

# The Alliance Herald

Official Paper of Box Butte County

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## INDIANS MAY NOT WORK IN SPUD HARVEST

### ADVANCE GUARD TALKS LAST YEAR'S WAGE SCALE

#### George Running Horse Refuses to Stir a Peg Until Someone Kicks In With Six Bucks a Day

The advance guard of Indians from the Pine Ridge reservation arrived in Alliance this week. Every year a big delegation of them comes to this city and anchors its tents down in South Alliance. The squaws haunt the dry goods stores and the streets, while the braves go to work in the harvest fields. The men who plant potatoes on a big scale say they make the best help obtainable, and each year in their pilgrimage to Box Butte county they have two or three distinct ideas in view. One of them is to open an employment agency and garner in all the shekels they can while the garnering is good; the second is to take advantage of the live stock shipping season, and the third is to be friendly with the white man, in order that they may stage a few shows on the streets and pass the hat.

The second one of these objects, by the way, is one of the chief attractions. The live stock shipping season brings a number of carloads of stock through this city. Some of the weaker animals die on the way. When the stock trains reach Alliance, the carcasses are turned over to the Indians, who dry the meat in the sun and lay up a winter's supply. This custom has proved most objectionable in past years to those who have to live in South Alliance, for the odor of sun dried meat reminds one of a hot-house—it's so different.

Last year a member of the Alliance board of health, who objected not only to the odor of the meat hung up about the Indian camp, but who worried over the effect it might have on their digestive tracts, circulation and general physical well-being, sought to stop the practice. An order was issued. The next day there was a storm of protest. It was a sort of "No beer, no work" strike. The Indians gave it up that they considered this interference with their savage customs a direct blow at their personal liberty, as well as an unfriendly act on the part of the white men, and that unless the order was rescinded, there would be nothing doing. The farmers who had big spud crops to garner, with no other help at hand to assist with the harvest, made an appeal to Mayor A. D. Rodgers, and the mayor saved the day.

#### More Trouble in Sight.

This year it's going to be something different, if the opinions of the advance guard may be taken as any criterion. This year it's the matter of wages that's going to play hob. Last year the ordinary gang of floaters wouldn't work at any price, and the Indians proved the salvation of the potato growers. This year the floaters are not so timid about meeting up with Lady Labor, and some of them have been found who were quite reasonable when naming the figure.

The Indians from the reservation, however, have had a monopoly of this business for quite some time. During the war, when labor was scarce, they began coming to Box Butte county for the fields, and the spud growers fell on their necks with loud acclaim and tears of joy, gave them whatever wages they asked and were glad to do it. Last year, though there were other laborers, the Indians enjoyed the same sort of a monopoly, for the Weary Willies who were infesting the railway station weren't looking for work, not in any form.

Last year the Indians received average wages of \$6 per day. According to the advance guard, they expect the same wages this year. They don't understand—living way out on the reservation, they haven't heard the news—that prices on all commodities have tumbled, and that \$6 a day is about twice what any of the growers are willing to part with without a struggle.

#### George Running Horse Speaks

George Running Horse, who was one of the first of the Indians from the reservation to work in Box Butte county fields, was on the streets Monday. He spoke with a number of farmers, and was not only surprised, but considerably indignant because no one of them was anxious to snap up his services at the rate he set on them.

George set his figure at \$6, and wouldn't think of coming down. He said as much—and stuck to it with his tenacity. No \$6 a day—no work. He declared, with a sincerity that was most marked, that all of the Indians expected \$6 a day, and that they weren't likely to come to Alliance if they didn't get it. He mentioned the fact that he believed it was his Indian duty to reach a telephone and warn them about it before all of them got started on the way. He even inquired the location of the telephone office. Two or three farmers told him, and he started off in that general direction.

It's too early, of course, to say whether all the Indians hold George's

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cast for Nebraska: Unsettled tonight and Wednesday, with showers east and central Tuesday.

views about the wage scale. He seems to think so. He fairly hoisted, in a not unmusical way, at the suggested price of \$3 a day. From his attitude it was plain to be seen that not even the prospect of a winter's supply of sun-dried meat would tempt him.

The potato crop is not yet ready to be harvested, although two or three of the growers have started digging. It is estimated that it will be two or three weeks before the harvest is on in earnest. Time enough for the growers to begin worrying when they have it to do. They've got the freight rates and present prices to worry about now, and that takes about all the time they have set apart for worrying.

In neighboring counties, where potatoes and beets are big crops, the farmers have attempted to set a wage scale similar to the \$3 a day which Box Butte planters hope to get off for, but it hasn't been exactly what could be called successful, although some of them are getting away with it.

## Work on the New M. E. Church Going Forward Despite Some Obstacles

The work of construction on the new Methodist church is still going forward with an undiminished force, although the building committee and the finance committee have had their work cut out for them. Originally, it was decided to go ahead with the building this summer to give employment to idle men in the city and thus help to stimulate business. The church members and others who had promised contributions to the building fund pledged their support. It took lots of nerve for the church to tackle the proposition with no more money at their disposal than they had at the start of building operations, but they put their shoulders to the wheel and decided to do their best.

The work is still progressing, although just now it has been kept going the committee alone can tell. By the grace of good fortune, they have managed to meet the bills as fast as they have been presented for payment. The chief expense has been the hire of labor, the payroll being \$500 a week. Two or three times, it seemed as if the possibility of a letdown before the next week was over, but somehow or other, every financial storm has been weathered.

The situation wasn't particularly brow-wrinkling until the first of September, when contributions began to slow up. Labor day, when the workmen laid off, heartened the committee because it was a short week and the payroll was smaller. There was just enough funds on hand to meet the payroll that week, and the committee got on their harness and got busy. They have discovered that the best way to get money is to go after it. They met a number of disappointments and some rather encouraging increases in contributions, and have now enough money to last at least another week.

The committee expects to have pretty easy sailing after the next few weeks are over. There is an opportunity to get \$2,000 from one source and \$5,000 from another, but it will take perhaps a month's time. In the meantime, they are pushing collections hard. There is still some work to be done before the new building is closed in, and they cannot afford any delay if this is to be done before winter approaches.

Those who have made pledges to the building fund are asked to lend every assistance to the committee, the members of which know they are going to be able to keep things moving at the new building. A little financial aid in these trying times, times, however, is about the best way to help.

## Duck Season Opens on Friday Morning and Lasts Till December 31

The open season on squirrels, plovers, snipes, brants, coots, ducks, and geese will open Friday, and from then on to the first day of the new year the wild duck feeds will be not only palatable, but legal. During the past week or so, the old shotguns have been thoroughly cleaned, and hardware stores report big sales of shells. Over 300 hunting and fishing licenses have been issued in the county so far this year, and it is expected that the next few days will see the number augmented considerably.

The bag limit, under the state law, is ten squirrels, twenty-five coots or ducks, fifteen plovers, rails or snipes, ten brants, prairie chickens, grouse or geese. The open season for prairie chickens and grouse lasts only a month, from October 1 to November 1.

## BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rust, Monday, Sept. 12, an eight and one-half pound boy.

## THE ROSETTAS WILL CONTINUE AT OLD STAND

### COURT DECLINES TO CLOSE THE ROOMING HOUSE.

#### Temporary Order Issued Restraining the Rosettas From Selling Intoxicating Liquor.

The legal profession of Alliance was pretty completely represented at Chadron Monday of this week, and others of the city's lawyers will spend the next two or three days there, trying cases in federal court and before Judge W. H. Westover, who held a special session there. Judge Westover did not arrive from Rushville until about 5 p. m. Monday, but at an evening session a number of matters were disposed of.

County Attorney Lee Basye presented a petition asking that the Rosetta rooming house nuisance be abated. He submitted a number of affidavits, one of which set forth that Mrs. Rosetta had pleaded guilty during the race meet to the sale of intoxicating liquor; and other affidavits from those arrested in last week's raid of the place, in which at least two men swore to having purchased intoxicating liquor at the place. The petition, as drawn, did not ask that an order be issued closing the rooming house, and the attorneys for the defense, Mitchell and Gantz, were quick to take advantage of the error.

Among other evidence in the affidavits submitted was that Rosetta had told one of the men, who said he had purchased booze at the rooming house, that he owned forty-eight barrels of the stuff, purchased before the country went dry, which he kept at his ranch near Alliance; and that he had two gallons in the house.

Judge Westover dismissed the case insofar as it applied to A. D. Rodgers, owner of the building. The court granted a temporary order restraining the Rosettas from selling liquor, but refused to order the rooming house closed. The petition was so drawn that it did not definitely ask that the place be closed, but asked Judge Westover to "abate the nuisance."

#### Vallas Held to Grand Jury.

Attorney Eugene Burton asked the federal court to quash the complaint against Christ Vallas, who a few weeks ago was fined in county court on a charge of receiving property stolen from interstate shipment. Mr. Vallas was fined \$25 by Judge Tash, and a second complaint was filed in federal court shortly afterward. Mr. Burton's efforts in behalf of his client were unsuccessful, Vallas being bound over to appear before the federal grand jury.

Reports brought back to Alliance say that federal court was besieged by bootlegging cases, and that the town was full of them, either to come up for trial or for other purposes. The Alliance men say the federal judge was assessing low fines and getting through with them in a hurry.

One Alliance man told of seeing several drunken men on the streets of Chadron. One automobile filled with five drunks drew up in front of a hotel. All of them were eating green corn on the cob, the only peculiar circumstance being that it had not been cooked. They called for colored porter and demanded more corn. It was refused and four of them followed the man into the hotel. The fifth was unable to get out of the car.

## Mollring Trunk Case Decided in Federal Court at Chadron

Federal Judge Woodrugh, sitting at Chadron Monday, instructed the jury in the suit of Mrs. Edith Mollring against the Burlington railroad to bring in a verdict for the defendant in an maximum amount of \$100.

Mrs. Mollring sued for \$3,200 to repay her for the loss of a trunk shipped on April 10, 1920, from Alliance to Scottsbluff. The trunk disappeared completely. The plaintiff was represented by Attorneys Mitchell and Gantz, while P. E. Romig and J. W. Weingarten of Omaha were the legal representatives of the railway company.

Judge Woodrugh based his decision on the transportation act of 1920. When the federal government was in charge of the railroads, a number of rules and regulations were placed in effect which are still in full force. Among them was a rule to the effect that the shipper of baggage with a value greater than \$100, must declare the value and pay a surcharge of 10 cents per 100 pounds. Mrs. Mollring had failed to do this, the court found, and instructed a verdict for the liability of \$100 admitted by attorneys for the company.

At the time the trunk was lost, the Mollring store in Alliance had just come out of business, and the couple were leaving the city on a long trip. The plaintiff's petition set forth a long list of valuable wearing apparel that was contained in the vanished trunk.

## ALLIANCE MEN WERE UNLUCKY AT TORRINGTON

### DIDN'T DRAW A SINGLE ONE OF IRRIGATED FARMS.

#### Number of Ex-Soldiers Filed, But Prizes All Went Outside of Box Butte County.

Although from twenty-five to fifty ex-soldiers in Alliance and Box Butte county filed on the three hundred irrigated farm units, the records from the land drawing Friday afternoon show that they were uniformly unsuccessful. Less than a hundred Nebraska men drew farms. At least ten thousand applications were expected to be filed, but despite the fact that the American Legion secured a reduction in the amount of the deposit required, only 3,436 applications were recorded.

Jennings B. Fuller of Gresham won the prize unit, on which more than a hundred men had filed. First reports gave the name of "Jennie," but they were soon corrected when the lucky man heard how he had been treated by the reporters. Five women, ex-army nurses, were among the winners: Florence O. Wheeler, Council Bluffs; Pearl Gossie, Marquette; Nannie Rhodes of Hutchinson, and Hattie P. May of Smith Center, Kas. The Scottsbluff Star-Herald gives the following description of the land drawing:

Uncle Sam's great land lottery opened at Torrington Friday afternoon promptly at 2 o'clock according to schedule. A total of 3,436 units were filed on and \$441,395.80 were collected. By special arrangements clerks began immediately to refund the deposits of unsuccessful applicants. Six units under the Inter-state Canal in Nebraska were not filed on. They are numbers 286, 289, 290, 300, 303 and 304. A buzz of excitement followed the announcement by Project Manager Weiss that the above six numbers had not been filed on. Arrangements will be made if possible to accept applications on the above until Tuesday, September 13 at 9 a. m., when another public drawing will be held at Mitchell. This arrangement will be made if approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

As early as 1:15 official photographers began taking pictures of the crowd, which included many citizens of Torrington as well as many hundreds of visiting ex-service men. R. B. Dame, government photographer, was there from Washington getting views and making pictures. C. J. Blanchard, government statistician was also there from Washington. Andrew Weiss, project manager and J. N. Beardslee, district counsel called out the names and addresses as drawn shortly before two o'clock. Clerks brought out in front of the Goshen county court house in full view of the audience a huge metal container, a kind of six sided drum. In here were 3,436 cards numbered according to applications and also containing the number of units, the name and address of each applicant. These cards were under lock and seal but the container was quickly opened and Governor Carey reached in for the first envelope, while the crowd listened with bated breath.

T. T. Sigler of Torrington, Wyo., was the first name drawn, he having selected as his choice unit No. 239. Loud cheers greeted the announcement that a Torrington man was first out. The drawing then proceeded rapidly.

Following are the names of the Nebraska winners:

West C. Boston, Stromberg; Robert Hanson, West Point; O. C. Smith Kearney; George W. Meier, Scottsbluff; Peter Keenean, Grafton; H. E. Nelson, McCook; Allen Lunford, Lyman; S. W. Genack, North Platte; A. H. Schultz, Neligh; F. R. Schiavanski, Lincoln; J. H. Heubregren, Norfolk; Louis Peterson, Fremont; E. L. Hubbard, Grand Island; Philip Rouse, Lincoln; Frank S. Fletcher, Gering; L. E. Helmich, Lyman; Carl E. Peterson, Hastings; W. E. White, Sterling; A. Stevenson, Holdrege; H. J. Anderson, Gern; John Halle, North Platte; J. R. Holter, Lyman; J. Nelson, Grand Island; Marion Andrews, Gering; C. F. Beachman, Lincoln; N. E. Devois, Mitchell; Anton Schuckhart, Scottsbluff; J. C. Peterson, Falls City; Chester B. Cottier, Bethany; E. E. Smith, Julian; J. P. Pullen, Garlap; A. E. Olson, Lincoln; R. Koehler, Grand Island; D. C. Moody, Bridgeport; R. P. Cobble, Chappell; R. E. Monga, Oshkosh; H. M. Meyers, Milford; H. J. Swanson, North Platte; J. H. Swanson, Carlson; H. A. Ahlbrandt, Gering; G. W. Swanson, Litchfield; S. A. Farber, Humphrey; George S. Haas, Arnold; Roy Parker, Big Springs; B. L. Lynch, Gurney; C. I. Ashland, Tilden; James P. Elliott, Hastings; V. M. Sterk, Wilbur; W. F. Polzkill, Yoder; Paul W. Schrader, Auster; P. M. Lynn, Lincoln; E. A. Benney, Chappell; J. L. Rives, Chadron; D. E. Holliday, Millard; Carl E. Beckwell, Kimball; D. L. Hibbard, Oshkosh; Ed N. Tart, Gering; C. B. Jones, Mitchell; Richards Hoffman, Mitchell; G. B. Parkhurst, Scottsbluff; Tom C. Ray, Scottsbluff; L. F. Burns, Colver; Charles D. Sella, Mitchell; F. N. Baumgartner, Henry and Douglas

Thornton, Gering; J. R. Haber, Lyman; E. F. Sreskine, Lyons; A. T. Johnson, Holdrege; James Lanquist, Bertrand; Harry Westfall, North Platte; E. E. Smith, Julian; George Curtis, Lincoln; Ed N. Tart, Gering; H. S. Hunt, Arnold; I. K. Young, Yoder; Russell B. Laird, Sidney; E. W. Johnson, Burwell; D. E. Rice, Columbus; John B. Wirtz, Mitchell; G. H. Wadsworth, Mitchell; P. B. Jones, Mitchell; C. K. Weller, Scottsbluff.

## Omar Kingry to Meet Tom Alcorn on the Mat at Angora Saturday Eve

Omer Kingry well known wrestler who for the past three years in western Nebraska has not met defeat, having met and defeated several stellar stars of the mat game, including Jack Ryan, "Oklahoma" Ross, Arndt, Crews and others will meet Tom R. Alcorn in a finish match at Dove's hall in Angora Saturday night, September 17.

Alcorn who at the present is located at Dalton, Neb., is conceded to be one of the fastest men that Kingry has ever met, Alcorn being a student of that veteran of the wrestling game, Farmer Burns. A whirlwind match is looked forward to.

## Wives of Mexicans Come to Rescue and Secure Their Release

There was joy in little Mexico along about Saturday noon. Three stalwart sons of that troublesome little country got out of the county jail. There was joy in the hearts of three Mexican women, who had contributed toward paying the fines of their spouses. There was also some joy in county jail, where there were three empty cells ready for the next victims and three less mouths to feed.

Pedro Arrollos and Jose Cortez were apprehended by the sheriff and other minions of the law Thursday afternoon. They were taken from bunk cars Nos. 23 and 24, in the Burlington yards, and from each of these bunk cars was taken twenty gallons of hooch in the making, as well as some raisins put to soak and two or three bottles that still contained small quantities of stuff with a kick.

In county court Friday afternoon, the two men pleaded guilty to manufacturing hooch, and were fined \$100 each and costs amounting to \$11.50. Jose Orbina, who gave the snap away by getting all lit up, until the men at the Burlington round house thought he had run amuck, pleaded guilty to a charge of intoxication and was assessed a fine of \$50 and costs of \$9.

It was one thing to assess the fines, and another to pay them. Not one of the three men had sufficient money to gain his liberty. Arrollos had a brilliant idea. His wife had \$60. He secured an audience with Judge Tash and wanted to know if he couldn't be given his liberty for that sum, and allowed to go to work to earn the balance. Judge Tash reasoned that it was better to have \$60 in hand than a Mexican in jail, eating three meals a day at the expense of the county, and so when Mrs. Arrollos came into court with the money, her loving husband was given over to her affectionate care.

Jose Cortez made the same sort of a bargain with Judge Tash, and was given his liberty on a basis of so much down and much more later on. The experience of these two appended to Jose Orbina, who told Judge Tash that his wife had \$30 and he thought she would be willing to come across with it rather than have him languish in jail. He was permitted to see her and talk it over with her. Pretty soon he came back.

"She had \$30 when I saw her last," he told the judge, "but she's gone spent \$5 of it. Will \$25 be enough to get me out, if I pay the rest."

The judge considered the matter. He knew the ways of married women and reasoned that \$30 was perhaps too much temptation to have in the house with no husband at home to guard the purse strings. The story sounded reasonable to him, and he said so. He permitted Orbina to leave the jail. Now there are three empty cells awaiting the arrival of the next batch of home brewers or other law wreckers.

## Creditors of Walker Drug Company Hold Meeting With Referee

The creditors of the Walker Drug company of Hemingford, who recently instituted involuntary proceedings in bankruptcy against the company, held a meeting in the district court room at Alliance Monday before Frederick A. Crites of Chadron, referee in bankruptcy. J. A. Jensen of Hemingford was nominated as trustee by a majority of the creditors and his appointment approved. It is understood that the firm's assets amount to in the neighborhood of \$6,000, while the obligations total fully twice that amount. It is said that the business will be sold to satisfy the claims of the creditors. Among the obligations of the firm is a note for \$5,000, which was endorsed by a number of Hemingford citizens.

## SOMETHING IS ALWAYS TAKING JOY OUT OF LIFE

### CITY MANAGER'S PATH IS NOT A BED OF ROSES.

#### Just One Darned Obligation After Another Is Turning Up—And They All Have to Be Met.

City Manager N. A. Kemmish has been even more busy than the proverbial paperhanger with the seven-year itch the past two or three weeks. Every time the average citizen gets a glimpse of him, the city manager is immersed in a pile of figures or over trying to talk the county treasurer out of a few thousand. He has but one motto—one rule and guide to his days—and that is to find a thousand dollars a day. Some days he varies the monotony by deciding that he must find a little more. He doesn't always get that much, but it's his aim.

It's time to liquidate, as the bankers say, in city affairs, and all the city manager has to do is to find the money to pay the bills with. The taxes come in only about so fast, and the county treasurer simply won't pay them over until they are paid in. This makes Mr. Kemmish's position a little more difficult.

The chief trouble is that every time the city manager gets the books all straightened out, and thinks he sees his way clear to getting money in sight to meet the obligations, someone finds another batch of bills to be paid. Monday he uncovered an entirely new debt that will amount to about \$3,000, and if this thing keeps on, he may be gray-haired by the end of the first year of his incumbency.

The latest bit of financial bad news comes in connection with the construction of sanitary sewers in districts No. 37 and 38. Everything looked lovely, on the surface, but the city manager likes to scratch beneath the surface. He discovered, only a few days ago, that no provision had been made to pay for the mains in these districts. As a rule, the city voters bond to lay mains in a sewer district, and the cost of the laterals is taxed up to the owners of abutting property.

#### Followed a New Procedure.

In districts Nos. 37 and 38, however, the old city council followed an entirely new procedure. Just why it was done is one of those little mysteries that make our political affairs so interesting. No bonds were ever voted to construct mains in sanitary sewer districts Nos. 37 and 38. Instead—and strictly contrary to law—the cost of the mains were taxed to the abutting property. This made the property owners pay for both mains and laterals, when common practice and the law says that the laterals are all they can be stuck for.

It was Dr. F. M. Knight who discovered the error, and he promptly entered an objection. The fellows who had already paid their sewer assessments, to the number of ten or twelve, were issued warrants on the city's funds to repay them what they had paid on account of sewer mains.

What is worrying the city manager is how to find another \$3,000 to pay for the sewer mains in those two districts. No provision has been made for an expenditure of this size. It's got to be met, and the other funds of the city aren't so flush that they can be tapped for a sum this large without feeling it noticeably. It is somewhat doubtful, too, if money from other funds could legally be used to pay this \$3,000 shortage. The only logical remedy would seem to be to vote \$4,000 or more refunding bonds to pay this particular bill, and the accrued interest on the warrants, which have been issued to cover it.

If anyone thinks the job of city manager is a bloomin' bed of roses, now is the time to come out of it. With unpaid warrants amounting to several thousand dollars or more in the aggregate, all drawing of interest at 7 per cent, and no way to pay them until taxes are paid in—this is the sort of a proposition that would drive the ordinary man to homemade hooch.

## REVIVAL MEETINGS AT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

The meetings that are now being conducted at the Church of the Nazarene are attracting some attention. The attendance is increasing and they are hoping to have the building filled in the near future. Rev. Lienard is doing some good preaching and delivers it in a way that people don't forget very easily.

Sunday night he showed the folks that if we have the right relationship with Jesus that our seeming impossibilities will become not only possible but very probable. They are getting the co-operation of some of the people in the other churches as they have the same purpose in view and wish to see this cause pushed in Alliance. The meetings will continue this week, at 7:30 each evening.

Ray Gladson, who has been sick for the past two weeks, was unable to resume his work Monday.

A. D. Rodgers spent Monday at Chadron.