

# The Alliance Herald

Official Paper of Box Butte County

TWICE A WEEK—TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

Official Paper of the City of Alliance

VOLUME XXVIII.

(Eight Pages)

ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1921.

No. 72

## JACK FENNING MEETS DEATH IN GERING TWISTER

### FORMER ALLIANCE MAN DIES FROM INJURIES.

#### Suffers Broken Spine When Tornado Lifts House From Ground and Dashes It to Pieces.

"Jack" Fenning, nineteen years of age, a former Alliance resident and brother of George Fenning of this city, died at Gering Tuesday afternoon from injuries received about 5 p. m. Sunday, when a small tornado struck his home two and one-half miles east of that city. Mr. Fenning had been married but two months. His brother, George, was called to Gering Tuesday and returned early this morning.

According to stories of the casualty, a funnel-shaped cloud appeared about 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon, dropping down near the Fenning home. Another house stood nearby, only fifty yards away, and the tornado missed this residence entirely, striking the Fenning home with full force.

Mr. Fenning was visiting at the neighboring home when the cloud approached, and had gone over to his home to close the windows, fearing damage to the furniture. He was inside when the tornado lifted the house about forty feet into the air. Almost immediately the building was lowered to the ground, but not violently. A few seconds later it was lifted into the air a second time, and this time it was dashed to the earth with terrific force, which shattered it.

Fenning, rendered unconscious by the shock, was picked up after the storm about a hundred and fifty feet from the house. He never regained consciousness. An examination disclosed that his spinal column was severed.

Mrs. Fenning, a bride of but two months, was visiting at a neighbor's home, half a mile away, when the tornado struck. She saw her home as it was lifted high into the air, but did not know that her husband was inside. The storm struck only the Fenning home, and after demolishing it trailed along the ground for a distance of seventy-five or eighty rods, then lifted and disappeared.

Jack Fenning was born in Alliance and until a few years ago made his home here. He removed to Gering five years ago and in June of this year was married to Miss Edna Bott of Gering. He leaves three sisters, Mrs. M. J. Johnson of this city, and Margaret and Juanita, both of Gering. Five brothers survive, George of this city, Henry, Con, Adam and Leroy, the latter four living in Gering.

## Domestic Difficulties of Gribble Family Are Aired in County Court

Hearing was held in county court before Judge Tash this morning on the complaint of Mrs. Anna L. Gribble, who filed a formal statement with the county judge yesterday morning that she has just cause to fear, and does fear, that Harold A. Gribble, her husband, will make an assault upon her with intent to do great bodily harm and injury. After hearing the testimony, Judge Tash continued the case for thirty days, to leave the door open, he said, for a reconciliation. He gave it as his belief that if he put the husband under a peace bond, it would serve only to widen the breach between the couple.

Mrs. Gribble went on the stand and recited a number of incidents of their domestic life, covering the last ten years, and especially the last six weeks. The couple have been married sixteen years and have two sons.

According to the plaintiff's story, her husband was frantically jealous at times, and when seized by a fit of jealousy would threaten her and sometimes strike her. These jealous fits have been coming more often of late, she said, and six weeks ago, when she was talking over the telephone to a friend, he had torn the instrument from the wall. Two days ago he repeated this, and she had informed him that until he had it reinstalled, she would not cook for him.

She had learned to dance the first of the year and for a time he accompanied her, but more often he stayed at the club all his spare time. He objected to her attending the dances, or to dancing with other men.

Wednesday morning a quarrel came, after he had torn the phone from the wall on Tuesday morning. She refused to get up and get breakfast for him, she said, until it was replaced, he had ordered her from the house, telling her to "get the hell out of here." She testified that he began to throw her clothes out of the house. Then he struck her on the head, making a cut on her forehead which she exhibited to the court. About 5 o'clock she went to a friend's, and when she was brought home at 9 o'clock, she said, he refused to permit her to enter the house. Her complaint was filed Thursday.

There were a number of incidents which the witness gave, concerning times when he had drawn a razor across her throat, struck her, made

scenes at dances and on the street, and of occasions when he had struck her. She denied that she had talked unduly to men over the telephone, that she had made or kept dates with men other than her husband or that she had given him cause to challenge her faithfulness.

Mr. Gribble did not go on the stand in his defense, but his counsel, Harry Gantz, attempted to show that the plaintiff had by her behavior justified the defendant in his jealousy. Mrs. Gribble admitted that once when he had asked her where she had been that she had told him it was none of his business. To defend showed that Mr. Gribble had had these jealous fits for some years, and tried to get the defendant to admit that she was really not afraid that he would harm her.

Verne Gribble, fifteen, testified that he had seen his father strike his mother Thursday morning and that dishes were broken, furniture tipped over and a rough house generally had taken place. He said that his father had thrown some of her clothes out the front door, and that he had tried to get them to stop. Jimmy, eleven years old, also testified to the quarrel.

## MRS. BERTHA SCHLEY DEAD

Mrs. Bertha Schley, seventy-four years of age, died Thursday evening at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. B. Feyen, 812 Box Butte avenue. Mrs. Schley suffered an attack of heart failure at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, collapsing in the yard. She never regained consciousness. The body will be taken to St. Joseph, Mo., this evening, for burial.

Mrs. Schley leaves a son, Adolph E. Schley, of Oklahoma City, Okl. Her son arrived Wednesday for a visit with his mother and sister, Mrs. Feyen, who was just released a day or two ago from the hospital. Mrs. Schley was feeling very happy yesterday morning, with her son here and her daughter out of the hospital. Her son will return with the body.

## SAYS NEBRASKA CATTLEMEN ARE IN VERY BAD WAY

### FRONTIER COUNTY MAN DRAWS DESOLATE PICTURE

#### May Accurately Represent Conditions in Other Parts of State, But Not Box Butte County

Nebraska ranchers have sold their cattle down so close that farmers looking about for stock to replenish their farms can find none in the state, according to W. H. Campbell, county agricultural agent of Frontier county, in a letter to The Lincoln Star.

Mr. Campbell may have given an accurate picture of conditions in his own locality, but it doesn't give the proper idea of the situation in Box Butte county and the nearby cattle country. John O. Bayne, The Herald's traveler, who is just completing a trip over Box Butte county and Alliance's trade territory, thinks the Frontier county man has overdrawn the situation somewhat.

"I will have to take issue with him," said Mr. Bayne. "What he says may be true of some localities in the state, but it isn't the case in Box Butte county. I have driven over the entire county—in fact, have visited every farm during the past three months—and have talked with the farmers and ranchers in a way that gave me all the information required to know the situation. There are not as many cattle in Box Butte county as there should be, but there are thousands of them that will be sold. A number of herds in the county contain from three hundred to two thousand head.

"Box Butte county ranchers are going to sell. Trainloads of good beef cattle will go to market from Box Butte county, but not in all cases because the owners are pinched for money. The Box Butte cattle are finished and ready to be sold. I have also talked with men who say that they will not sell until prices get better. They believe that within a few months the market will show an increase, and feed is plentiful enough so they figure they will have all to gain and nothing to lose by holding on to them. In my opinion, Mr. Campbell has overdrawn the situation. The truth is bad enough but the picture he gives is entirely too black." (Continued on Page 5)

## Colored People Observe Emancipation Day With Program at Race Track

The colored people of Alliance and vicinity observed August 4, Emancipation day, the anniversary of the signing of the declaration of independence, with a program of sports in the afternoon and in the evening with a number of addresses at the A. M. E. church. The program was in charge of the Rev. B. H. Moore. The Alliance Monarchs did baseball battle with another colored team and the game was productive of some of the most enthusiastic rooting.

Mrs. R. C. Pearson and son went to Lincoln Wednesday.

## M. E. CHURCH CORNERSTONE TO BE LAID SOON

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, IS DESIGNATED AS THE DAY.

#### Masonic Fraternity to Be in Charge of Services—Bishop Stuntz on the Program.

The cornerstone of the new Alliance Methodist Episcopal church will be laid on Sunday, August 28, and plans are being made for a big public program on that date. Bishop Homer C. Stuntz of Omaha, it is understood, has consented to be present and make an address, and other speeches will be made by state officers of the Masonic fraternity, which will be in charge of the services.

Alliance lodge, A. F. & A. M., has extended an invitation to the grand master, Lou Smith of Long Pine, Neb., to be present for the ceremonies. He has not yet formally accepted the invitation, but it is understood that if he is unable to be present, one or more grand officers will be here in his stead.

The formal program has not been arranged, but arrangements are under way for a big celebration. The cornerstone was donated to the church by the Paine-Fushburn Granite company of Grand Island through its local representative, Al Wikler.

## Judge Tash Settles Case Arising Over Purchase of Spuds

### The suit of E. G. Herman vs. Thomas Green, both parties to the suit living in Hemingford, was heard by County Judge Tash Wednesday.

Herman sued Green for \$106.59, on an alleged contract dated January 13, 1921, in which he declared Green had agreed to deliver to him 350 bushels of Prime No. 1 Red Triumph seed potatoes, sacked, f. o. b. Hemingford. Herman alleged that a \$25 check had been given in part payment. This check was never cashed, but was torn up near the Warm store in Hemingford. Herman charged that potatoes rose in price from 75 cents to \$1 a bushel, and this was the reason the defendant had failed to deliver all the spuds. Damages were claimed in the amount named.

Green's testimony was that he was a retired farmer, owned no spuds, grew none and had none to sell. Herman told him that he wanted to buy four loads and that a friend had told him he was willing to have Green act as his agent. Green sold him a quantity of potatoes then in a celler, selling them as is, neither sacked nor loaded on cars. He said that Green had given him a check, which he had put in his pocket without inspecting. Later he met Clarence Rosenberger and the check was examined and it was discovered that Herman had written thereon that it was in part payment for 350 bushels of prime No. 1 Red Triumph seed potatoes, sacked, f. o. b. Hemingford. He had several times, before witnesses, tried to return the check, but Herman had said it was a small matter and refused to take it. The check had been returned by mail come back, went forward and passed back and forth until Green notified the postmaster he would not accept it again. Finally, in front of Herman, he had destroyed the check.

Judge Tash's finding was that no contract existed, and he found in favor of the defendant, taxing the costs, which were paid, to the plaintiff.

## Ex-Service Men Needn't Have But \$273 to Make Entry on Laramie Land

Announcement was made by Robert G. Simmons, State Commander of the Nebraska American Legion, that the deposit required of ex-service men on the Ft. Laramie project, which is to be thrown open on September 2, has been reduced from five dollars to \$1.70 per acre.

On September 9, the government will open to homestead entry 222 farms on the North Platte Irrigation project. They will be disposed of by drawing but no one but ex-service men will be allowed to draw for ninety days. The government required a deposit at time of drawing of \$5.00 per acre. Believing that this would be prohibitive to most of the soldiers Mr. Simmons appealed to the government to lower this required deposit. A telegram from Senator Hitchcock, states that this has been done and men need only have \$273 to make application.

"We feel that the lowering of the deposit required will enable many service men to take advantage of this opportunity," stated Mr. Simmons. "We found that the setting of the amount of the deposit was fixed by department ruling and I am glad to announce that we have succeeded in getting it changed."

BIRTHS August 2—To Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Kearns, a son.

## CLUBROOMS OF FIREMEN TO BE USED BY SCHOOL

### UPPER HALF OF CITY HALL TAKEN OVER BY SCHOOLS

#### New Equipment Ordered and Fire Escape to Be Constructed—Other Plans for the Club

The upper story of the city hall will be used by the Alliance schools this year. The school term begins the first of next month, and the school board is faced with the task of fitting up the council chamber and club rooms of the volunteer fire department with desks, as well as constructing a fire escape, within the next few weeks. The necessary equipment has already been ordered, and the work of installation will take place on its arrival.

The school board this summer talked of going ahead with building program. Bonds were voted over a year ago for the construction of a junior high school and a ward school. The building costs were believed to be excessive by the board, which postponed all thought of building until they could get more for their money. This spring there was some talk of building one of the buildings, and at one time it was decided to go ahead with the construction, but when the result in increased taxes was discovered, the board apparently decided to make no move for the time being, although they had ample authority to do as they pleased.

According to Supt. W. R. Pate, this year's enrollment will exceed that of last year, and additional quarters were necessary. The chief inconvenience will be the volunteer firemen, who have fitted up part of the room as a club. City Manager Kemmish has announced, however, that he has other plans in view for the room, and from his conversations with various members of the department, believes that they will cheerfully make whatever sacrifices are necessary.

## Campfire Girls Are Having Splendid Time at Hot Springs Camp

The Alliance Campfire Girls, seventy of whom are in the midst of a two weeks' camping tour at Hot Springs, are having the time of their young lives. The rainstorm last Sunday rather dalled up the schedule, and it was Monday before the girls had all arrived and been sorted out and assigned to tents, but since then the entire city of Hot Springs has been doing its best to see that they have a good time.

The daily routine includes open air cooking, hikes and side trips. One of the girls has written The Herald, giving an idea of the entertainment offered them: "Wednesday night Charles Bagley Clark, a poet, spoke to us and read several poems, which all of us enjoyed. Friday night Mrs. Ricker, the guardian of the Hot Springs Campfire Girls, will give a party for us. The main part of the evening will be spent in listening to a lecture, after which ice cream and cake will be served. The Hot Springs people are lovely. They do nearly everything for us. They are trying to get enough cars to take us to Sylvan Lake Sunday. Monday evening all of the girl sure going through Wind Cave."

## More Trouble May Be Stacking Up Against Ultimate Consumer

A tax of 2 cents on bank checks, a flat license of \$10 on all automobiles, irrespective of cost or horsepower, an increase of first class postage rates to 3 cents and an added levy on cigars, tobacco and cigarettes are understood to be among tax revision suggestions presented Monday by Secretary Mellon to the house, ways and means committee, meeting in executive sessions. Other suggestions of 50 per cent in transportation taxes, both passenger and freight, next year and their elimination the year following. Repeal of the taxes on soda fountain drinks and ice cream. Repeal of the excess profits tax and elimination of the \$2,000 exemption on corporations' incomes. Increase of the normal income tax on corporations from the present 10 per cent to 15 per cent. Elimination of the income surtax brackets above 40 per cent with the surtax rates on incomes ranging from \$6,000 to \$50,000 increased.

The revenue bill as revised in accord with these suggestions would be designed to raise approximately four billions of dollars next year, it was said. Mr. Mellon's memorandum embodying his views was withheld, but Chairman Fordney promised to make it public today.

Representative Garner of Texas, the ranking democratic member of the committee, attacked the treasury secretary's proposals, declaring that every one of them constituted a shifting of the tax burden from the classes to the masses.

## Official Figures on Scottsbluff-Alliance Golf Matches Sunday

The golfers of the Alliance Country club who went to Scottsbluff last Sunday as the guests of the Platte valley club, failed in most instances to bring their golf scorecards back with them. Kishigo, the Alliance pro, and Madsen and George Mintzer were said to be the only Alliance players who achieved victory over their Scottsbluff opponents. All the others remained silent, or comparatively silent.

The Scottsbluff players, however, not only defeated the Alliance men, but turned the results in to the newspapers. The Daily News speaks of "revised totals" and credits only two of the Alliance men with victories. Its account of the contest follows:

"Scottsbluff golfers overwhelmed Alliance visitors Sunday on the country club links, according to revised totals made public today. The victory was by 116 strokes up, and only two of the Alliance visitors defeated the local golfers.

"These were Kishigo, the Alliance professional who defeated Springer, 2 up; and Madsen, who defeated Lynn Thompson, 2 up.

"James Martin of the Scottsbluff team scored the most striking victory, defeating Minor of Alliance, 9 up.

"Cards of the others, with the Alliance men named first, were: Jeffrey 91, Seizer 87; R. Beckwith 103, George Babcock 82; Dickinson 95, Schwane 84; Abegg 87, Haver 94; Gantz 56, Beck 47; Meyer 96, D. Martindale 92; Mallory 91, Hrubesky 87; Walker 98; Crawford 90; Reddish 106, Hannon 92; Maxwell 115, Barger 96; Bevington 97, Charles Schwane 96; Beckwith 104, Graves 88; Mintzer 111, Neff 100."

Mrs. W. R. Pate is visiting in Scottsbluff at the home of Mrs. E. C. Smith.

## WEARY WILLIES ARE ARRIVING BY THE SCORE

### INFLEX OF HOBOES INCREASING EVERY DAY.

#### Most of Them Turn Up Their Noses at Offers to Work—Rumors of Walkout of Harvesters.

Alliance, always a favorite resting place for the genus homo hobo, is getting more and more popular as a summer resort for the weary Willies. During the past three months, the police have kept them moving out about as fast as they arrive, but despite the unkindness of the cops, the hoboes continue to arrive in about the same numbers as they are shoved into departing trains. The last week has witnessed an especially large influx of hoboes, who are to be found resting in almost every shady spot in the railroad and freight yards, and especially around the passenger station. They are shooed away from time to time, but most of them drift back.

From other parts of the state come rumors of I. W. W.'s, who are recruiting members for their organization by force. Now and then comes the news of a lad who has signed his name on an I. W. W. membership card with the muzzle of a pistol pressed against his back. These stories do not seem to fit in with the hoboes who make Alliance around the passenger station. They are a few fights of any kind, and the men show no disposition to talk back when the officers ask them to move on. They promise to leave, and immediately hunt the shade again.

Last week there was a story of harvest hands, recruited from among the traveling population, who struck for higher wages. Thursday a rumor was going around to the effect that the harvesters around Hemingford had refused to work over eight hours, and had quit when the farmers insisted on a nine-hour day, even when they were offered pay for the extra hour. Another rumor has it that they were employed on the Burlington laying new steel between Alliance and Hemingford.

There are plenty of floaters in Alliance, but talk of work seems to worry most of them. A woman from one of the nearby ranches was in the city Thursday, attempting to interest the weary ones in going to work on a hay ranch. She offered \$50 a month and keep for their services during the hay-making season, and although she interviewed thirty or more prospects couldn't find a man who was interested in going to work at that figure, which is regarded as pretty fair pay these days.

## AUTOMOBILES COLLIDE

The little daughter of Frank Abegg was injured, but not seriously, Thursday evening when thrown against the side of the car driven by her father. Abegg was driving west on Third street, and at Laramie intersection drove into the Charles Nation car. A third car which was rambling from the west in quite a hurry was the cause of the trouble, and the driver didn't wait to see what had happened

## BETTER TIMES AHEAD FOR THE POTASH PLANTS

### PRESENT OUTLOOK REGARDED AS ENCOURAGING

#### Possibility That Fertilizer Companies May Soon Resume Manufacturing Operations

Maybe the potash outlook isn't so bad as it has seemed the past five or six months. A writer in yesterday's State Journal has it all figured out that there's a silver lining somewhere in the clouds, and that sooner or later the smokestacks in the potash towns will have something to do besides guard the sandhills. The Journal says:

The owners of those potash plants in Nebraska that have so far weathered the money stringency feel much encouraged over the present outlook, although they admit there are a number of obstacles yet to hurdle. The plants were shut down primarily because the fertilizer companies, their principal customers, ceased operation. This was caused by the poor price cotton was bringing, and the inability of cotton planters, the chief purchasers of fertilizers, to buy. The planters do business on credit largely, and had failed to pay for their previous orders of fertilizer. The result was that the fertilizer companies, big as they are, held so much frozen credit that they had to quit.

The fertilizer publications talk cheerfully of a resumption of manufacturing, with the financial stringency ending and the planters getting ready to order. Sulphate of potash is quoted in New York at \$1.35 a unit, which is only a slight drop from the figure being sold when the plants were shut down.

With the fertilizer companies in the market again, the demand for American-made potash is expected to be resumed. The German publications show that prices there have had to be raised by the government, which fixes them, under pressure from the workers and others interested, and this makes German competition less formidable. The Fordney tariff bill carries a protection of 50 cents a unit on potash for a certain period of years.

If the plants resume in the near future they will find production costs greatly cheapened, fuel oil being about a sixth of what it was at the peak and coal about half. The great cost in Nebraska potash-making is that for drying or for evaporating, and that is what consumed oil and coal. Labor is also cheaper.

No question has ever been raised of the solvency of the plants at Hoffman or Lakeside, both of which made big money during war times, and there is one or two at Antioch that were not caught in the ebb tide of finance. Another has gone through a receivership, was sold and is in new hands.

At Lakeside, the plant owned by the Hords, drilling for oil is in progress. The Hord interests can command all the money they need, and the drilling is being pushed at high speed. Oil there would solve one big item of production cost for the future.

The American plant was partly destroyed by fire. The insurance companies paid over \$100,000 on policies, and there is a claim against the Burlington for the remainder of the damage, estimated by owners at a total of \$350,000. The American and Western plants are owned by Lincoln parties largely, and the parent company is in a receiver's hands, but its affairs are being held in status quo awaiting developments in the situation.

## One Alliance Youth Will Attend Citizens' Camp at Fort Snelling

Clarence G. Kniest of Alliance is the one youth who was fortunate enough to be included in the list of those approved for the citizens' military training camp this summer. There were twenty-five or more who made application. It appears that there was a big surplus of applications and it was necessary to select the successful candidates by lot, the state being divided up into several districts and the names of candidates from these districts being thrown into a hat. This explains why it happens that some smaller cities than Alliance had a much larger number of successful applicants.

A large majority of the 112 young Nebraskans whose applications for admission to the camp at Fort Snelling, Minn., were submitted are students, according to information made public by Major Fred Lemmon, who had charge of enlisting men from this state. Newspaper men, farmers and men following other lines of work in civilian life are included in Nebraska's quota to the encampment, but of the total, eighty or so students from various parts of the state.

Kenneth Bicknell suffered an injured foot at the Country club grounds Wednesday afternoon, when his foot slipped and came in contact with a scraper. The wound was dressed, but it will be some time before he will be able to resume work.