Baeye filed a petition in the juvenile section of the county court, alleging that the children of Mrs. Elizabeth Kittleman, the mother, and three children of Emma Kittleman, one of the daughters, are dependent and neglected. Hearing has been set for 1 p. m. Thursday.

In addition to this, it is reported that certain members of the Kittleman family are wanted by the post-office authorities on a charge of using the mails to defraud.

## RUFUS JONES NOW VISITING IN CITY

Rufus Jones, who resigned as secretary of the Alliance chamber of commerce two months ago when he purchased a half-interest in the National Investment company of Denver, is back in Alliance for a couple of weeks. He is now serving as acting secretary during the absence of J. W. Guthrie, who was called to Iowa by the death of a relative.

Mr. Jones was able to dispose of his Denver interests at a substantial profit, and decided that a pleasant vacation would be to renew acquaintance with Alliance friends. He has been received with open arms and has been holding a continuous reception since his arrival last Saturday. The ex-secretary was pressed into service shortly after he struck town, by Lloyd Thomas, who had agreed to take Mr. Guthrie's place temporarily and was wondering how he could spare the time.

Mrs. Jones is now visiting her parents in Tylertown, Miss. Mr. Jones will stick to the secretaryship until Mr. Guthrie's return. The census recount makes it imperative that someone be on the job early and late and the city and chamber of commerce are alike fortunate that Mr. Jones decided to sell out when he did. Rufus has made no particular plans for the future, but he has a number of propositions in view and will spend the spare time during his vacation in making a decision as to the nature of his future activities.

Two engines were damaged in a collision in the local yards Monday morning. Inspection engine No. 366 and switch engine No. 1748 collided in front of the yard house. The former will need about \$170 in repairs, while the latter will get off with a \$10 expense account. T. E. Renitjes, engineer, and Night Yardmaster Sweeney were riding on the inspection engine, and W. M. Ellis, engineer, and Fireman Vansike were in charge of the switch engine. No one was injured.

## LONG LEAVES FOR GREENER FIELDS

Newspapers Dissuade Him From Attempting to Work His Labor Advertising Graft Here

Apparently Harry J. Long, "voluntary" organizer for the American Federation of Labor, who hit Alliance last week with a grand scheme to take out several thousand dollars in real money from an advertising scheme, leaving about \$100 to local unions, under whose "auspices" he was acting, has left for greener pastures. The Alliance newspapers devoted a considerable amount of space in their last issue to the activities of this bird, who had announced that he was going to carry his scheme through in spite of any opposition, after the chamber of commerce had investigated his little graft, and had turned him down.

C. A. Darrington, who came to Alliance in order to "get" Long, who, he said, was a former employe who had stolen his graft and otherwise done him dirt while he was in a Lincoln hospital has also left the city after having cooked Long's goose. Darrington went to Scottsbluff Friday afternoon, where, he said, he would attend to Mr. Long. How successful he was in this may be judged from the receipt of a telegram by the local chamber of commerce from Ronald Kingsley, secretary of the Scottsbluff chamber, "saying that if Harry J. Long had been spreading a story to the effect that he was endorsed by the Scottsbluff chamber and the Scottsbluff Rotary club, there was nothing to it.

The following, from the Scottsbluff Daily News, adds another chapter to the tale. The Herald editor sent in a similar wire to Mr. Gompers.

"Harry J. Long, who came to this city some time ago in the interest of the organization of an allied trades council, apparently was running a 'whizzer' on the local men, as is evidenced by a telegram received Saturday evening from Samuel Gompers by Secretary Kingsley of the Chamber of Commerce, which reads as follows:

"Your telegram received, Harry J. Long formerly held commission as a volunteer organizer for the American Federation of Labor at Grand Island, but was discontinued in October, 1919. Anyone who is authorized to solicit advertising for the American Federation of Labor will hold credentials signed by me as president and by Frank as Secretary of the Federation.

"Mr. Long presented credentials as a preliminary to the campaign for the advertising campaign to be put on here, but the fact that the authority given by the papers had expired, was not evident on the face of them. Long went to Alliance from here to start a similar campaign. He claimed he had the endorsement of the local chamber according to reports which was not a fact. One thing is certain, that any other man purporting to represent the A. F. of L. will have to exhibit the best sort of credentials in this city from now on, and even then it is a question whether they will be allowed to put on the advertising campaign, as it is the general sentiment that such a campaign should be put on by some of the local members of the council."

## FRIENDLY COMMENT FROM CHADRON PRESS

The Chadron Chronicle has the following comment to make on the Alliance census recount:

"The good citizens of Alliance are all worked up, by gum, over the result of the census of that city, showing a total of only 4,591. In substantiation of the claim of a great shortage in count, our sister city on the south points to the fact that 'towns near Alliance are accorded a census of 4,400 and that conservative estimate would place at from one thousand to fifteen hundred less than their city.' Surely Alliance must refer to Hemingford or Crawford, as Chadron, along with about every other city in the country is dissatisfied over the poor showing made. The facts brought out in the recent census, however, gives Alliance about 100 larger population than our own, and we are not going to feel sore about this, but rather take it in good spirits. With our splendid water system just being completed, paving, and other marked improvements, we feel that we shall soon be able to outstrip her in population. We, as well as Alliance, would like to be accorded a recount, but fear it cannot be made possible. As it is, we must bow with Alliance in mutual grief."